

[Translation]

### Baking Sugar Through Vacuum System

1913. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the norms fixed for according permission to the Khandsari units located at distant places for baking sugar through vacuum system by the Government;

(b) whether the Government propose to delete this provision;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (d) Earlier, the khandsari units were using open pan process for manufacture of khandsari. Recently Government of India have decided to allow these units to use vacuum pan technology in their manufacturing process.

There is no norm for according permission for adopting the vacuum pan technology except that such khandsari units should be located outside the areas reserved for sugar mills. As this decision has been taken recently no change is being considered in the policy.

[English]

### Drive against use of Non ISI LPG Cylinders

1914. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have detected a number of illegal bottling plants flooding in the market of Delhi with Non-ISI LPG cylinders recently;

(b) if so, whether a number of consumers have lost their lives by the use of these cylinders;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any drive has been launched by the authorities to educate manufacturers, dealers and buyers of illegal cylinders about the danger posed by the use of these cylinders; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the results achieved thereby?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. At present there are only three LPG bottling plants in Delhi, all belonging to Public Sector Oil Companies. These bottling plants are installed meeting the requirements of Gas Cylinders Rules 1981,

Static and Mobile Pressure Vessels (Unfired) Rules 1981 and Oil Industry Safety Directorate Guidelines. The illegal plants mentioned in question perhaps refer to clandestine transfer and filling by some persons in shops and godowns etc. in cylinders procured from unauthorised sources behind public gauge. Such small cylinders are normally used for lighting. No information or report of loss of human lives connected with illegal filling and supply of LPG cylinders in Delhi has been received recently. However, Delhi Police has registered four cases of illegal transfer of LPG from one cylinder to other cylinder since June, 1997.

(d) and (e) To prevent use of spurious/non ISI LPG equipments including cylinders, extensive safety training and education programmes for customers are conducted by Oil Companies. This is an ongoing process. In addition, vigorous check at various stages have been implemented. Press releases for education of customers are also made.

### Transfer of Chandigarh

1915. SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to transfer Chandigarh and other Hindi speaking areas now in Punjab to Haryana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) Presently, there is no proposal before Government to change the constitutional position of Chandigarh. Government of India would like the States concerned to sort out their differences over the matter amicably and would be willing to help in the matter.

[Translation]

### Medical Facilities to Children

1916. SHRI JAYSINHJI CHAUHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the children under five years died during each of the last three years in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken particularly in rural areas of Gujarat in backward and tribal dominated villages to provide adequate medical facilities to children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI) : (a) The Sample Registration System of the Registrar General of India provides information on the Child Mortality Rate which is defined as the number of deaths of children below 5 years of age in a year, per 1000 population of the same age in that year. The State-wise estimates of Child Mortality Rate for major States during the last 3 years is enclosed in the Statement.