

**LPG Connections**

592. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:  
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:  
SHRI S.N. VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for release of LPG connections to the different states especially Gujarat;

(b) whether the Government are aware that huge backlog waiting for allotment of LPG is pending in Gujarat;

(c) if so, number thereof; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to clear the waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Allotment of new gas connections is not made on state wise basis, New LPG connections are released to waitlisted applicants according to serial order of registration, depending on new customer enrolment allotted to a distributor, based on slack available with each distributor, waiting list and product availability.

(b) and (c). As on 1.1.1994, there were 7.98 lakh applicants on the waiting list in Gujarat.

(d) Efforts are constantly on to release LPG connections to as many applicants and as early as possible. For this purpose higher LPG availability is being planned by increasing the capacity of existing production sources, putting up new plants and also augmenting the supply through imports.

**Agreement Between India and Nepal**

593. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Nepal have signed any agreement on reaching early solutions to flood problems being faced every year by the rivers which have their origin in Nepal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Government to overcome flood problems ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b). No Sir. Specific agreement to avoid the fury of flood can be signed after the two countries conclude the on going negotiations and reach settlement for individual projects.

(c) The Ganga Flood Control Commission set up by Union Government in April, 1972 has prepared sub-basin wise comprehensive plans for all the river systems of Ganga and sent to concerned State Governments for preparing detailed schemes.

**ADB Loan for ONGC**

594. SHRI D. VENKATESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether second tranche of the two hundred fifty million dollar hydro carbon sector loan from the Asian Development Bank has been delayed further;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;