

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM
IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY
(SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA):
(a) Cooking gas facilities are
available in the following 15 towns of
Haryana :

1. Ambala
2. Karnal
3. Gurgaon
4. Hissar
5. Rohtak
6. Panipat
7. Faridabad
8. Sonapat
9. Bahadurgarh
10. Sirsa
11. Yamunanagar
12. Kurukshetra
13. Jind
14. Jagadhri
15. Narnaul

(b) and (c) The following 19 towns have already been included in the Industry roster upto 1982-84. Selection of distributors in most of the cases are under process. After the Letter of Intent is issued, the selected distributors are expected to put up facilities within a period of four months.

Jhajjar	Rewari
Kaithal	Panchkula
Kalka	Mahendergarh
Narwana	Mandi Dabwali
Charkhi Dadri	Palwal

Pehowa	Bhiwani
Fatehabad	Shahbad
Hansi	Tohna
Sohna	Gohna
Ballabgarh.	

Introduction of Octane 87 Petrol

2166. SHRI G. NARASIMHA REDDY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided for introduction of Octane 87 petrol ; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction to the experts' opinion that the scooterists are going to be worst hit and air pollution will increase ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM
IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY
(SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA) :
(a) Yes, sir.

(b) The increase in octane number of petroleum is expected to result in economy in the consumption of petrol which would benefit the consumers including scooterists.

It is not proposed to raise the permissible lead content in 87 Octane petrol beyond that permitted for 83 octane petrol. Therefore, the air pollution due to lead level in 87 octane petrol is not expected to be high.

Solar Power Development Programme

2167. DR. PRATAP WAGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the programme for development of solar power energy sources and achievements made so far in this direction in the country ; and

(b) the details of solar power stations established in different parts of the country so far ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR) : (a) The programme for development of solar energy comprises R & D demonstration, extension and commercialization activities. A broad-based national-level programme is being implemented by the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources through the involvement of national laboratories, educational institutions, industry, extension agencies and other governmental and non-governmental organisations. The achievements so far are that certain solar energy technologies such as solar water heaters, solar grain driers, solar cookers, solar timber kilns, solar distillation plants, solar photovoltaic devices and systems are being produced and marketed in the country.

(b) A 10 KW experimental solar thermal power plant was installed at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras in 1978 and tests have been carried out. Small solar power units consisting of photovoltaic panels which can power pumps for micro irrigation and drinking water supply have been installed at more than 100 locations all over the country. Also a number of lighting units, T.V. sets and communication devices powered by solar panels have been installed, as part of the national demonstration programme.

Steps to Check Corrupt Practices in Coalfields

2168. **SHRI DALBIR SINGH :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of specific instances alleging well organised racketeering in laboratory analysis of samples, upgradation of quality of coal and false reporting of production and black marketing in coal industry particularly in Korba and Sohagpur Coalfields of Western Coalfields Ltd. ;

(b) if so, concrete steps being taken so that corrupt practices could be checked in coalfields ; and

(c) whether Government would order high level enquiry by an independent body to unearth the details of activities and punish the guilty ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (c) Two complaints alleging corrupt practices, ineffective quality control, over-reporting of production stock shortage, etc. in Korba and Sohagpur Coalfields of Western Coalfields Ltd. were received. On investigation the allegations in the first complaint could not be substantiated. The second complaint has been referred to the authorities concerned for necessary investigation.

(b) A system of joint sampling has been drawn up regarding quality of coal supplies. Annual, half yearly and surprise stock measurement of selected units by Headquarters team are conducted to check over reporting and to detect shortages. Periodic verification of tub loading factors is also undertaken. Guidelines have been laid-down for proper declaration of grades of coal. Adequate preventive action is taken by Internal Audit and Vigilance Wing regarding any racketeering of malpractices.

Import of Steel for Production of Cylinders

2169. **SHRI R. R. BHOLE :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that 40 lakhs cylinders are needed by the Oil Industry in 1983-84 and that indigenous production of cylinders has hampered because Steel Authority of India Ltd. failed to import the required amount of steel ;