

reported from certain locations of the country on account of constraints in the availability of bulk LPG, transportation problem, and sporadic law and order problems.

(b) and (c). Generally during the period of LPG shortages and backlogs such complaints are received from customers. With the measures already taken, the LPG supplies situation has improved to a large extent. In order to prevent malpractices, regular and surprise inspections are carried out by the field staff of LPG marketing companies. All complaints received against the LPG distributors are investigated and, wherever the charges are established, appropriate action is taken in accordance, with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines, and Dealership Agreement.

[Translation]

**Contract Labour of South Eastern Coalfields Limited**

616. SHRIYAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether labourers engaged in Tub Repairing in Hansdeo Area of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) are treated as contract labour;

(b) if so, whether M.P. Koyala Mazdoor Sabha has referred this case to the Joint Chief Labour Commissioner;

(c) if so, whether the Commissioner has given his award in this regard and if so, when; and

(d) the action being taken by the Union Government to get the award implemented by SECL Management?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI KALYAN SINGH KALVI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The dispute relating to the demand for departmentalisation of the tub repairing mazdoors working under the contractors was referred, by mutual agreement between the Trade Union and the management, for arbitration by Joint Labour Commissioner (Rtd.) The arbitrator has given the award on 30.8.1990, and it has been notified on 7.9.1990.

(d) The SECL is examining the Award in consultation with their legal Department.

[English]

**Good Trains Collision in Guwahati**

617. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two goods trains collided between Chautara and Guwahati railways stations on 8 January, 1991;

(b) if so, the causes of the accident;

(c) the details of loss of life and property;

(d) whether the compensation has since been paid; and

(e) whether the compensation has since been paid; and

(e) whether any inquiry has since been conducted into the causes of collision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) to (e). On 8.1.90, a collision took place between two goods trains at Chautara station on the Alipurduar Division of Northeast Frontier Railway. As a result, 2 railway staff were killed and another 2 grievously injured. Loss to railway property has been estimated at Rs. 2.12 crores.