

Governments concerned Central Ministries, etc.

### Allotment of L.P.G. Distributorships

\*306. SHRIMATI MALINI BHAT-TACHARYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been complaints from Eastern Region regarding the allotment of LPG distributorships by the Oil Selection Board;

(b) whether, in spite of the Government directive, priority of well-run co-operatives in getting such distributorships has not been maintained; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure fair allotment of such distributorships?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKAR-ANAND): (a) In a few cases some persons went to court against the selection made by the Oil Selection Boards. In some others, certain representations were made.

(b) and (c). There is no separate quota for cooperative societies. Other things being equal, preference is to be given to cooperative societies over other candidates who apply in the 'open' category.

### Import of Ship-Building Material

\*431. SHRIMATI DIPIKACHIKHLIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on import of ship building material and equipments during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to

encourage indigenous production of these items; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The amount spent on import of ship-building material and equipments by Public Sector Shipyards during each of the last three years is given below:-

1988-89	-	Rs. 93.66 crores
1989-90	-	Rs. 102.46 crores
1990-91	-	Rs. 83.21 crores

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Ministry of Surface Transport has a scheme of providing Grant-in-Aid to the entrepreneurs who develop import substitution items indigenously. Grant-in-Aid upto 70% of the total development cost is made available for this purpose.

### Simplification of Baggage Clearance Procedures

432. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Excise and Customs has simplified the baggage clearance procedure at the international airports in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scale of checks at green channel has been considerably reduced, Customs officers have been told to be polite and