

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The levy sugar is sold through the Public Distribution System (PDS) at lower than the market price so that it may remain affordable. The Issue Price of the sugar sold under PDS is the same throughout the country. To avoid distortion in this price structure levy of local taxes and duties was treated as inadmissible w.e.f. 1.4.89, and State Governments were informed of this decision. On account of this, the Central Government has not allowed allowance on actual road transportation charges in respect of lifting of levy sugar under Levy Sugar Price Equalisation Fund Scheme.

[Translation]

Census

4064. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to conduct next census in the country at the end of the century;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the time by which the next census is likely to be taken;

(d) whether information relating to various castes of the citizens of the country would also be collected during the census;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether caste-based data of citizens were collected during the previous census?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The next population census in the country is due in Feb-March, 2001.

(d) No such decision has been taken.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No caste-based data of citizens were collected since the 1951 census.

However, the data on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were collected.

Construction of Child Home

4065. SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received a proposal for construction of a child home from the Government of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the Government will accord approval to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) During 1997-98, the Ministry had received from Madhya Pradesh Government proposals for construction of 7 Observation Homes (for girls) and 2 Juvenile Homes under the scheme of Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment. However, on account of unspent amount lying with the State Government from previous years releases fresh grants could not be released. In addition the Government had also been requested to furnish certain clarifications.

[English]

Demand and Supply of LPG

4066. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
DR. M.P. JAISWAL :
SHRI SADASHIV RAO DADOBBA MANDLIK :
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI :
SHRI VITHAL TUPE :
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :
SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated production and consumption of LPG in the country during each of the last three years;

(b) the estimated demand of LPG for the current year and for the next three years alongwith the demand and supply position both for domestic and commercial purposes during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the norms prescribed by the Government to estimate the shortage of LPG;

(d) the areas in which shortages has been reported during each of the last three years; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken to normalise the supply position and to curb various marketing manipulations and frauds being committed by dealers/distributors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The LPG production and Sales by the PSU Oil Companies during the last three years are as under :

YEAR	PRODUCTION (TMT)	SALE (TMT)
1995-96	3253	3849
1996-97	3356	4183
1997-98	3444 (prov.)	4606 (prov.)

The deficit is met through imports.

(b) The All India Demand projected in respect of PSU Oil Companies for the current year and the next three years is as under :

Year	All Indian LPG Demand (TMT)
1998-99	5357
1999-2000	6514
2000-01	7095
2001-02	7548

Demand in next three years is based on a projected enrolment of 40 lakhs new customers every year.

(c) The backlog/shortage in LPG refills supplies for a distributor is calculated as under :

(A) Total number of refill orders (Booking) pending with the distributors.

(B) No. of refill order booking within 24 hours.

(C) No. of refill orders booked by DBC customer

(D) Refill backlog =A-(B+C)

The average LPG consumption by domestic consumers during last year was about 140 kgs.

(d) and (e) The demand of LPG customers who are enrolled with the PSU Oil Companies in the country has been met by and large in full during the last three years. However, whenever LPG backlogs develop due to law and order problems, IR Problems, floods or any disruption in availability due to emergency shutdowns at any of the

production sources etc., Oil companies take immediate measures to meet the demand in the affected markets through maximising LPG imports and by operation of LPG bottling plants during extended hours and on Sundays and Holidays to clear the LPG backlogs.

To curb various marketing manipulations and frauds, stringent action under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines against the defaulting distributors is taken including fine, suspension and termination.

[Translation]

Sick Sugar Mills

4067. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD :
SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sugar mills being run by private and cooperative sector, state sugar corporation and Government Undertakings separately, State-wise;

(b) the total number of sick mills at present, State-wise;

(c) whether the number of sick sugar mills has been increasing constantly;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the number of mills running in profit/loss at present, State-wise;

(f) whether the Government have received representations from the States particularly from Uttar Pradesh for revival of those mills;

(g) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto;

(h) whether any scheme for expansion and modernisation of those sick mills is under consideration of the Government;

(i) if so, the details thereof; and

(j) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) The State-wise number of sugar mills being run in Public, Private and Cooperative Sector, are given in the attached statement.