

**Allotment of Distributorships by I.O.C., Hindustan Petroleum Ltd., and Bharat Petroleum Ltd.**

2041. SHRI BHEEKABHAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of LPG, HSD and MS distributorships issued by the IOC/Hindustan Petroleum Ltd., and Bharat Petroleum Ltd., in the country during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) the total number of such distributorships granted to members of SC/ST separately, year-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact such distributorships earlier reserved for reserved communities have been allotted to non-reserved communities; and

(d) why such distributorships were de-reserved and allotted to those communities?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) and (b). The policy to reserve 25 per cent of all types of agencies/dealerships for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes communities was laid down for all public sector oil companies for the first time with effect from 23.9.1977. Prior to this, the reservation was applicable to only Indian Oil Corporation Limited for all their agencies/dealerships except for 'B' site retail outlets i.e. dealer-owned and dealer-operated outlets.

The number of LPG agencies and retail outlet dealerships (petrol/diesel pumps) awarded by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd., and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. since the introduction of reservation policy and the number out of them given to SC/ST as on 1.4.1980 is reported to be as under:

Petrol/Diesel LPG  
Pumps agencies

Total number awarded (excluding prior commitments, upgradation/bifurcation etc.)	403	195
Scheduled Castes	92	39
Scheduled Tribes	11	8

Year-wise details are not readily available.

(c) and (d). Only in case of LPG distributorships locations were in the past predetermined by oil companies for award of distributorships to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes. If a suitable SC/ST category candidate was not found, such location was de-categorised to 'others' category and an alternate location put under SC/ST category.

**Term of experts to examine the working of Indraprastha power station, Delhi**

2042. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have deputed a team of experts to examine the working of Indraprastha Power Station, New Delhi and suggest measures to improve generation;

(b) whether the team has submitted any report to Government; and

(c) if so, what are the main feature thereof and steps taken by Government to implement the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) The Ministry of Energy has arranged for a Roving Team of Experts to visit a number of Thermal

Power Stations in the country. The Team has not yet visited the Indraprastha Power Station as it is working quite satisfactorily. There is much less load shedding at present.

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

**Decentralisation of various subsidiaries of Coal India Limited**

2043. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering decentralisation of various subsidiaries of Coal India;

(b) if so, by which date; and

(c) the details of such scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN): (a) to (c). The question of reorganisation of the Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries is under consideration of the Government and is likely to be finalised shortly.

**Differential pricing policy for oil supply**

2044. SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether OPEC countries have agreed to adopt differential pricing policy for oil supplies to poor, populous countries like India; and

(b) if not, whether initiative is being taken by Government of India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) No, Sir. However, the long term strategy committee of OPEC has been considering the approach of OPEC to its relations with developing countries and in particular the issue of relief measures to alleviate the problems of oil importing developing countries.

No final decision in this regard has been taken so far.

(b) Yes, Sir.

**Studio of Leh Station of All India Radio**

2045. P. NAMGYAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the studio of Leh station of All India Radio was built initially on emergency basis for 3 hours programmes but now 9 hours programmes are being broadcast without additional studio facilities;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to lack of equipment, transport, additional studies and accommodation for the staff, employees and artistes are facing great difficulties which causes low quality production of programmes; and

(c) if reply to (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government propose to take to solve the above mentioned problems and when these are to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI KUMUD BEN. M. JOSHI): (a) to (c). AIR Leh was commissioned in June, 1971 on top priority basis with limited studio facilities, and started broadcasting programmes for 4 hrs. and 45 minutes daily. This has now increased to 9 hours to meet the pressing demands and needs of the region. Since the station was started with limited facilities, difficulties are no doubt being faced. However, every effort is made to produce good quality programmes. Work is also in progress to provide additional technical facilities including more studios and office and residential accommodation.

**Removal of brand names in pharmaceuticals**

2046. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM,