

(c) whether the select lists of these officers have not been brought out for the last 10 years;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which these select lists are likely to be brought out ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (e) No Select List (SL) for regular promotion to Grade I as Under Secretary (U.S.) could be prepared after the 1986 SL owing to protracted litigation regarding inter se seniority of directly recruited and promotee Section Officers (SOs). As a result, regular promotions from Under Secretary's Grade to Deputy Secretary's Grade of Central Secretariat Services (CSS) have also been affected. The Common Seniority List (CSL) of SOs has since been issued on 15.5.1996 in compliance with the order dated 22.3.1995 of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT). The action will be taken to prepare regular panels for U.S. by holding meetings of DPC. The exercise of preparing such panels will involve preparation of a list of eligible SOs/Private Secretaries of CSSS, collection of up-to-date CR dossiers of the officers covered in the zone of consideration, constitution of DPC, etc. The exercise is time-consuming, and it is not feasible to specify a definite time for its completion.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to Bihar

5298. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bihar has been allocated less financial assistance in comparison with other States since the First Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Government proposes to enhance the Central Assistance for the development of a backward State like Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) Allocations of Central Assistance for State Plans from the Fourth Five Year Plan onwards have been according to various criteria laid down under the formula approved time to time, by the National Development Council. The criteria of population (60%) and per capita income (25%) are weighted highly in favour of backward

States (including Bihar). Bihar has been allocated the next highest amount of Central Assistance after Uttar Pradesh. Prior to the Fourth Five Year Plan, the allocations of Central Assistance were based on actual utilisation by the States under various schemes/programmes.

[English]

Rural Housing

5299. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up a task force to promote rural housing; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) : In the year 1995, a Task Force on Rural Housing was constituted to enlarge the scope and outlook of the entire rural housing programme. The terms of reference of the Task Force were to identify thrust areas in policy, suggest necessary changes in the guidelines to broad-base the Indira Awas Yojana (IAY) and also to implement housing programme by involving voluntary organisations through Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology* (CAPART). During 1995-96, the CAPART sanctioned construction of more than 30,000 houses under IAY with the help of the Task Force. The Government also organised four national seminars on rural housing with a view to identify various technology/material options suited to various geo-climatic conditions with the assistance and cooperation of the Chairman and other members of the Task Force.

Restructuring Oil Sector

5300. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the high level Restructuring Committee in petroleum sector has submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) the reaction of the government thereto; and

(d) the details of action taken/proposed in this regard?

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

UPSC

5301. DR. ARVIND SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether UPSC consists of IAS personnel;

(b) whether as a result thereof, 85% of IAS, IPS and IFS get their wards selected into;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to get survey conducted to find out the reality;

(d) whether Government propose to constitute UPSC with judges and ex-judges of repute and integrity so as to remove this impression; and

(e) if not, reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) No, Sir. At present only one Member of UPSC belongs to IAS.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) and (e) : All appointments as Member UPSC are made by the President in accordance with the provisions of Article 316 of the Constitution, and no modification is proposed.

Ceramic Industry

5302. SHRI TARA CHAND BHAGORA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is considerable scope for development of Ceramic Industry in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to allocate natural gas to Rajasthan for the development of a Ceramic Complex ?

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

(a) and (b) Requests have been received from the Government of Rajasthan for allocation of gas to industries including ceramic units in the State. As the gas projected to be available is fully allocated, it is not feasible to make additional allocation at present.

LPG Dealership

5303. SHRI P. NAMGYAL :
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD :
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of holders of letter of intent, in Delhi in particular and the rest of the country in general for LPG dealerships, petrol pumps to whom land for showrooms, godowns and outlets has since been provided during 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996 till June;

(b) their inter-se seniority amongst those to whom LIs had been issued during 1993 till date;

(c) whether land availability in different identified areas rather than overall inter-se seniority is taken as the basis criterion for allotment of land for outlets, showrooms and godowns, if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the reasons for the inordinate delay in allotment of land despite availability of land in identified areas;

(e) whether it is fact that in the allotment of land, priority is given to nominees of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas over the nominees of Oil Selection Boards, if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) the number of holders of letters of intent for distributorship of LPG in Trans Yamuna area in Delhi awaiting allotment of such land for godowns and showrooms who belong to SC/ST category, indicating overall position of holders of the LIs holders belonging to these categories; and

(g) the steps proposed to be taken to expedite the allotment of land in Delhi as well as in other parts of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (f) Allotment of land for LPG dealership and petrol pumps in the States is the concern of respective State Govts. The details of holders of letters of intent to whom land has been allotted in Delhi by DDA and L&DO during 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996 for gas godowns and petrol pumps; and inter-se seniority of letter of intent holders maintained in DDA since 1993 till date and the details about the holders of letters of intent belonging to SC/ST in trans-Yamuna areas are being compiled and will be laid on the Table of Sabha.

(c) to (e) As per guidelines, Oil Selection Board nominees are considered first for allotment of specific