

1	2	3	4	5
31. Pondicherry		584	38	50
32. Daman & Diu		—	—	—
Total :		44192	1994	2091

*[Translation]***Delay in supply of LPG cylinder refills**

1186. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :
DR. PHULRENU GUHA :
SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cooking gas cylinders are not being supplied in time to the consumers in a large number of cities and towns;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is sufficient stock of cooking gas in the country;

(c) if so, the reasons for inordinate delay in the supply of cooking gas by the concerned agencies in places like Delhi and Rajasthan State; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to remove the difficulties faced by the consumers at all the places ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (c) Backlogs in supply of LPG refills have developed in recent months in several parts of the country including Rajasthan and Delhi mainly on account of overall shortfall in the bulk availability of LPG, apart from movement, industrial relations and other operational constraints;

(d) Efforts are being made to maximise indigenous LPG production and also augment supplies through imports to the

extent feasible. The situation is being closely monitored by the oil industry with a view to ensuring regular LPG supplies to the consumers.

Production of Cement

1187. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the demand of cement has increased to a great extent in the country;

(b) whether the production of cement was less than the estimated demand in the year 1987;

(c) whether Government propose to set up a cement factory at Bilaspur in Madhya Pradesh to meet the increasing demand of cement; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The production of cement in the country has increased from 18.56 million tonnes in the year 1980-81 to 36.50 million tonnes during 1986-87. The growth of demand during this period is quite evident from the fact that despite the increase in indigenous production, the import of cement has also come down from a level of 19.74 lakh tonnes during the year 1980-81 to 1.76 lakh tonnes in 1986-87. The production of cement in the country is, by and large, sufficient to meet the demand of the country and there is no report of shortage,