

[English]

SHRI VAZHAPADY K. RAMAMURTHY: Sir, in the market plan for 1995-97, the companies have identified about three thousand and odd LPG dealerships. Out of this, about 2,400 are earmarked only for the rural areas. At present, the pending list in the country is for 1.34 crores. I think, it is certain that we will wipe out the waiting list by the year 2000. After that, I think, for the metropolitan cities and other urban areas, it will be an demand. For the rural areas, our Ministry is drafting a plan for extending the LPG dealership at the block level also.

12.00 hrs.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to the practical problem. We have been given rights to allot gas connection but a rule has been made therein that name should be there in waiting list and no gas agency dealer is need to put the name or any rural fellow in the waiting list. He says that it is meant for urban areas. I would like to know from the Minister whether he will make any arrangement in giving some slackness in the provision made unless arrangement for one L.P.G. dealer at every village level, block level is made.

[English]

SHRI VAZHAPADY K. RAMAMURTHY: Sir, there is a direction from the hon. Speaker. In no way, I am connected with this particular condition. But I can convey to all the dealers that whenever such requests from hon. MPs come, they would immediately register the names.
..(Interruptions)

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Sir, this is an important matter. We have to review and see whether we can change that direction. ..(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, we will review it.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Pollution by Coal Mines

*164. DR. SANJAY SINH:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of coal mines are causing air pollution and successfully avoiding the norms proscribed in this regard;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) Coal mining activities like blasting, drilling, crushing, handling and transfer of material cause air pollution. In some places the values of suspended particulate matter has exceeded the prescribed limits.

(c) The State Pollution Control Boards and the Regional Offices of the Ministry, monitor the compliance status/environmental conditions for the projects. In case of non-compliance/unsatisfactory compliance of stipulated conditions, appropriate action is taken against the project proponents.

Criteria for Allotment of LPG Agencies

*165. SHRI MADAN PATIL:
SHRI MADHAV RAO PATIL:

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

(a) the criteria for the allotment of LPG agencies;

(b) whether there is any comprehensive plan to cover the rural areas by LPG;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the supply position of LPG is monitored periodically;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and