

(a) whether Government are exploring the possibilities of setting up joint venture between the Gas Authority of India Limited and private parties for providing LPG extraction facilities; and

(b) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government are exploring the possibility of setting up joint sector enterprises for extraction of LPG and other fractions, like propane, at suitable locations along the HBJ gas pipeline.

#### Number of Industries in the Country

1112. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Sample Survey Organisation reported 8.8 million industries in the country in 1973-74;

(b) whether Economic Census of 1980 mentions the number as 6 million;

(c) whether the statistics published by the Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries in 1985 mentions the number of industries as 1.2 million of which 6 lakhs are recorded; and

(d) if so, the correct number of industries in the country and their distribution ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). According to the information furnished by CSO the number of 8.8 million industries in the country referred to in part (a) of the question relates to the year 1974-75 and not for 1973-74. This number relates to those industries which were engaged in the manufacturing process and not registered under section 2M(I) and 2M (II) of the Factories Act, 1948. Further, this is based on the sample survey of self-employed households in non-agricultural enterprises in NSS 29th Round (July 1974-June 1975).

According to Economic Census 1980, the number of industries was 6 million which excluded the number of manufacturing industries in Assam where the Census was not conducted. These two sets of figures are not comparable because of methodological differences as given below :

- (i) While the figure of 8.8 million is based on sample surveys of self-employed households in non-agricultural enterprises, the figure of 6 million is based on Census of enterprises identified during the house-listing operations for the 1981 Population Census with reference to the purposes for which the Census "house" is used.
- (ii) The length of the survey period was complete one year for the 29th Round while the survey period for 1980 economic census was very much truncated; on an average 3 to 4 months in each State. This longer survey period in the 29th Round may have had greater chances of netting more manufacturing enterprises than Economic Census 1980;
- (iii) For Economic Census 1980, enterprises which work on a fairly regular basis alone were considered while in the sample survey household having at least one member self-employed in entrepreneurial activity for at least 30 days during the last 365 days preceding the date of the survey was considered as a household enterprise.
- (iv) In view of the definition of household enterprises followed for the sample survey, it would attract more number of enterprises than revealed by the Census.

(c) and (d). The estimated number of Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) units as at the end of December 1985 was 13.53 lakhs out of which 8.53 lakh units were registered with the State/UT Directorates of Industries.

#### Autonomy to Public Sector Undertakings

1113. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :