

3. Manufacture of writing and printing paper containing not less than 75% by weight of pulp made from bagasse exempted from payment of excise duty.
4. Manufacture of paper and paper board using un-conventional raw materials is charged excise duty at concessional rates.
5. The facility of payment of excise duty on incremental basis for successive slabs extended to the small paper mills from 1.4.1986.
6. Flexibility allowed to the industry to manufacture all varieties of paper and paper grade pulp including paper board/straw board within the overall licensed capacity.
7. Requirement of Industrial Licence has been dispensed with in the case of manufacture of writing, printing and wrapping paper from agricultural residues, wastes and bagasse.
8. New units commissioned between 1.4.79 and 31.3.87 are exempted from excise duty upto 50% for five years.

[*Translation*]

Under-Filling of Gas Cylinders

75. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of complaints regarding under-filling of L.P.G. cylinders is increasing despite attention of Government having been drawn repeatedly in this regard ; and

(b) if so, the concrete steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :
 (a) and (b) While some such cases continue to be reported to the oil marketing companies in the normal course of business, their incidence is very low. Institutional arrangements exist in LPG bottling plants as also with LPG distributorships to ensure filling and supply of LPG cylinders of correct weight. The oil marketing companies are taking steps for increased use of superior quality cylinder seals to prevent pileferage/loss of product in transit. The field staff of oil companies carries out periodic inspections of distributors' showrooms/godowns and makes random checks of cylinders for correctness of weight.

Increasing Storage Capacity of Warehouses

76. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of warehouses in each State where foodgrains had been stored during 1985-86 and 1986-87 and the details of the foodgrains stored in these warehouses as on 31 January, 1985, 31 March, 1986 and 31 December 1986 ;

(b) the steps taken to increase the storage capacity of warehouses during this period, State-wise, indicating the places where the new warehouses were constructed and expenditure incurred on them separately, state-wise ;

(c) whether it is a fact that major portion of buffer stock of wheat and other foodgrains in these warehouses had been declared rotten after six months ; and

(d) if so, the quantity of foodgrains declared rotten during this period and the estimated loss suffered thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) A statement

giving State-wise the number of warehouses and foodgrains stored therein by the Food Corporation of India as on 31-1-1985, 31-3-1986 and 31-12-1986 is laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library. See LT No. 3735/87]

(b) Steps were taken to increase the storage capacity by construction of additional capacity and by hiring capacity from various sources. A statement giving State-wise the storage capacity constructed by the Corporation during April, 1985 to January, 1987 and the capacity under construction at present is attached. Another statement indicating the centres at which the storage capacity was constructed during the period and the centres at which it is under construction at present is laid on the Table of the House.

[Placed in Library. See LT No. 3735/87].

The State-wise break-down of the expenditure incurred on the construction of these warehouses is not readily available with the Corporation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The quantity of foodgrains damaged during 1985-86 was 0.87 lakh tonnes valued at Rs. 11.44 crores.

[English]

Regularisation of Extra Departmental Employees

77. PROF. K V. THOMAS : Will

Statement

Category of ED Agents	Revised Allowances	
	Minimum Rs.	Maximum Rs.
(a) EDSPM/ED Sorters/ED Record Clerks	292	360
(b) EDBPMs	202	254
(c) E.D. Stamp Vendors	202	254
(d) Other E. D Agents		
(i) Working for 2 hours or more	199	242
(ii) Working for less than 2 hours 174 (fixed)		

the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Extra Departmental employees now working in the Communications Department ;

(b) whether there is any proposal to regularise them ; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to revise their allowances ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) :

(a) 2,9,042 as on 31-3-86.

(b) No, Sir. An Extra Departmental Agent, who performs only part time job for the Department for fixed hours of work on consideration of a consolidated monthly allowance, cannot, in the very nature of things, be regarded as full time Government servants. Therefore there is no question of regularising the services of ED Agents against regular departmental posts. However, they are selected to Group D/Postmen cadres on the basis of their seniority, provided they qualify the written test to be conducted for the purpose subject to certain conditions.

(c) The remuneration of Extra-departmental Agents are revised annually in the context of price rise. These have been revised from 1-9-86 in the statement given below.