

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) Due to product constraint, LPG connections are released in a phased manner, keeping in view the annual enrolment plan and slack available with the distributor and the waiting list. Following preferential/priority criteria are currently being followed for release of connections at present;

1. Hilly areas
2. Taj Trapezium
3. Tatkal Scheme
4. Customers registered prior to 1.1.1991.
5. M.P. Priority Connections
6. Distributors operating below the viability level.
7. Release 1000 connections to newly commissioned distributorships in two instalments in the first year of commissioning.
8. Balance LPG connections are released through distributors operating above viability limit in accordance with norms developed by each oil company, based on principle that old distributors with less refill sale and large waiting list get more connections.

(b) The number of new connections released to the distributors of Public Sector Oil Companies during the last three years is given below :

Year	No. of connections released (in lakhs)
1994-95	22.9
1995-96	20.5
1996-97	23.4

(c) As per the direction of the Government to clear waiting list prior to 1.1.1991, the distributors are releasing LPG connections on demand to the applicants registered before 1.1.1991. The distributors commissioned before 1.1.1991 will be having more people in the waiting list generated before 1.1.1991 on account of location etc., it may not be possible to transfer these connections to new distributors. Therefore, it is possible that such distributors are releasing more connections than those which are newly commissioned.

(d) and (e) No discrimination is made against the distributors of reserved category vis-a-vis other categories in allocation of new LPG connections. The Oil Companies take adequate care to ensure that the distributors operating

below the ceiling limit, especially those operating below the viability limit, including those from the reserved category get maximum number of new connections compared to those operating above viable limit.

Tribal Heroes

3020. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to establish any foundation on the pattern of Ambedkar Foundation to identify the Tribal Heroes who fought for freedom struggle while celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of our independence;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal, as such, to establish any foundation on the pattern of Ambedkar Foundation to identify the Tribal Heroes who fought for freedom struggle during the Golden Jubilee Celebration of India's Independence.

[English]

Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal Award

3021. SHRI K.S. RAYADU :
SHRI L. RAMANA :
SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA :
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has urged the Union Government to review the sanctions for Tunga and other Projects in violation of Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal Award;

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon; and

(c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to ensure full inflow of water in the drought-prone Rayalseema region ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) Andhra Pradesh has urged the Union Government to review sanctions/clearances granted to upper Tunga and other projects of Krishna basin in Karnataka and also restraining

the latter from proceeding with their construction. However, the Union Government has not given investment clearance to any such project.

[Translation]

Grants to Sports Authority of India

3022. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount provided in the form of grants or otherwise to the Sports Authority of India during the last three years; and

(b) the manner in which the amount so provided is monitored ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) During the last three years, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has been provided the following amount in the form of Grants or otherwise:

Sl.No.	Year	Amount
1.	1994-95	Rs. 42,62,98,000/-
2.	1995-96	Rs. 41,26,00,000/-
3.	1996-97	Rs. 47,81,23,000/-

(b) the Accounts of the Sports Authority of India are audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and its Annual Report and Audited Accounts are laid on the tables of both the Houses of Parliament. As such, the amount provided to SAI is properly monitored by a competent authority.

[English]

Bypass on N.H.-17

3023. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the status of the work at present of bypass at Verna on National Highway-17 in Goa;

(b) the name of the party to whom the work has been awarded with the estimated cost; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) The work of bypass at Verna on National Highway 17 in Goa stands sanctioned for Rs. 313.34 Lacs.

(b) The tenders have been called and the lowest tender received is of M/s Peter B. Colaco & Sons.

(c) The date by which the work is likely to be completed is 31.7.1999.

[Translation]

Literacy Drive in Villages

3024. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the works being executed for promoting education and literacy in villages;

(b) whether the Government are satisfied that the above works are going on satisfactorily; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) The Total Literacy Campaigns which is the principal strategy of the National Literacy Mission is at eradication of illiteracy of the entire targetted non-literate population in whole country without any distinction between urban and rural areas. Keeping in view the fact that rural literacy rate is 44.45% a specific scheme of Rural Functional Literacy Project is being implemented in the North Eastern States, Sikkim and Jammu & Kashmir where the campaign mode approach cannot be adopted on account of logistic reasons. As many as 65 projects are in operation under this scheme.

(b) and (c) Department of Education conducted a status-cum-impact Evaluation of the Total Literacy Campaigns which revealed the strengths and weaknesses of the programme. On the basis of the recommendations of the committee measures have been taken to strengthen and improve literacy programmes. The steps, inter alia, include involving of Panchayati Raj Institutions more intimately in implementation of literacy campaigns and revitalising the monitoring mechanism to ensure effective implementation of Adult Education programme with a view to achieving the national goal of eradication of illiteracy in the country.

Cut in Pay Scales of Historians

3025. SHRI MANOJ KUMAR SINHA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council of Historical Research proposes to slash the salaries of some historians;