

1	2	3
7.	Jamnagar	588
8.	Junagadh	795
9.	Kheda	779
10.	Kutchh	562
11.	Nehgana	951
12.	Panchmahals	1022
13.	Rajkot	810
14.	Sabarkantha	528
15.	Surendranagar	604
16.	Surat	561
17.	Vadodara	797
18.	Valsad	659
19.	Dang	63
20.	Union Territory	22
Total		11730

Statement IV

The details of postal facilities provided/proposed to be provided in Rajasthan and Gujarat

Rajasthan:

Number of Post Offices opened during the year 1997-98

24

Target for opening of Post Offices during 1989-99

Departmental Sun-post Offices—2

Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices—3C

Gujarat:

Number of Post Office opened during the year 1997-98

18

Target for opening of Post Offices during 1998-99

Departmental Sub-Post Offices—2

Extra Departmental Branch Offices—40.

Telephone Adalats

1717. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Telephone Adalats held in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years, till date; and

(b) the number of cases received in these adalats and the number of cases settled out of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[English]

Requirement of LPG for Jahanabad, Bihar

1718. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JAHANABAD): Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated monthly requirement of LPG for Jahanabad in Bihar at present and the supply position thereof;

(b) the steps taken to meet the full requirement of LPG in district;

(c) whether rural areas of the district have been neglected in supplying LPG; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and remedial measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The estimated monthly sale of packed LPG by the distributors of Public Sector oil companies in Jahanabad District of Bihar State is around 67 MTs per month and the demand is being fully met.

(b) the LPG demand of existing consumers enrolled with PSU Oil Companies in Jahanabad district of Bihar is being met by and large in full. However, whenever LPG backlog develops due to law and order problem, 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 Sunday and Holidays to clear the LPG backlogs.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Due to limited availability of LPG from indigenous sources and possible imports, so far the existing marketing plans have been made mainly covering towns having a population of 20000 and above. However, LPG has been introduced in certain environmentally fragile areas and hilly areas below 20000 population to protect the environment and prevent deforestation.

With the increasing non-availability of traditional fuels and increasing popularity of LPG as cooking fuel due to its convenience in use and to prevent further deforestation, the Government has decided to commence marketing of LPG in the rural areas also. Further, for the purpose of undertaking enrolment in the rural areas, industry has formulated the revised 1996-98 Marketing Plan taking into account the following:

- (i) To cover all urban locations with a population of 10,000 and above by including potential of adjoining villages falling the radius of 15 kms.

(ii) All urban locations having population of 5000 and above should be surveyed for setting up a distributorship and the viability to be ascertained by taking into account the potential of adjoining villages falling within 15 Kms. radius.

(iii) Cluster of villages within 15 Kms. radius of nucleus villages having a population of 10,000 (ten thousand) and above, to be surveyed for setting up rural distributorship and included in the Plan depending upon the viability.

(iv) Villages within 15 Kms. radius around towns having population of 1 lakh and above to be surveyed for opening of rural distributorships. While identifying rural locations contiguous to these towns, it should be ensured that adequate number of LPG distributorships exist in such towns so as to avoid marketing of LPG by rural distributorships in urban areas.

(v) All VIP references should be surveyed for development of LPG distributorships by including the potential of adjoining villages falling within the radius of 15 Kms.

Based on the above criteria, Oil Industry has identified 1285 urban/rural and 401 exclusively rural locations in the country for servicing the rural areas under the revised 1996-98 Marketing Plan.

Development Plan for Telecom Sector in Karnataka

1719. SHRI B.M. MENSINKAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the development plan for the telecom sector in Karnataka particularly in rural areas of Dharwad region during 1998-99 and achievements made so far in this regard;

(b) the funds allocated for the purpose during the said period;

(c) the number of post offices functioning at present in rural areas of the State;

(d) whether the Government propose to set up some more post offices in the rural as well as urban areas in the State during 1998-99;

(e) if so, the details thereof, location-wise and the funds allocated for the purpose; and