

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIBRAHMA DUTT): (a) While allocation of kerosene to States and Union Territories, including Andhra Pradesh, is made by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, there is no system of making allocation of petrol and diesel to States and UTs. These products are available of free sale basis to all

consumers, and the oil companies have standing instructions to meet the demand in full as far as possible.

Allocation of kerosene to and sales to and sales of petrol and diesel in Andhra Pradesh during 1986-87 and upto June, 30, 1987, are as under:-

(Figures in tonnes)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Allocation of kerosene</i>	<i>Sale of petrol (MS)</i>	<i>Sale of diesel (HSD)</i>
1986-87	4,66,735	1,49,224	12,16,943
1.4.87 to 30.6.87	1,11,645	40,965	2,77,284

(b) and (c). Allocation of kerosene to Andhra Pradesh and other States/Union Territories for the current monsoon block comprising the months of July to October, 1987 has been made at the enhanced growth rate of 7%, as against the normal growth rate of 5%, over the allocation given for the same period last year, to enable the State Governments to meet the increased demand of kerosene. This policy is proposed to be continued for the remaining period of 1987.

Additional ad-hoc allocation of kerosene is also given to meet situations like flood, drought, shortage of LPG, etc., on specific requests.

As stated above, diesel and petrol are available on free sale basis and their demand is being met in full.

(d) Does not arise in view of the reply given to parts (b) and (c) above.

#### Tea Auction Trade

3343. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tea auction trade in the country both domestic and export trade has been traditionally an exclusive affair so far;

(b) whether the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has at any stage examined this monopoly in tea auction trade and suggested steps to ensure free play of market forces and weeding out restrictive practices at the auction centres throughout the country; and

(c) if so, the new set of rules, if any, formulated to end this century-old monopoly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission have, on the basis of applications filed before them, instituted 6 restrictive trade practices enquiries under the relevant provisions of the MRTP Act, 1969 with reference to certain rules at the tea auction centres in the coun-

try.

While in 5 cases the respective Tea Trade Associations/Committees have agreed to amend the impugned rules so as to make them not restrictive in nature, in one case the enquiry proceedings have been stayed by the High Court.

[*Translation*]

### Households Using Cooking Gas as Fuel

3344. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the percentage of households using cooking gas as a fuel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): As on April 1, 1987, the percentage of households in the country using cooking gas as a fuel was about 8%.

[*English*]

### Construction of Departmental Buildings In West Bengal

3345. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest progress in the construction of departmental buildings including

Telephone Exchange buildings and residential colonies for postal and telecom employees at the various district and Sub-Divisional Head quarters of West Bengal where the projects have been sanctioned, including the construction of Head post Office buildings;

(b) the likely date by which the work would be taken in hand or completed wherever it is in progress for each site; and

(c) the reasons for delay in construction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV):

### POSTAL

(a) and (b). Information regarding progress in construction of Departmental Buildings/Staff quarters for Postal employees at various District and Sub Divisional Headquarters of West Bengal including Construction of Head Post offices is furnished in the statement below.

(c) The projects are generally going ahead according the scheduled.

### TELECOM

(a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.