

23.4.92, compensation @ Rs. 3000/- to three injured persons was paid.

(iii) In the explosion that took place on 25.4.92 compensation @ Rs. 3000/- has been paid to three injured persons.

(iv) In the explosion that took place on 26.4.92, compensation of Rs. 50,000/- paid to the next of kin of the deceased person. Compensation @ Rs. 10,000/- was paid to two seriously injured persons. Three persons having simple injuries were paid Rs. 3,000/

#### **Bio-Mass**

1378. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total availability of Bio-mass which can be used as fodder for livestock;

(b) whether large unit of wheat and paddy straw are burnt in Punjab, Haryana and UP; and

(c) if so, the steps envisaged to salvage and augment availability of straw by transporting it to short-supply area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA): (a) The total estimated annual availability of bio-mass (crop residues, grass, green fodder and leaf fodder from trees) which can be used as fodder for livestock in the country is approximately 691 million tonnes;

(b) There is no authentic information available about the quantity of wheat and paddy straw burnt in Punjab, Haryana and U.P.; and

(c) During the 8th Plan period it is proposed to establish fodder banks in drought prone areas. Under this scheme fodder including straws will be collected from surplus areas and transported to deficit areas for storage, preservation and distribution to farmers.

#### **Declaration of Hyderabad as Metropolitan City**

1379. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to declare Hyderabad city as a metropolitan city;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). In the Census, Metropolitan cities as such are not defined. However, cities/Urban agglomerations with a population of one million and above are normally referred to as Metropolitan areas. As per the provisional population figure of 1991 census the provisional population of Hyderabad urban agglomeration is 42,80,261 and that of Hyderabad city is 30,05,496. Therefore, it can be referred to as a Metropolitan city.

#### **Foodgrains Production**

1380. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the requirement and estimated production of foodgrain for 1992-93;

(b) the targeted production of rice, wheat, Jawar and other pulses; and

(c) the prospects of food production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c). The targets of production of foodgrains are usually fixed taking into consideration the requirement of the year. The target of production of foodgrains for 1992-93 has been fixed as 183 million tonnes. The targeted production of rice wheat, Jowar and pulses for 1992-93 is as under:-

	(Million tonnes)
Rice	77.25
Wheat	57.00
Jowar	13.00
Pulses	15.50

The agricultural crop year 1992-93 has just begun. Sowings of kharif crops including transplanting of paddy are in progress in most of the states. It is too early to indicate the estimated production and prospects of food-production for 1992-93 as much would depend upon the behavior of southwest monsoon in the coming weeks.

[Translation]

#### Private Companies in Hydro-Carbon Sector

1381. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to seek the participation of private companies in the Hydro-Carbon Sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Apart from the Fourth Round of bidding under which negotiations are being held with bidders to finalise contracts, Government have decided to offer exploration acreage to private companies on a continuous round-the-year basis. A decision has also been taken to develop certain medium sized discovered oilfields in joint venture with private companies and to offer certain small sized oil/gas fields to private companies for development on a production sharing basis. A decision has also been taken to set up refineries in joint venture with private companies.

[English]

#### LPG Connections in Karnataka

1382. SHRI G. MADEGOWDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of non-domestic (commercial) and domestic new connections given during 1992 so far in Karnataka;

(b) the number of persons registered upto the end of May, 1992 for non-domestic as well as domestic LPG connections; and

(c) the new domestic and non-domestic LPG connections proposed to be given during 1992 in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Domestic connections : 38,000 (Approx.).

Non-domestic connections : 140, (Approx.).

(b) While no waiting list is maintained for