

(d) whether it is proposed to allot more LPG agencies in the district; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir;

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above;

(c) The following LPG distributorships are operating in Murshidabad district;

1. M/s. Shibani Gas Service, Beharampur

2. M/s F.S.T.P.P. Employees Coop. Farakka

3. M/s. Jangipur Gas Service, Jangipur

4. M/s Puja Gas Service, Kandhi;

(d) and (e). Hindustan Petroleum Corporation has planned one LPG distributorship at Beharampur in the 'open' category under its 1987-88 Marketing Plan.

Smuggling of lighters

5617. SHRI KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the newly commissioned disposal lighter industries are finding hard to compete for their existence with smuggled lighters on price factors;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to help the Indian disposal lighter industries and thereby stop free smuggling of lighters; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Representations have been received from indigenous producers to disposable lighters that they are facing problems on price factor due to the availability of these items of imported origin in the market. However, available reports do not indicate any significant smuggling of disposable lighters into the country, except that a small quantity of such lighters are imported as passengers' baggage.

(b) and (c). The Anti-smuggling machinery of the Govt. check and detect the smuggling of contraband goods into the country in various vulnerable areas. Further, periodical searches are carried out by their field formations at commercial establishments indulging in open display and sale of smuggled goods including disposable lighters.

Electricity Bills by D.E.S.U. in Delhi

5618. SHRI RAJ KARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is delay on the part of DESU in furnishing electricity bills in new Government colonies in New Delhi;

(b) the periodicity at which electricity bills are supposed to be sent by DESU to the consumers in these colonies;

(c) whether the electricity bills are sent by DESU after a period ranging from six months to one year or more to the residents of Vasant Vihar, R.K.Puram and other Government colonies;

(d) whether Government are also aware of the consequential financial hardships faced by the residents since huge amounts are required to be paid at a short notice; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken by Government to ensure timely and periodic supply of bills to the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI):

(a) According to Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking the process of issue of bills in certain areas, including some new Govt. colonies, takes a longer time as a new record has to be prepared and there were initial problems in the computerisation of electricity bills.

(b) Normally bills for two months consumption are sent by DESU to the consumers including those of Government colonies.

(c) Bills for 4/6 months consumption were sent in the past to the consumers of Government colonies and other areas serviced through R.K. Puram District of DESU because of changing of manual billing to computer billing. The work of billing in R.K. Puram District is expected to be normal by July, 1989.

(d) According to DESU the consumers have the facility to deposit the amount of the bills of more than 2 months consumption in instalments.

(e) The work of electricity billing is in the process of being streamlined through progressive computerisation of bills, for which in-house computer has been commissioned by DESU in December, 1987.

Increased equity for Suzuki in Maruti Project

5619. **PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for increased equity for the

Japanese Suzuki in the 'Maruti' project;

(b) if so, what would be its implication in terms of added load on foreign exchange reserves; and

(c) the reaction of Government to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) There is no proposal to increase the percentage equity share of Suzuki Motor Co. in Maruti Udyog Ltd. from the present level of 40%.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Resource Constraints in New Major Power Projects

5620. **SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some new major power projects are facing severe resource constraints;

(b) whether the present fiscal situation is adequate to finance the existing power projects in hand viz Fourth stage of Koyna hydro-electric project, Khaparkheda thermal project and Dabhol thermal project;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to improve the efficiency of the power projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The fund requirement of Khaparkheda (Stage-1) Thermal Project (2x210 MW) is being met by the State Government through their State Plan as also from financial institutions. The Stage-II of the