

available at cheap rates in the far off Adivasi, Vanvasi, Hilly and rural areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI):

(a) Statement, showing allocation and sales for the last three years, i.e. 1972, 1973 and 1974 and also for the period January to March 1975, is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-9635/75*].

(b) The information is not being maintained on this basis.

(c) Kerosene quotas to the States have been increased since November, 1974. Since then there have been no serious complaints of shortage from the States. Arrangements for distribution of Kerosene Oil in remote and hilly areas are however made by the State Governments. Necessity for making adequate arrangements for this purpose has been stressed and State Governments requested to give special attention to it.

Selling price of Kerosene Oil is controlled statutorily under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The State Governments have been empowered to fix retail selling prices of Kerosene Oil, and to enforce the prices statutorily.

Government have also set up a committee to review the existing distribution arrangements of FOL products and suggest measures for improvement. The main report of the committee is expected within about a month's time.

**Imposition of Statutory Control on Retail Prices of Petrol and Diesel**

8818. SHRI RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to impose statutory control on the retail prices of petrol and high speed diesel oil to end the unauthorised levy of service charge by petrol dealers in the country; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI C. P. MAJHI):

(a) No decision has so far been taken on the subject.

(b) Does not arise.

**Cases pending in High Courts and Supreme Court for more than Three Years**

8819. SHRI RAM HEDAOO: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases in arrears in courts are increasing every year;

(b) the number of cases pending before the High Courts in the country for more than three years, separately, High Court-wise; and

(c) the number of cases pending before the Supreme Court for more than three years?