

expected to the cleared; and

(d) the salient features of the scheme fore selection of dealers and the progress of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) As on April 1, 1985, selections for approximately 1,779 dealerships were pending.

(b) and (c). Selections for appointment of dealers are made by the 4 oil Selection Boards. The selection process itself takes some time, involving as it does adequate advertisement for applications, interviews, requisite field enquiries etc. At times the lack of adequate response and failure to find any candidate suitable, results in delay. With a view to speeding up the disposal of pending selections, two more Oil Selection Boards are being constituted. It is expected that the work pending at the beginning of 1985-86 will be cleared during the year.

(d) The locations included in the Marketing plan are advertised in Newspapers by the concerned oil company inviting applications from the eligible and interested persons in accordance with the reservation of distributorships for various categories of persons. Selection from amongst eligible candidates is done by the appropriate Oil Selection Board. The Oil Company concerned then issues Letters of Intent in accordance with the panel recommended by the Oil Selection Board.

Provision for water borne sanitary system around Shantinagar, Kanpur

3127. **SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for laying sewer lines within Cantonment area in Kanpur has been pending with authorities for a number of years;

(b) whether the residents and Kanpur Cantonment Board have been pressing hard for the same for the last several years;

(c) whether the Cantonment Board has

not provided water borne sanitary system around Shantinagar so far;

(d) if so, when the same will be provided; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken for immediate conversion of the existing manual cleaning of privies into the sanitary system by the Kanpur Cantonment Board ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (e). The water borne sanitary system exists in some areas of the Cantonment Board Kanpur. Though the residents of the Cantonment area have been repeatedly demanding for extension of water borne sanitary system to cover the entire area, the Cantonment Board has not initiated any such proposal due to the fact that sufficient water supply and the requisite funds are not available. The Cantonment Board will consider and take up the proposal as soon as the water supply position improves and sufficient funds are available to meet the cost of water borne sanitary system to cover the entire area.

Exploration of gas in Mizoram

3128. **SHRI LAL DUHOMA :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a team of experts has ever been sent to explore gas in Mizoram;

(b) if so, when and its results ?

(c) whether Government are aware that the local people have found gas near Bairabi in the North Western part of Mizoram; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to carry out exploration of gas potentiality in Mizoram ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b). The ONGC has explored this area during 1972-73 and 1977-79. Four partly years of geological field survey has been

done so far. Several reported oil and gas shows have also been investigated but the results have not been very encouraging.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The hill track of Mizoram is not considered prospective for hydrocarbons and it is not proposed to undertake exploration in the area in the near future.

Review of Postal Delivery Services

3129. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to review the postal delivery services in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government have conducted any survey regarding the villages in which the postal delivery services are not satisfactory, particularly in Orissa State; and

(d) if so, the steps Government have taken or propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The Department is constantly reviewing the working of the entire postal system and is examining ways and means to improve it.

(b) The method of monitoring mail has been tightened up and several suggestions for streamlining and improving the working procedures are under examination.

(c) Yes, Sir. A survey was conducted in the year 1982 in Orissa State and the postal delivery services in rural areas were found satisfactory.

(d) Question does not arise.

Registration for Cooking Gas connections

3130. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether new registration for cooking gas connection is being contemplated by the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation;

(b) if so, whether the Corporation would be able to cater to the needs of the existing customers;

(c) whether the Corporation has also manufactured mini-cylinders; and

(d) if so, what are the working plans of the mini-cylinders;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Allotment of petrol pumps in Sidhi district (Madhya Pradesh)

3131. SHRI MOTI LAL SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether some petrol pumps have been allotted to some persons recently in the Sidhi District of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of persons called for interview;

(d) the details of petrol pumps given to tribal people, Scheduled Castes and others;

(e) whether some more petrol pumps are likely to be given in this District in the near future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir.