

(b) and (c). The works are in advance stage of construction and are likely to be completed by the end of this year.

False Propaganda by Pakistan

3894. SHRI LALL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan is propagating false information against India in foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to counter this propaganda?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Countering Pakistan's anti-India propaganda is an ongoing process. Swift, comprehensive and effective action is taken to counter Pakistan's false and motivated propaganda. Factual information is regularly provided to decision makers; the media; and the Governments of other countries through the Indian Missions abroad as well as through the Missions of these countries in India. The Government of these countries are also briefed during visits of high level delegations to India and from India to these countries.

[English]

Durgapur Steel Plant

3895. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:
 PROF. SAVITHRI
 LAKSHMANAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the average daily steel production at

the Durgapur Steel Plant;

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to increase steel production in the plant;

(c) whether the Government of West Bengal has requested the Union Government to instal a Hot Rolling Mill at Alloy Steel Plant, Durgapur;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) whether the plant is suffering losses due to the non-installation of the hot rolling mill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The average daily saleable steel production at Durgapur Steel Plant during first four months of the current financial year (April-July, 1994) has been about 2000 Tonnes.

(b) Durgapur Steel Plant is being modernised which will raise its saleable steel capacity and increase production.

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

LPG Connections

3896. SHRI DHARMANNA
 MONDAYYA SADUL:
 SHRI K. PRADHANI:
 SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
 KAUR (DEEPA):
 SHRI BOLLA BULLI
 RAMAIAH:
 SHRI AST BHUJA PRASAD
 SHUKLA:
 SHRI S.M. LAL JAN BASHA:

SHRI NARAIN SINGH
CHAUDHARY:

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

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to increase the enrolment of customers for L.P.G. and to give Double Bottle Connections (DBC) during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the target set therefor and steps taken to achieve the target; and

(c) the criteria adopted for providing LPG connections to various States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). Instructions have been issued to the Public Sector Oil Companies to enrol 20 lakh new LPG consumers and to release 20 lakh second cylinder facility during 1994-95.

(c) Allotment of new LPG connections and release of DBCs are not made on a State-wise basis. New LPG connections are released in a phased manner throughout the country depending upon the availability of LPG, total new customer enrolment, waiting lists, slack available with the distributors and their viability. LPG customers of the public sector oil companies interested to have a second cylinder are required to get their names registered with the concerned distributors. The distributors release second cylinder on a first-cum-first served basis, subject to availability of quota.

[*Translation*]

Oil and Natural Gas Commission

3897. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: (a) whether the total planned outlay fixed for Oil and Natural Gas Commission has been reduced;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the production of crude oil is likely to be affected by this reduction; and

(d) if so, the manner in which the domestic requirement of oil is likely to be met?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b). As against ONGC's original proposal for an outlay of Rs. 33393 crores, Government have approved an outlay of Rs. 17,511 crores for the 8th Plan due to overall resource constraint however, ONGC was directed to continue with the physical programme originally proposed, with the assurance that funds would be provided on a year to year basis.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

T.A.Cs in States

3898. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria adopted to constitute telephone advisory committees in various States;

(b) the terms of office of these committees;

(c) whether these committees have been constituted this year; and