

(e) whether any interest is paid to the consumers on the same, if so, the rate thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Deposits are taken from consumers at the time of releasing a new gas connection or an additional cylinder.

(b) Rs. 450/- per 14.2 Kg, capacity cylinder and Rs. 50/- per domestic pressure regulator.

(c) Rs. 185.91 Crores.

(d) and (e). No, Sir.

(f) Apart from investment made on new cylinders/regulators while enrolling new customers, the oil industry has to plan, procure and maintain adequate equipment inventories. This involves large capital outlay, besides recurring expenditure on inspection, testing, repairs, rejection and replacements, design, research and development.

Anomalies created by liberalisation of limit under MRTP Act

3177. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's decision to liberalise the provisions of MRTP Act has led to anomalies (Economic Times dated 20 March, 1985); and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) No, Sir, dominant undertakings which are merely small undertakings and are not large houses are not prohibited from diversifying into the manufacture of non-Appendix I items referred to in the Press Note dated 2.2.1973 as amended by Press Note dated 21.4.1982 of the Ministry of Industry; only large houses are under some restrictions in this regard.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of Chemical Fertilizers by Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd.

3178. SHRI S. G. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the total installed capacity of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited and its actual production; and

(b) the progress of new gas-based project at Thal-Vaishet and its production ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) The installed capacity of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizer Ltd. and its actual production during 1984-85 is as given below :

Nutrients	Installed cap.	Production during 1984-85
	(MT/cnum)	(iu MT)
Nitrogen	316800	264900
P ₂ O ₅	120000	97000

(b) The Thal fertilizer project with an annual capacity of 891000 tonnes of ammonia and 1485000 tonnes of urea (equivalent to 683000 tonnes of nitrogen) is under commissioning and trial production is under progress. During trial production till 31st March, 1985, 74600 MT of ammonia and 106400 MT of urea equivalent to 48900 tonnes of nitrogen has been produced.

Aquisition of Post Office building at Trichur-Ernakulam bye-pass

3179 SHRI P. A. ANTONY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Trichur Municipal Council has approached the Posts and Telegraphs Department for acquiring the Post Office building standing in the midst of the proposed Trichur-Ernakulam bye-pass;

(b) if so, the delay in handling over the site, especially when the building is very old; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir. No building of the Postal Department is standing in the middle of the proposed Trichur-Ernakulam bye-pass road.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Functions of Petroleum Conservation Research Association

3180. DR. K. G. ADIYODI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) the functions of Petroleum Conservation Research Association;

(b) when the PCRA was commissioned;

(c) whether the PCRA is working at the State/district level, details thereof; and

(d) the reaction to the research carried by the PCRA among the public and how far it has been successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) The Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA) is engaged in propagating the conservation of petroleum products in industrial, transport, domestic and agricultural sectors of economy through field studies, educational campaign and research and developmental activities.

(b) PCRA was registered in August, 1978.

(c) PCRA has its corporate office at Delhi and four regional offices at Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta.

(d) The efforts of PCRA in the various sectors of the economy are helping to create greater awareness for the need to conserve petroleum fuels. As an outcome of research and development activities sponsored by PCRA, fuel efficient Kerosene wick stove, LPG burner and low air pressure industrial burner have been successfully commercialised.

Distributorship of Cooking Gas

3181. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether present system of selecting persons for distributorship of cooking gas is working satisfactorily;

(b) if not, whether Government propose to change it; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Allotment of LPG Cylinders in Mandla District of Madhya Pradesh

3182. SHRI M. L. JHIKAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision for giving LPG cylinders and petrol agencies to adivasis in the areas predominantly inhabited by the tribals;

(b) if so, the number of adivasis given such agencies in the Mandla District of Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to take an initiative to give such agencies to the interested adivasis?

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

(b) and (c). The Oil Industry has not allotted any agency to the adivasis in Mandla District of Madhya Pradesh. However, Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has proposals to develop one retail outlet each at Nainpur and Tikaria in Mandla District for allotment to members of the Scheduled Tribes. Advertisement for these locations were released on 22.7.83 but no applications were received by IOC in response thereto. The District Collector Social Welfare Department of the