

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of losses suffered?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 'Badrinath' a drill ship contracted by ONGC came under the influence of the cyclonic storm in Bay of Bengal from 13th to 15th November, 1991. On the 15th evening personnel on the drillship could be rescued with help of a helicopter. There was no loss of life or property in the above incident.

LPG Connections

2570. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the LPG connections sanctioned in 1990 out of the priority quota of Members of Parliament have been released; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). As reported by the oil companies, priority vouchers to all persons who were sanctioned LPG connections in 1990 on the recommendation of Members of Parliament has been released.

Exemption to Co-operative Societies in Delhi under Income-Tax Act

2571. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have been given power under the Delhi Co-operative Societies Act, 1972 to exempt from income tax the profits of any Cooperative Society;

(b) if so, whether any notification has been issued by the Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether the Government now propose to issue the notification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). No, Sir. Government of India has not issued any notification to exempt the profit of cooperative societies from the income-tax nor there is any proposal to issue such notification.

Credit to South Asian Countries

2572. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the country-wise amount of credit extended by the Government to the other countries in South Asia during each of the last three financial years;

(b) the total amount disbursed to and repaid by the respective borrowing country as on December 31, 1991;

(c) whether this credit is linked to any project in those countries; and

(d) if so, the particulars of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b). A statement containing the information attached.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.