320

Written Answers

1	2	3	4
Karnataka	471.78	401.50	487.10
Maharshtra	1653.22	1547.66	1517.49
Nagaland	5.62	3.53	3.94
Orissa	20.80	19.40	16.60
Punjab	292.27	145.67	172.22
Rajasthan	124,10	116.12	90.32
Pondicherry	20.43	25.49	32.91
Madhya Pradesh	149.93	142.36	171.20
Tamil Nadu .	578.00	768,40	632.08
West Bengal	48.00	25.00	20.00
Uttar Pradesh	1592,03	1462.97	1742.51

## Commission structure of H.S.D. and petrol retail outlets

1314. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether petroleum companies are running some retail outlets in big cities which are high selling points under their own management;
- (b) if so, what are the per litre handling expenses of such retail outlets on the sales of H.S.D. and petrol vis-a-vis commission earned by them;
- (c) whether It is a fact that these retail outlets are showing net losses; and
- (d) whether Government propose to reframe the commission structure of retail outlets in cities as well as in small towns where these are unable to capture such higher sales so as to cover all the handling, maintenance and investment charges including depreciation, etc.?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir;

- (b) and (c) The objective of establish. ing these retail outlets is essentially inhouse training and demonstration, besides providing service to consumers in their area of service. While several of these outlets are running at a loss, that is not a true index of their performance and utility;
- (d) There is no proposal under the consideration of the Government in this regard.

Pending applications for public call offices

1315 SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-TIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of applications received district-wise, in Punjab for public call offices (PCO) during the last three years;
- (b) the number of applications accepted, under consideration and rejected during the said period, district-wise; and