

**Bottling Plants in Purulia District of
West Bengal**

6737. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received and proposal for settling up new bottling plants in Purulia District, West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). No decision has been taken to set up a bottling plant at Purulia in West Bengal.

[*Translation*]

Import of Agricultural Appliances

6738. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA): Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to import agricultural appliances;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the foreign exchange involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). In view of reply to part (a), the questions do not arise.

[*English*]

**Project for Running Vehicles with
Compressed Natural Gas**

6739. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madras Refineries Limited had formulated a pilot project for running vehicles with compressed natural gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). Madras Refineries Limited has taken up a pilot project in cooperation with the Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) and Cholan Roadways Corporation to convert and run 10 buses on an experimental basis, using Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and diesel on a dual-fuel mode. The first passenger bus thus converted has been in operation since 22nd March, 1992.

Ban on Import of Seeds

6740. SHRI V. DHANANJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to impose a total ban on import of seeds; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Goat Population

6742. SHRI ARJUN CHARAN STETHI:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

- (a) the population of goat, State-wise;
(b) the quantity of milk and meat of goat
produced during 1991-92, State-wise;
(c) whether goat are a major cause of
deforestation and soil erosion; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to provide
enough feed to these goats to conserve our
dwindling forest cover?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C.
LENKA): (a) A statement is attached.

(b) The information is being collected
and will be placed on the table of the Sabha.

(c) and (d). No, Sir, however, agro-
forestry system is being population to aug-
ment the availability of feed to the goat.

STATEMENT

Goat Population in India-Livestock census 1987 (Provisional)

(in thousands)

S. No.	State/UT	Goats
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4876
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	108
3.	Assam	2135
4.	Bihar	15636
5.	Gujarat	3584
6.	Goa	18
7.	Haryana	675
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1120
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1396
10.	Karnataka	3889
11.	Kerala	1581
12.	Madhya Pradesh	7751