

(c) whether Government would consider to relax rules in order to give more representation to the educated youth of that area and also to overcome the present difficulty in posting non-locals in the difficult areas of that region ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) to (d). Data regarding total number of posts of different categories in the Ladakh region (Leh and Kargil districts) are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Projection of News Harmful to the National Interest by Certain Newspapers

154. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to Government's notice that a section of Press particularly vernacular Press, has been projecting news in a manner harmful to national interest and inciting communal feelings particularly in Punjab ;

(b) if so, what action has been taken against such news-papers ;

(c) the names of the newspapers which have been found guilty of this ;

(d) whether Government have urged upon the Press Council to use their good offices to deal with the situation for future ; and

(e) if so, their reaction in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) :

(a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Shortage of L.P.G. Supplies in Northern India

155. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :
SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that shortage of cylinders is leading to acute shortage of LPG supplies to consumers in the Northern India towns ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in some places the gap is about 90 days before a cylinder is made available ;

(c) whether the causes of this long gap have been probed into and if so, the findings and steps taken to ease the situations ; and

(d) what action has been taken to check the under weight of LPG by agents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The sudden loss of large quantities of cylinders on the fire at Shakurbasti bottling plant in May '83 as well as loss of testing and repairs facilities and bottling capacity of 14,000 cylinders per day, have largely contributed to shortage of LPG supply to various markets in North India.

(b) There were some cases where customers had to wait for a period ranging from one to three months for supply of refills.

(c) Steps have been taken to progressively increase filling of cylinders at Mathura, Jullundur and Koyalı bottling plants and by commissioning of new bottling plant at Allahabad during November '83. The overall supply position has shown considerable improvement and the average waiting period

of supply of refill is presently between 7 to 30 days. All steps are being taken to inject more cylinders into the system and thus augment supplies and bring the situation to normal by December, 1983.

(d) To check underweight LPG cylinders regular and surprise inspections of distributors godown are being carried out. Even after all these checks if the complaint is received regarding receipt of under weight cylinder detailed investigations is undertaken and if the case is genuine, a proportionate compensation is given to the customer, and if malpractice is suspected, action is taken against the dealer.

Report of Mathew Panel on 'Journalistic Privilege'

156. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mathew Panel has submitted its report to Government on 'Journalistic Privilege' particularly whether the Courts can compel the Press to disclose the source of information and also on disclosures made by Press on matter classified as secret ; and

(b) if so, the precise recommendations of the Panel and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGANNATH KAUSHAL) : (a) and (b). The Law Commission of India headed by Justice K.K. Mathew, as its Chairman, has submitted its Report on the question whether a journalist or other person responsible for a publication by way of Mass Media should be compelled to disclose in a Court of Law, the source of information acquired by him in confidence for purposes of his profession. The matter is under active consideration of the Government.

New Projects for Generation of Additional Power during Sixth Plan Period

157. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :
SHRI MOHAN LAL PATEL :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision to have additional twenty thousand megawatt generation capacity in power sector during the Sixth Plan period ;

(b) if so, the details of the projects which have been approved by Central Government in different States to achieve the above target and also the break-up of financial allocations to be made for each of the power units; and

(c) whether Government have ensured that apart from approving the Plan, adequate man-power and material is simultaneously made available to the units so that there is no hindrance in achieving the target ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR) : (a) The Sixth Five Year Plan envisaged an addition of 19666 MW generating capacity in the Power Sector.

(b) The State-wise details of the projects which have been included in the Sixth Plan power programme and their approved plan outlays are given in the attached Statement.

(c) Target was laid down at the commencement of the Sixth Plan keeping in view the projected demand and taking into consideration all the key inputs essential for commissioning of the required capacity.