

(c) the time by which the revamping is likely to be initiated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b). In order to strengthen the Administrative set-up in the Corporation to further enhance its competitive abilities, the following measures have been initiated by the IOC :

- (i) Delegation and decentralisation of powers in order to empower the operating levels to respond proactively to the demands of the market and customers.
- (ii) Rationalisation of manpower by redeploying existing employees to new projects/facilities.
- (iii) Empowerment of Divisional offices to reduce response time for improving customer satisfaction.

(c) Improvement in policies, systems and procedures is a continuous process and all possible steps are taken to make the organisation more efficient and competitive.

Allocation to Madhya Pradesh

2381. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the amount sanctioned for the year 1994-95 and 1995-96, separately, to Madhya Pradesh by the Planning Commission for the annual plan of the State;

(b) the amount provided during the above period;

(c) whether the year-wise amount given to Madhya Pradesh is less than the sanctioned one and if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has not followed the terms of sanctioned annual plan and if so, the terms which have not been followed; and

(e) the percentage of implementation of sanctioned annual plan of the above two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The amount sanctioned for the Annual Plans 1994-95 and 1995-96 to Madhya Pradesh by the Planning Commission stood at Rs. 2751 crores and Rs. 2901 crores respectively.

(b) The resources provided during 1994-95 and 1995-96 as per pre-actuals and latest estimates are Rs. 2578.26 crores and Rs. 2098.21 crores respectively.

(c) In the absence of information on actual resources for 1994-95 and 1995-96, the sanctioned amount cannot be compared with amount provided.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The percentage of expenditure to outlay during 1994-95 stood at 97.1 for 1995-96, it has been estimated at 88.7.

[English]

Price of Petroleum Products

2382. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

DR. SAHEBRAO SUKRAM BAGUL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of times and extent of increase in the prices of Diesel, Petrol, Kerosene and the LPG during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97, date-wise; and

(b) the reasons for the frequent increase made in the price of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The prices of Petrol, Diesel, Kerosene and LPG have been increased only once during the year 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97. The prices of these products were increased effective mid-night of July 2/3, 1996. The percentage increase in the price of Diesel was reduced by half effective mid-night of July 6/7, 1996. The percentage increase in price of these products is as under :

Product	Percentage Increase
Diesel (w.e.f. 7/7/96)	15%
Petrol (w.e.f. 3/7/96)	25%
Kerosene (PDS)	Nil
Kerosene (industrial) (w.e.f. 3/7/96)	30%
LPG-Packed (Domestic) (w.e.f. 3/7/96)	30%

(b) The price increase has been necessitated to contain the deficit in the oil pool account and thus enable the oil companies to maintain uninterrupted supply of petroleum products in the county.

Specific Programme for Rural Development

2383. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) number of States where election to the local bodies have not so far been held;

(b) the steps taken to ensure the elections in the local bodies in due time;

(c) whether the Union Government are proposing to have a high level meeting of Chief Ministers' and Panchayati Raj Ministers to chalk out a specific programme for rural development; and