

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

(a) The status of the referred bottling plants is as under:

| Location | Capacity (TMTA) | Expected date of completion |
|-----------|-----------------|---|
| Sanad | 66 | Mechanically completed |
| Bhavnagar | 44 | July, 1997. |
| Palanpur | 34 | This plant has been allocated in the IX Plan. |

(b) Yes, Sir. There are plans to set up 27 new LPG distributorships under 1994-96 marketing plan in the State of Gujarat. The advertisements for these locations have already been released.

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

Sale of Land

2808. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been cases of illegally selling of Gram Sabha land in Uttar Pradesh for the last couple of years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action the Government propose to take in the matter to get back the Gram Sabha land to look the offending officials and the people responsible for selling the land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) Panchayati Raj being a State subject, the details of day to day conduct of Panchayati Raj matters including sale of land are not maintained by this Ministry. However, no such cases of illegally selling of Gram Sabha land in Uttar Pradesh has been reported to this Ministry so far.

Oil Exploration

2809. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have proposed to offer tax-holidays to private companies investing in high risk exploration blocks;

(b) if so, whether the Government have imposed a ban which would restrict the total tax burden 10 to 20% on high risk oil exploration;

(c) if so, whether this is likely to be a part of the new exploration licensing policy; and

(d) if so, the time by which the policy is likely to be announced and the high risk block levels covered under the scheme?

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

(a) to (d) Under the New Exploration Licensing Policy announced recently, royalty will be charged at half the prevailing rate for offshore areas for deep water areas beyond 400 metre bathymetry for the first 7 years after commencement of commercial production. The policy also envisages a tax holiday for seven years after commencement of commercial production for blocks in North-East Region.

(b) and (c) There is no such specific proposal under consideration of Government.

[Translation]

Link Roads

2810. SHRI PAWAN DIWAN : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are contemplating to connect every village by link roads;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the State-wise number of villages which have been connected by link roads so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) to (c) The Government have written to all States and Union Territories to furnish information on the present status of village connectivity, physical and financial requirements for connecting the remaining unconnected villages, etc. with a view to accelerate the pace of construction of rural link roads for connecting villages.

(d) Information on State-wise number of villages with population of 1000 or more which have been connected by link roads by 31st March, 1996 is given in the Statement enclosed.

Statement

State-wise connectivity of Villages with population 1000 and above

(As on 31-3-1996)

| States/U.Ts. | Total No. of villages | Total No. of villages connected* |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1. Andhra Pradesh | 13467 | 11647 |
| 2. Arunachal Pradesh | 81 | 71 |
| 3. Assam | 3719 | 3719 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| 4. Bihar | 14332 | 9359 |
| 5. Goa | 226 | 201 |
| 6. Gujarat | 8300 | 8292 |
| 7. Haryana | 3470 | 3468 |
| 8. Himachal Pradesh | 459 | 450 |
| 9. Jammu & Kashmir | 1178 | 1035 |
| 10. Karnataka | 8396 | 6915 |
| 11. Kerala | 1262 | 1262 |
| 12. Madhya Pradesh | 7337 | 5742 |
| 13. Maharashtra | 11328 | 11162 |
| 14. Manipur | 277 | 268 |
| 15. Meghalaya | 109 | 109 |
| 16. Mizoram | 342 | 342 |
| 17. Nagaland | 240 | 240 |
| 18. Orissa | 6173 | 5811 |
| 19. Punjab | 3346 | 3346 |
| 20. Rajasthan | 5707 | 5280 |
| 21. Sikkim | 69 | 64 |
| 22. Tamil Nadu | 6432 | 6424 |
| 23. Tripura | 535 | 535 |
| 24. Uttar Pradesh | 22295 | 18529 |
| 25. West Bengal | 10420 | 6705 |
| <i>Total States</i> | <i>129508</i> | <i>110976</i> |
| Union Territories | | |
| 26. A & N Islands | 31 | 31 |
| 27. Chandigarh | 16 | 16 |
| 28. Dadra & Nagar Haveli | 38 | 38 |
| 29. Daman & Diu | 15 | 15 |
| 30. Delhi | 160 | 160 |
| 31. Lakshdweep | - | - |
| 32. Pondicherry | 84 | 84 |
| <i>Total Union Territories</i> | <i>344</i> | <i>344</i> |
| Grand Total | 129852 | 111320 |

* Anticipated

[English]

Mega City Project

2811. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has

sought Central assistance to the tune of Rs. 10 crores before the end of current financial year for Bangalore Mega City Project;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the time by which the amount is likely to be released for the above Project?

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) The Government of Karnataka has sought the release of Central share for the year 1996-97 though no specific amount has been indicated.

(b) and (c) An amount of Rs. 7.50 crores has already been released by the Central Government under Bangalore Mega City Scheme to the nodal agency in Karnataka. Further release of funds would depend on the receipt of complete information regarding utilisation of the funds already released and the extent of release of the share of the State Government.

Power Generated by Mullaperiyar Dam

2812. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details of sharing of power generated by Mullaperiyar dam between Kerala and Tamilnadu;

(b) whether any proposal have been received from either State to review the rate of sharing of Power generated by this dam; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Missing of Land Records

2813. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the land records in Ghaziabad have been found missing;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon including the punitive action proposed to be taken against those responsible in this regard?

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) The Municipal