

(b) if so, the details of the project; and

(c) the extent to which it is likely to create employment opportunities to local youth of the area and by what time?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). M/s Tripura Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. were granted Registration in 1988 for setting up a Methanol plant with annual capacity of one lakh tonne at Sekerkot, Surjyamanı Nagar, District Tripura West. According to information given by the Corporation, a foundation stone for the plant has been laid in December, 1989 at Uttar Brajapur near Bishalgarh. The project is estimated to cost approximately Rs. 124 crores and is expected to generate employment for about 250 local people after a period of about 3 years.

ONGC Complex in Agartala

1197. SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission Complex in Agartala has drawn up programmes with the tie up of the State Government for better utilisation of gas and other facilities in some areas,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). While ONGC have developed production potential for natural gas in Tripura, utilisation of the same would depend upon establishment of new projects by the concerned authorities. Presently about 1.8 lakh M³/day of gas is being supplied to the power plants at Baramura and Rokhia in Tripura. In addition, certain

brick kilns and other consumers also draw gas. Commitment for supply of about 3.5 lakhs M³/day of gas has also been made for two more power projects at Baramura and Rokhia. Availability of gas to the tune of about 3.75 MMCMD has also been indicated for 500 MW and 75 MW power projects in Tripura. Increased production and utilisation of natural gas will depend upon the establishment of these projects.

Extension of Vayudoot services in North Eastern Region

1198. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to extend the Vayudoot services to more areas of the North Eastern Region; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Opening of new LPG Agencies

1199. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA. Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for opening new LPG agencies during 1990-91;

(b) if so, the number of LPG agencies proposed to be opened in each State and the time by which these are likely to be opened; and

(c) the names of places in Delhi and Orissa where new LPG agencies are pro-

posed to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Corrupt Practices in LPG Distribution

1200. **SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRAMUNDA:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to solve the problems of LPG consumers and to stop the corrupt practices indulged in by gas agencies, the oil companies propose to set up Advisory Committee;

(b) if so, the time by which these committees will be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). No such proposal is under consideration of the Government. However, there are Consumer Advisory Committees in the States/Union Territories consisting of the representatives of oil companies, LPG distributors, consumer activists and respective State Governments/Union Territories for solving the common problems relating to POL products. The oil companies also operate customer service cells, where LPG customers can lodge complaints. Besides, the field officers of the oil companies hear the grievances of customers on their preappointed field visits, at regular intervals. All the complaints received against the LPG distributors are investigated promptly, wherever necessary, and appropriate action, varying from warning letters to even termination of distributorships is taken against the

erring distributors in accordance with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

[English]

Super-Fast Trains on Howrah-Delhi Route

1201. **SHRI HARADHAN ROY:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a super-fast passenger train between Howrah and Delhi/New Delhi in view of tremendous increase in passenger traffic on this route;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir. However, frequency of Howrah-New Delhi A.C. Express was increased from 5 days a week to daily from May, 1989.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Not feasible presently due to operational and resource constraints.

Tehri Dam Project

1202. **SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the extent of forests which are likely to be eliminated with the construction of Tehri Dam and steps proposed to be taken to ensure that the ecobalance of the area is not disturbed?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): The Tehri Hydro Power Project Complex has been accorded permission by the Ministry of Environment and Forests under the Forest Conservation