

Allotment of LPG Agencies and Petrol Retail Outlets

3201. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petrol retail outlets and LPG agencies allotted during the term of this Government;

(b) the total number of out of turn allotments made out of the above allotments; and

(c) the criteria adopted for out of turn allotment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) The normal selection procedure through OSB was suspended in November, 1990 and OSBs were terminated in January, 1991. 18 State-wise/Region-Wise OSBs were created w.e.f. 1.1.1993. As on 31.3.1995, 896 ROs and 623 LPG distributorships have been allotted through OSBs during the term of the present Government.

(b) and (c) During the term of the present Government upto 31.3.1995, 162 Retail Outlet dealerships and 208 LPG distributorships have been allotted under discretionary powers of the Government on compassionate grounds. The guidelines for allotment of dealerships/distributorships under discretionary quota on compassionate grounds as approved by the Supreme Court of India are annexed enclosed as Statement.

STATEMENT**Guidelines for Allotment of Dealerships/Distributorships Under Discretionary Quota.**

- (i) Dependent of a person who has made supreme sacrifice for the nation, but has not been properly rehabilitated so far.
- (ii) Member of family which has been a victim of unforeseen circumstances, like terrorist attack, earthquake, floods, etc.
- (iii) Physically handicapped person.
- (iv) Defence/para-military/police personnel/other Central/State Government employees, who are permanently disabled on duty.
- (v) Immediate next of kin, namely widow, parents, children of those who lost their lives in abnormal circumstances.
- (vi) Eminent professionals like outstanding sportsmen, musicians, literateurs, etc. and women, of high achievement, in distress.
- (vii) Individual cases of extreme hardship, which in the opinion of Government are extremely compas-

sionate and deserve sympathetic consideration in view of the special circumstances of the case at the given time.

- (viii) The number of discretionary allotments should not ordinarily exceed 10% of the average annual marketing plan, of which allotments of retail outlets for petroleum products should not normally exceed 5%.

The discretionary allotments will be made to a candidate subject to the following general conditions :

- (1) He/She should be a citizen of India.
- (2) He/She or any of his/her following close relatives (including step relatives) should not already hold a dealership of petroleum products of any oil company :
 - (i) Spouse.
 - (ii) Father/mother.
 - (iii) Brother.
 - (iv) Son/daughter-in-law.

Gas Grid in Gujarat

3202. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to establish a gas grid in Gujarat;

(b) whether there is any proposal to provide gas from the above grid to Rajasthan;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) More than 90 consumers are being supplied gas in Gujarat through existing pipelines. There is not proposal at present for laying additional pipeline in Gujarat.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Employment to Displaced Persons

3203. SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any provision was made by the Coal India Limited to provide employment to persons displaced from land acquired by South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) to extract Coal;

(b) if so, the number of such persons displaced;

(c) the number of persons given employment out of them;

(d) whether the Government are aware that some other persons have been provided employment in place of displaced persons; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) to (e) As per information furnished by Coal India Limited. 9536 land losers have been given employment by South Eastern Coalfields Limited upto 15.6.1995.

(d) No. Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Licences To U.S. West

3204. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :
SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO :
DR. VASANT NIWRUTTI PAWAR :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications has sought fresh directives from the Government on foreign investment regarding issue of licence to U.S. West for setting up pilot Projects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

New Techniques of Coal Mining

3205. SHRI RAM PAL SINGH :
SHRI DATTATRAYA BANDARU :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Russia has offered new techniques in coal mining to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed between both the countries in this regard; and

(d) the time by which the said agreement will be made effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT PANJA) : (a) and (b) During the discussions held in the 2nd meeting of the Indo-Russian Working Group on Coal held in July last, the Russian side desired to offer new technologies in the areas of coal washing, Roof strengthening, Construction of shafts and Opencast Mining. The Indian side agreed to consider any specific technology that may be offered.

(c) and (d) No agreement has however been signed so far in this regard.

LPG Connections

3206. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of LPG connections issued on priority basis in Bihar;

(b) the ratio on which LPG connections have been issued in other States;

(c) whether a very few number of LPG connections have been sanctioned to Bihar on priority basis; and

(d) if so, the reasons for sanctioning such a small number of LPG connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (d) Priority connections are sanctioned by the Government on requests of individuals and recommendations of Public representatives, Government functionaries, public and social workers and dignitaries, including MPs and Ex-MPs in some cases, in urgent and deserving cases at the discretion of the Government. Priority connections are also released against MPs' Quota. Priority LPG connections are not given on State-wise basis.

[English]

Educated Unemployed Youths

3207. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that there is a substantial rise in unemployment amongst the educated youths in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to check the growing unemployment amongst the educated youths by the end of Eighth Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG) : (a) Provisional estimates made by Planning Commission indicate the unemployment in the country, among the educated and uneducated together, was 18.7 million at the end of March, 1995 against 17.0 million at the beginning of the Eighth Plan. Such estimates have not been made State-wise and separately for the educated persons.

(b) Employment is a thrust area of the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Plan envisages a strategy for accelerating growth of productive employment opportunities in the country both for the educated as well as the uneducated unemployed on the basis of a faster growth of employment