

and in December 1998. the number of new connections to be released was revised from 25 to 35 lakhs for the whole country. In addition, Govt. has approved release of additional 3 lakh new LPG connections exclusively for Delhi Market during 1998-99 against surrender of kerosene quota being distributed to 3 lakh families in Delhi. With this, most of the waiting list in Delhi is expected to be cleared by 31st March, 1999.

### SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

#### Dubious Deals in I.A.F.

2. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the Press Report appeared in the "PIONEER" dated December 9, 1998 regarding a major racket in operation in the I.A.F. for purchasing sub-standard spares for transport planes and helicopters compromising flight safety and operational readiness;

(b) if so, whether the sub-standard spares are being bought from the dubious foreign suppliers;

(c) if so, whether over 40% of IAF accidents are caused due to technical defects of sub-standard spares;

(d) if so, whether recently tyres of dubious quality were responsible in two recent tyre burst incidents of fighter aircraft; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to check such frauds?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) No, Sir.

(e) There are in built time tested checks and balances in the IAF provisioning system.

12.16 hrs

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at sixteen minutes past Twelve of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

...(Interruptions)

12.16 hrs.

*At this stage, Shri Raghuvansh Prasad Singh, Shri Surendra Prasad Yadav and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table.*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table. Item No. 4. Shri L.K. Advani.

...(Interruptions)

12.17 hrs.

*At this stage, Prof. Rita Verma, Shrimati Abha Mahto and some other hon. Members came and stood on the floor near the Table*

MR. SPEAKER: What is this? Please take your seats.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 1 p.m.

12.17 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Thirteen of the Clock.*

13.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled at one minute past Thirteen of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

Item No. 4. Shri L.K. Advani.