236

| 1 | 2 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Northern | 48 |
| North Eastern | 46 |
| Northeast Frontier | 28 |
| Southern | Nii |
| South Central | 22 |
| South Eastern | 31 · · · |
| Western | 72 |
| | 364 |

(b) and (c). M/s. A.H. Wheeler & Co. are not having a monopoly. They have only sole selling rights at those stations which have been specified in their agreements. As per extant policy, all new book stall contracts are reserved for cooperative societies of actual workers and vendors, unemployed, graduates, their partnerships, Associations, etc.

Production of Petroleum Products

5131. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: SHRI GOPAL PACHERWAL: SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

- (a) the schemes under consideration of Government for increasing the production of petroleum products;
- (b) whether efforts are being made to exploit oil and gas in different areas of Rajasthan; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof and the

outcome therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURU-PADASWAMY); (a) Schemes envisaged for increasing production of petroleum products by augmentation of refining capacity include setting up of grass root refineries at Karnal, Mangalore, Assam and Cauvery basin. Proposals for 3 other grass-root refineries whose locations are yet to be finalised are in preliminary stage of consideration. In addition there are also proposals for low cost expansions/debottlenecking of the capacities of existing refineries. Some of the potential expansion projects envisaged are in respect of Cochin, Barauni, Digboi, Guwahati, Madras and Koyali refineries.

(b) and (c). Both the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) are conducting exploratory activities for oil and gas in Rajasthan. ONGC have so far undertaken drilling in 10 structures in Rajasthan and natural gas has been found in two structures viz. Manhera Tibba and Ghotaru. Oil India Limited has already drilled 4 exploratory wells in Jaisalmer basin and

have discovered commercial quantities of natural gas in Tanot and East Tanot structures in Jaisalmer district. There are also good indications of the presence of gaseous hydrocarbons at Ramgarh in Jaisalmer District.

New Petrol Pumps in Bihar

5132. SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of new petrol pumps being opened to overcome shortage of petrol in Bihar; and
- (b) the names of places where the said petrol pumps are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURU-PADASWAMY): (a) and (b). There are proposals for setting up 89 new Petrol/Diesel Retail Outlets in Bihar. The details are given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

The names of places in Bihar where Retail Outlet dealerships (Petrol/Diesel) are likely to be opened

| Sl. N o. | Location | District |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. | Kathara | Giridih |
| 2. | Gaunha | West Champaran |
| 3. | Chandankiyari | Dhanbad |
| 4. | Rajganj | Dhanbad |
| 5. | Patna (Anishabad) | Patna |
| 6. | Alaulia | Khagaria |
| 7. | Joggapatti | West Champaran |
| 8. | Rajaun | Bhagalpur |
| 9. | Rafiganj | Aurangabad |
| 10. | Annsingote | Madhubani |
| 11. | Telco-Township | Singhbhum |
| 12. | Sakehi Bistupur | Singhbhum |
| 13. | Pandre | Ranchi |