

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The oil industry has awarded 77 LPG distributorships in all the categories in Madhya Pradesh during the period from 1.1.83 to 1.3.86.

(b) Keeping in view the monthly refill ceilings prescribed for distributorships according to location as well as the facilities available with the distributors and the waiting list of applicants, a total number of 3.51 lakh new connections were released in Madhya Pradesh by the oil marketing companies during 1.1.83 and 1.3.86 through distributors including the 77 mentioned in part (a).

(c) & (d). One LPG distributorship awarded to SC candidate was terminated during the period from 1.1.83 to 31.3.86, as he was involved in giving unauthorised LPG connections and misappropriation of the concerned oil company's equipment.

Gobar Gas Plants in Orissa

9087. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Khadi and Village Industries Commission was entrusted with the job of constructing gobar gas plants ;

(b) if so, the district-wise targets fixed and achievements made in this connection in Orissa during the last three years ;

(c) whether reports have been received that most of the gobar gas plants have gone out of order due to supply of sub-standard material and faulty construction work ; and

(d) if so, steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) Biogas scheme is one of the Scheduled Industries under the purview of the Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC). KVIC is, however, only one of the agencies implementing Biogas programme.

(b) The details of the District-wise targets and achievements made in Orissa State

during the last 3 years are being collected.

(c) & (d). KVIC has not received any complaint so far about non-working of Gas plants due to sub-standard material and faulty construction. However, KVIC on its own conducted a Census Survey of 13,216 Biogas Plants in 14 selected districts of Bihar, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, which revealed that about 2,804 plants were non-functional due to various reasons including defective construction. During 1985-86 Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (DNES) has taken a package of measures which include improvement in technology, organisation of larger number of training programmes including training courses for Users and Masons, repair and maintenance of vans, kits, mobile maintenance vans and monitoring & evaluation etc. DNES is also strengthening its monitoring mechanism. Government of India have sanctioned Rs. 7.5 lakh for setting up 3 mobile regarding units.

Indo-Swiss Discussion on Hydroelectric Energy

9088. SHRIMATI USHA CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the visit of the Swiss delegation recently it was stated that Swiss companies are expected to visit India in the middle of April this year to discuss prospects of Hydroelectric energy with National Hydro-electric Power Corporation ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). There is no proposal of Swiss companies visiting India for discussions with National Hydro-electric Power Corporation Limited regarding prospects of hydro-electric projects. However a team of Swiss Companies recently visited the Srinagar hydro-electric Project in Uttar Pradesh.

Steps for Balanced Regional Development and Industrialisation

9089. SHRIMATI USHA CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :