

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (d) It is proposed to consider the setting up of regulatory bodies for Upstream and Downstream sectors of the petroleum sector including for Gas. The scope of the regulatory body could include promotion of investment, removal of entry barriers, prevention of cartelisation, regulation of supply and prices, supervision of transmission and distribution networks, ensuring quality and security, compliance with appropriate standards, dispute resolution, protection of consumer interest and long-term optimal development of sectors of the hydrocarbon industry.

[Translation]

LPG Connections in Bhilwara District of Rajasthan

2849. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the date upto which the applications on the waiting list of LPG connections in Bhilwara district of Rajasthan have been provided LPG connection; and

(b) the number of LPG agencies functioning in the said district alongwith LPG connections sanctioned to each of those agencies till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation has only one LPG distributor, M/s. Prabha Corporation in Bhilwara district of Rajasthan and the cut off date of waiting list of this distributor is 2.4.92 with a wait list of 297 numbers as on 1.1.99. Since it is already operating above the ceiling limit, only 32 new connections were issued during the current year (April-December 98) on priority category. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. have two LPG distributors in Bhilwara district, namely, M/s. Vimal Distributors at Bhilwara with cut off date of waiting list as 31.12.90 (customer population of 18417) and M/s. Shahpura Gas Distributors at Shahpura with waiting list cut off date as 29.9.93 (customer population of 8210). Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. is not marketing LPG in Bhilwara district.

[English]

LPG Bottling Plant at Chhapra, Bihar

2850. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a LPG bottling plant at Chhapra in Bihar;

(b) if so, whether the land required for setting up the plant has been requisitioned so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reason and justification for the delay in setting up bottling plant there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) There is no proposal to set up an LPG Bottling Plant at Chhapra in Bihar during IXth Plan period. However, the demand of LPG for consumers in Chhapra will be met through the existing bottling plants, new plants being put at Begusarai and Purnea under VIIIth Plan and capacity additions under IXth Plan in Bihar.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Oil Reserve at Ichapur, West Bengal

2851. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether oil has been found in West Bengal recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assessment of oil reserve at Ichapur in Nadia district of West Bengal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Recently, a side-tracked hole was drilled from Ichapur-I (drilled in 1980-81), and it gave an indication of liquid hydrocarbon, without any sustained flow, during testing. The well was declared dry and abandoned on 28.2.99.

Pipavav Power Project in Gujarat

2852. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal of the Gujarat Government for setting up of a 2000 MW power project at Pipavav in Gujarat with private participation is under consideration of the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether some concessions are proposed to be given to this power plant;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the proposed power plant is likely to be commissioned ?