

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b). The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices have been entrusted with the task of making a normative cost study for Coal Sector. The Report of the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices is awaited. However, a Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Energy has also been constituted to study, inter-alia the cost of production and pricing of coal in the subsidiaries of the Coal India Limited and suggest ways and means to reduce the cost of production of coal by means, such as, improved efficiency, increased production and productivity etc. The Sub-Committee has been asked to submit its report with in a period of six months. Right now, however, there is no proposal to review the pricing pattern of coal.

[*Translation*]

Shortages and Delays in Supply of Cooking Gas

4016. SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the reports about frequent shortages and delays the supply of cooking gas in different parts of the country including Delhi; and

(b) if so, whether and long term effective measures are in view to streamline the distribution system to avoid such frequent shortages and delays which result in malpractices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) A backlog in supply of refills developed at several locations in the country including Delhi in the last two months on account of factors like seasonal increase in demand, Industrial Relations and operational problems at certain bottling plants and transportation bottlenecks etc.

(b) As a long term measure, under the LPG Phase III project, an additional bottling capacity of 0.7 million MTPA is being added by setting up of new bottling plants and expansion of existing ones.

Disposal of Pit Sludge by O.N.G.C.

4017. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of pit sludge collected in the various installations of the ONGC every year and how it is disposed of;

(b) whether Government have fixed any quota of pit sludge for supply to small scale industries;

(c) the purpose for which pit sludge is utilised; and

(d) how it is ensured that it is not used for adulteration purposes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Sludge is collected by ONGC only at their Uran Plant in Maharashtra and Ankleshwar oil fields in Gujarat. The quantity of sludge collected at Uran during the last three years was as follows :

Year	Quantity in Tonnes
1984-85	3211
1985-86	1158
1986-87 (as on 12.3.87)	670

The sludge is being disposed of against open tenders.

At Ankleshwar oil fields ONGC fully utilise the sludge in their Micro-crystalline wax plant the requirement of which is 40 tonnes per month.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) It is used for extraction of wax and/or for manufacture of solvents and/or petroleum products.

(d) The sludge is sold to parties whose plant capabilities and genuineness is verified by ONGC and an undertaking is obtained from the parties against its selling or disposing, exchange or its misuse for adulteration otherwise. As a cross check the parties are also required to submit their octroi/entry tax record, sale tax receipts, excise receipts etc.

[English]

**LPG Facilities in Adivasi Areas of
Madhya Pradesh**

4018. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to provide LPG facilities in more towns of Madhya Pradesh having more than 10 thousand population and adivasi areas, particularly remote rural regions, having population of more than 5 thousand; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b). In keeping with the general policy, towns in the country, including Madhya Pradesh, with a population of around 20,000 and capable of sustaining an economically viable distributorship are being taken up in a phased manner for LPG marketing. Under the Marketing Plans 1985-86 and 1986-87, the oil industry is in the process of setting up LPG distributorships in Madhya Pradesh at the locations given in the statement below.

Statement

S No.	B.P.C.	H.P.C.	I.O.C.
1	2	3	4
MARKETING PLAN (1985-86)			
1.	Khandwa (East Nimar)	Gwalior (Gwalior)	Ashta (Sehore)
2.	Durg (Durg)	Jabalpur (Jabalpur)	Begamganj (Raisen)
3.	Jabalpur (Jabalpur)	Raipur (Raipur)	Mahidpur (Ujjain)
4.	Bilaspur (Bilaspur)	Pithampur (Dewas)	Khurai (Sagar)
5.	Bhilai (Durg)	Mandideep (Bhopal)	Raigarh (Raigarh)
6.	Gwalior (Gwalior)	Indore (Indore)	Garha Kota (Sagar)
7.			Samalgarh (Morena)
8.			Anjad (W. Nimar)
9.			Deori (Sagar)
10.			Gadrawara (Narsimhapur)