

Accordingly, LOIs issued during the last 2 years are reported as under:—

	RO	LPG
1992-93	32	104
1993-94	671	381

(b) The existing policy provides reservation for different categories of people as under:—

SC/ST	-	25%
Physically handicapped	-	7½%
Defence	-	7½%
Freedom Fighters	-	5%
Open	-	55%

There is no separate reservation for backward classes and educated unemployed persons.

(c) Six dealerships have been terminated after charges of adulteration against them have been proved.

(d) and (e). About 1400 RO dealerships and 850 LPG distributorships already included in the Marketing Plans are due to be allotted during the current year by the public sector Oil Marketing Companies. Actual number would depend on various factors such as the number of candidates applying in response to advertisements and the number of interviews that could be conducted by the Oil Selection Boards. Under the Parallel Marketing System private agencies are

free to appoint distributors for LPG and kerosene without any involvement of Government. Petrol/diesel are not allowed to be marketed by private agencies including foreign companies.

Bridges in Gujarat

97. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Commission have allocated funds for the construction of bridges in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount spent so far by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission on the Construction of bridges in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) to (c). ONGC Ltd. have not specifically allocated funds for construction of bridges in Gujarat. However, the Corporation has assisted the Government of Gujarat with a sum of Rs. 2 crores for construction of an over-bridge over Sabarmati Railway Crossing at Ahmedabad. Of this, Rs. 1 crore was released during 1992-93 and balance Rs. 1 crore was released during 1993-94.

Telephone Dues Against Ex. Ministers/Ex.M.Ps.

98. SHRI LALIT ORAON: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details in regard to those Ex. Ministers/Ex. Members of Parliament

and retired Government Officers as on 30th June, 1994 against whom telephone bills for more than ten thousand rupees are outstanding and they have not made any payments in this regard for the last six months of more; and

(b) the action taken by the Government so far to recover the amount outstanding against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Consular Offices in Hyderabad

99. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Union Government for setting up Consular offices of some of the developed countries in Hyderabad;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Power Finance Corporation

100. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Power Finance Corporation propose to raise resources through bonds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the purpose for which the amount realised through bonds is proposed to be utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) At present there is no proposal before the Power Finance Corporation to raise resources through Bonds.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Oil Exploration

101. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had invited bids in 1993-94 for oil exploration in various blocks;

(b) if so, the foreign and Indian companies which have responded;

(c) the details of companies which have been allotted exploration work, company-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether all the blocks have been allotted; and