

- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
 (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SARDAR SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Central Government procures and makes available to the State/ Union Territories at subsidised prices five essential commodities, viz. rice, wheat, sugar, edible oil and kerosene through the Public Distribution System (PDS).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The inclusion of each essential commodity under PS requires institutional, infrastructural and financial arrangements consistent with the nature of the commodity and its procurement, storage and transport at large scales. The Steering Committee on Civil Supplies—PDS constituted by the Planning Commission for formulation of the Ninth Five Year Plan was of the view that at the Government of India level there is at present no need to add any more items for distribution under the PDS. However, a number of States have enlarged the basket of commodities under PDS according to the local priorities by adding items to be distributed through the Fair Price Shops (FPS) such as cloth, exercise books pulses, salt, tea etc.

[*Translation*]

Installation Charges

3633. SHRI PUNNULAL MOHALE:
 SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV:
 SHRI BAIJNATH RAWAT:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether LPG distributors of Indian Oil Corporation have been charging rupees 10/- as installation charges from the consumers/applicants in the name of Distribution Federation Society or administration for the last three years;

(b) if so, whether it is prescribed under the rules of the oil corporations or Ministry;

(c) if not, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the amount collected by the distributors from the consumers and the amount received by the Indian Oil Corporation from distributors every year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) IOC have not come across any case wherein Indane distributors are recovering installation charges of Rs. 10/- from the consumers/ applicants in the name of Distributor's Federation for the past three years. As per the guidelines issued by Public Sector Oil Companies, Administrative charges for seeking confirmation of Termination Vouchers (Rs. 10/- per TV) and Installation Charges for new connections (Rs. 10/- for a new connection) are recoverable by the distributors from the customers.

(d) IOC has not been collecting any charges from the LPG consumers towards installation charges. However, the amount collected by IOC's distributors for the period 14.7.1997 to 31.10.1998 towards installation charges is Rs. 1.70 crores.

[*English*]

Sales Profit at Super Bazar and NCCF

3634. DR. BIZAY SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the sales and profit of the Kendriya Bhandar comparing with Super Bazar and NCCF during the last three years;

(b) the criteria adopted in the selection of suppliers comparing with the Super Bazar and NCCF;

(c) whether unpopular, poor and inferior quality of items are more on sale in Super Bazar and NCCF to the Government department at higher rates, if so, the manner in which it is compared with the Kendriya Bhandar.

(d) whether there is any proposal to direct the Super Bazar, NCCF and Kendriya Bhandar to weed out all poor and inferior quality items sale to Government deptt.;

(e) whether suppliers in NCCF supply number of items duly purchased from the market at higher rates; and

(f) if not, the details of items supplied by NCCF suppliers to Government departments indicating names of items, their cost price and the price at which billed to