

devices (v) setting up of captive power units to meet about 40% of power requirements during period of power cuts (vi) modernisation of quarry operation (vii) crushing of raw material (viii) grinding of cement (ix) installation of rotary packing plants and (x) quality control equipments, etc.

(c) Funds are not directly allocated by the Government for this purpose. The individual units finance their modernisation programmes through their internal resources, assistance from public financial institutions, etc. Units in public sector like Cement Corporation of India Limited may, however, receive funds from Government through annual budgetary allocations.

(d) It is not possible to estimate the reduction in the prices of cement consequent on the implementation of the modernisation programmes, as cost of production depends on several other factors, such as, cost of inputs, level of wages, etc.

Criteria for Allotting Diesel/Petrol Pumps and Gas Agencies to SC/ST Candidates

1469. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of advertisements issued during the last three years for allotment of diesel/petrol pump stations and gas agencies and the places which were earmarked especially for allotment to SC and ST candidates; and

(b) the criteria fixed for earmarking a particular site as reserved for SC/ST or unreserved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) There is an overall reservation of 25% in each year's Marketing plan of the oil industry, for members of the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes according to a 100 point Roster. The criterion generally adopted is that the

locations falling within reserved Assembly/Parliamentary constituencies or in areas predominantly populated by these communities are earmarked for them so as to achieve the target of reservation.

Scheme to revitalise Coir Industry

1470. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme is being envisaged to revitalise coir industry in the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. An outlay of Rs. 17.84 crores has been provided for the development of coir industry in the Seventh Five Year Plan also.

(b) The main thrust of the Seventh Five Year Plan is no support for cooperativisation of coir industry for which a provision of Rs. 7.00 crores exists in the Plan. Under the scheme, assistance will be provided for share capital contribution of members, purchase of capital equipment, land and work-sheds, managerial, subsidy etc. Suitable provisions exist for other schemes for research and development to upgrade the technology and productivity, diversify production, marketing assistance including exports, welfare measures for coir workers, etc. Another major thrust area in the Seventh Plan is the development of brown fibre sector in the coconut producing States other than Kerala such as Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, etc.

Trucks manufactured by Tata and Ashok Leyland

1471. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of trucks manufactured by Tata Mercedes and Ashok Leyland during the years 1983-84 and 1984-85;