

tribal development projects have been launched to accelerate the development of tribal areas.

(d) The Community Development Programme has been transferred to the State Sector from 1-4-1969 onwards. No assistance is provided to Community Development blocks by Government of India. The States provide for assistance to these blocks in their plans according to local needs.

Allotment of Petrol and Diesel Pumps and Gas Agencies

9. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the persons/parties/Societies as have been given Petrol Pumps/Cooking gas agencies/Diesel Pumps during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the criteria for the grant of these Pumps/Agencies;

(c) the procedure for the sanctioning;

(d) whether any complaints have been received by Government regarding their sanctioning; and

(e) if so, the action taken?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI):

(a) The list of persons/parties awarded petrol/diesel pumps/gas agencies is not being maintained by Government. Collection/compilation of these factual and statistical information is an expensive and time-consuming process. Records are maintained by respective oil companies.

(b) and (c). According to the guidelines issued by Government, 25 per cent of all types of agencies of the public sector oil companies are reserved for persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, 2 per cent are reserved for physically

handicapped persons and the remaining 73 per cent are to be awarded on commercial consideration, preference being given to genuine and efficient Consumer Co-operative Societies and Agro-Industries Corporations. No person would be awarded a new dealership/agency if he or his other close relative like his spouse, father, brother or son already holds a dealership/agency with any oil company. All appointments are to be made after inviting applications by giving advertisements in Newspapers in circulation in the area concerned. Selection of candidates has to be made by duly constituted Selection Committees set up for the purpose by respective oil companies.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. A few cases were received and necessary enquiries were immediately instituted for taking remedial action.

Telephone Facilities on Bisam-Cuttack and Gunupur

10. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in implementation of sanctioned schemes particularly the Bisam-Cuttack to Gunupur telephone line of Koraput District, Orissa;

(b) the number of block and Tehsil headquarters to be connected by telephone and telegraph lines; and

(c) the programmes pending for execution with the Orissa circle for the Koraput district of Orissa State?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) Proposal sanctioned for erecting land line linking Bisam-Cuttack to Gunupur stands cancelled since it is technically not possible due to power parallelism. Alternate route for the above line is also not possible due to topographic and hilly features of this area.