

[Translation]

LPG Connections

3590. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of LPG distributors of public sector undertaking oil companies in Bihar as on March 31, 1995;

(b) the details of persons registered with them in the waiting list for LPG connections; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to clear the waiting list in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). As on 1.1.1995, there were 165 LPG distributorships functioning in Bihar with a waiting list of 2.88 lakhs.

(c) Efforts are on to clear the waiting list as early as possible depending on product availability, enrolment plan, etc.

[English]

Verma Commission

3591. SHRI P.C. CHACKO :
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :
SHRI RAM NAIK :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to initiate action against a number of officials name in the report of Verma Commission probing into the assassination of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : (a) to (c). Government have decided to take severest possible action against six concerned Central Government Officers for their failure to take due care and diligence in the discharge of their responsibilities.

[Translation]

Petroleum Projects

3592. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up petroleum projects in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) There is no petroleum project pertaining to Bihar presently under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Issue of Equity Share

3593. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation propose to mobilise resources by issue of equity share in the domestic/international market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a huge equity offering by the Indian Oil Corporation is likely to help dilute its financial worth;

(d) whether IOC's income is inadequate when compared to the near monopoly status it enjoys in the marketing of petroleum products in India; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Indian Oil Corporation has plans to mobilise resources by issue of equity shares in domestic and international markets. Details regarding timing, pricing, type of instrument, etc., are not yet finalised.

(c) No, Sir. IOC has been permitted to offer only 10% of its paid up capital to the public. Since the shares will be offered at a premium, it will increase IOC's net worth.

(d) and (e). No, Sir. As per Supply Plan Entitlement norms, IOC's share in the market is at present 55% only. In the Administered Pricing Regime, oil companies are allowed specified returns on their net worth. The profitability of Indian Oil Corporation is good.

[Translation]

Coal Township Complex

3594. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent by the Coal India Limited on the construction of Coal Bhawan and coal township complex till January 31, 1995; and

(b) the amount spent by the Coal India Limited on the purchase of an additional aircraft?