

(d) whether the Government propose to meet the demand made by the State Government; and

(e) if so, by when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir. No demand has been received from the Government of Rajasthan for the allocation of Naphtha to develop any petro-chemical complex.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Production of Lubricant

8217. SHRI A. INDRAKARAN REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the domestic production of lubricant against the present demand;

(b) the manner in which the gap between production and demand is being met; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to reduce the import of lubricants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b) The domestic production of Lube Oil Base Stock and sale of finished lubricants by the Public Sector Oil Companies during the year 1994-95 were 504 TMTs and 684 TMTs respectively. The rest of the requirement of LOBS and finished lubricants was met by import.

(c) In order to reduce import of lube base oils, the Government have cleared the expansion projects of the existing lube refineries.

Kannada News on Bangalore DD

8218. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the time allotted for regional News (Kannada) on Bangalore Doordarshan Kendra;

(b) whether the Government propose to enhance this news time; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) A 15 minute daily news bulletin in Kannada is being telecast from Doordarshan Kendra, Bangalore.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

LPG Agencies in Private Sector

8219. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have issued directives to the State Governments to obtain information about the working of gas agencies approved in private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the extent of success achieved by the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c) In pursuance of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order, 1993, Government have authorised the Food/Civil Supplies Departments of the respective State/UT Governments to seek such information and details etc. of the Parallel Marketeers as deemed necessary, in addition to notifying certain officers of the State/UT Governments to exercise the power of entry, search and seizure.

The State/UT Governments have also been advised to verify the genuineness, antecedents and capabilities of persons/agencies intending to take up activities under the parallel marketing system and to take appropriate action against persons who have been found indulging in fraudulent and unfair trade practices.

[English]

Money Order

8220. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to reduce the cost of money order deliveries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) The Department of Posts has implemented a pilot project of Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) network with the following six stations for expeditious transmission of money orders :—

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Delhi | 2. Patna |
| 3. Shimla | 4. Madras |
| 5. Bangalore | 6. Lucknow |

This network is being expanded and by the end of 1995-96 it is expected that a total of 75 stations in the country will be connected. The delivery of such money orders will, however, continue to be done as in the past through