

**Representation of S.Cs/S.Ts in petrol/
diesel/LPG outlets**

1517. SHRI H.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of petrol pumps/diesel outlets in the country at present ;

(b) the number of LPG agencies in the country, particularly in Karnataka ;

(c) whether adequate/proper representations have been given to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe applicants for the above outlets/agencies according to Government policy and guidelines ; and

(d) if not, when the proper representation is likely to be accorded to them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) :
(a) As on 30.6.1986, there were 13,464 Retail Outlets (Petrol/Diesel) in the country.

(b) As on 30.6.1986, LPG agencies in the country and in Karnataka were 2,822 and 169 respectively.

(c) and (d). The planned number of retail outlets/LPG Distributorships for the duration after the introduction of reservation for SC/ST is in accordance with the stipulated percentage.

**Suspension of Oil Drilling Programme
in Eastern Zone**

1518. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the programme of drilling in the Eastern Zone including West Bengal remains suspended ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ; and

(c) whether it is proposed to activate the drilling programme again in the near future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) :
(a) No, Sir,

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Employment to dependents of deceased
employees of Eastern Coalfields Ltd.**

1519. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of employment to the dependents of the deceased employees pending with the Headquarters of Eastern Coalfields Limited from the Nirsa and Kapasara areas till 1st April, 1986 ;

(b) the period of pendency in each case ; and

(c) whether there is any time period fixed for disposal of such cases ; if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Six cases of employment to dependents of deceased employees in respect of Nirsa and Kapasara areas of Eastern Coalfields Limited are pending with the company's Headquarters.

(b) Period of pendency of the pending cases is as follows :

4 cases	— 3 months
1 case	— 7 months
1 case	— 10 months

(c) Such cases are expected to be finalised within 90 days of the receipt of application from the nominee/legal heir of the deceased. Delays usually take place on account of inadequate or faulty documentation. Disposal of the above 6 cases pending with the ECL Headquarters in