

to 23 metres to land about 27,500 tonnes of fish and shrimps per annum. It envisages dredging to 5 metres, construction of jetties measuring 420 metres, provision of slipway and shore facilities such as, auction hall, water supply, roads, drainage, buildings, etc. The project is estimated to cost Rs. 311.18 lakhs.

Reservation quota for Scheduled Castes/Tribes for allotment of Agencies

705. SHRI R. R. BHOLE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has a reserved quota in regard to grant of petrol pump/diesel pump/cooking gas, etc. agencies to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, since when;

(c) the names of persons/parties/societies to whom the agencies were granted from the beginning State-wise and year-wise;

(d) the criteria for the grant of such Agencies;

(e) the procedure for sanctioning such Agencies; and

(f) whether there are any complaints about sanctioning, and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a): Yes, Sir.

(b) With effect from 23-9-1977 the policy to reserve 25 per cent of all types of agencies/dealerships for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes communities was enforced in all public sector oil companies. Prior to this the reservation was applicable to only Indian Oil Corporation Limited from 1-1-1974 for all their agencies/dealerships except in respect of 'B' site retail outlets, i.e., dealer owned-dealer operated outlets.

(c) The list of persons/parties awarded petrol/diesel pumps/gas agencies is not being maintained by Government. Collection/compilation of these factual and statistical information is an expensive and time-consuming process. Records are maintained by respective oil companies.

(d) and (e). According to the guidelines issued by Government, 25 per cent of all types of agencies of the public sector oil companies are reserved for persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, 2 per cent are reserved for physically handicapped persons and the remaining 73 per cent are awarded on commercial consideration, preference being given to genuine and efficient Consumer Co-operative Societies and Agro-Industries Corporations. No person would be awarded a new dealership/agency if he or his other close relative like his spouse, father, brother or son already holds a dealership/agency with any oil company. All appointments are to be made after inviting applications by giving advertisements in newspapers in circulation in the area concerned. Selection of candidates has to be made by duly constituted Selection Committees set up for the purpose by respective oil companies.

(f) Complaints are received and they are immediately inquired into for remedial action.

Splitting of Fertiliser Corporation of India

706. SHRI CHANDRA PAL SHAILANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that splitting of the Fertilizer Corporation of India into five independent companies on plea of better management of profits has resulted in all-round deterioration and heavy losses threatening closure of fertilizer