

(d) the steps proposed to bring efficiency into the working of the STC and its role in supply of newsprint ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Newsprint is a canalised item and the STC is the canalising agency for import of newsprint. However, Replenishment licence holders can import newsprint directly from the overseas suppliers. The S. T. C. also supplies imported newsprint as per the allocations made by the Registrar of Newspapers for India. Supplies of indigenous newsprint are, however, made by the Mills concerned on the basis of allocations made by the R. N. I.

(c) The price of imported newsprint is fixed for every quarter.

The price of imported newsprint is fixed taking into account the following factors :—

High Sea Sales

1. Weighted average cost
2. Bank charges
3. Voyage interest
4. STC's 1% service charges

Buffer Stocks

In addition to the elements mentioned above, the buffer stock sales prices include the following elements:—

1. Clearing/handling charges.
2. Port charges.
3. Stevedoring charges.
4. Customs duty.
5. Godown insurance.
6. Godown rent.
7. Godown interest.

(d) Improving efficiency is a continuing process and the State Trading Corporation is making efforts to give fullest satisfaction to its customers. It keeps sufficient quantities of newsprint in its buffer stock and has opened a number of depots to help the newspaper industry, specially the small and medium newspapers.

Accidents due to Bursting of L.P.G. Cylinders

3855. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state the total number of accidents due to bursting of L.P.G. Cylinders or leakage of Gas, caused during each of the last four years and during 1st January, 1982 to 31st June, 1982 ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): The accidents involving cooking gas (LPG) cylinders are mainly on account of the defective design of the valves used, leakage in the LPG stoves, negligence etc. and not due to the bursting of LPG cylinders. The year-wise details of accidents involving LPG as reported by the Chief Controller of Explosives for the last 4 years and for the period between 1st January 1982 and 31st June 1982 are given below :

| Year | No. of accidents |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1978-79 | 41 |
| 1979-80 | 76 |
| 1980-81 | 46 |
| 1981-82 | 60 |
| January '82 to June '82 | 36 |

Increase in Ratio of Promotion for Cameramen

3856. SHRI RAM AWADH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ratio of promotion from Producer Grade II to Producer Grade I in the Doordarshan is 17.5 per cent while in the case of cameramen it is only 8.5 per cent;

(b) whether Government had given an assurance that the ratio of promotion in the case of cameramen will be raised to 15 per cent shortly; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not raising this ratio even after the lapse of one year?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (c). As per the staffing norms laid down on the basis of Staff Inspection Unit report, there is provision for sanctioning posts of producers Grade I (Sr. Producer) at the rate of 15 per cent of the total number of producers at a Kendra; there is no such provision in the norms for sanctioning posts of Cameraman Grade I.

Oil Exploration work taken by ONGC in New Basins

3857. SHRI MOHAMMAD ASRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS and FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) which are the new basins, onshore and off-shore, taken up by ONGC for oil exploration work during the current year and the rest of the current Plan period;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds set apart for the above purposes; and

(d) the additional yield of petroleum crude expected by new exploration work by the end of the current Plan?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR):

(a) During the current year and the rest of the current Plan period, no new basins are being taken up by ONGC for exploration as work has been taken up in all the sedimentary basins of interest over the last so many years. The quantum of work done in various basins, however, varies.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

टेलीफोन बिलों की बकाया धनराशि

3858. श्रीमती कृष्णा साही :
श्री अशोक गहलोत :

क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या डाक तथा तार विभाग के 18 करोड़ रुपये टेलीफोन उपभोक्ताओं की ओर बकाया हैं;

(ख) बकाया बिलों में से कितने बिल 5000 रुपये से अधिक के हैं ;

(ग) यह धनराशि कब से बकाया है और अब तक वसूल न करने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) इनमें से उन व्यक्तियों के नाम क्या हैं जिनके कनेक्शन काट दिये गये हैं तथा जिनके कनेक्शन अभी काटे जाने हैं ?