

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Let there be an Half-an-Hour discussion on this subject.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALYAN SINGH KALVI: The Supplementary Question being asked are about power generation, while the main question is regarding transmission and distribution losses and load factor of thermal plants.

SHRIMATI SUBHASHINI ALI: You can talk eloquently about Roop Kunwar, but you are unable to say a few words about the power situation..(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats. I will look into it. I will give my decision. all of you, please take your seats.....(*Interruptions*) ..

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: I want to say that I shall definitely look into Shri Ajit Panja's proposal for an half-an-hour discussion on this issue, but I would like to tell the hon. Minister that when questions of such comprehensive nature are raised, the hon. Members are free to ask supplementary questions about the States. Therefore, in future, he should keep this in mind and come prepared to the House.

[*English*]

#### **Allotment of Petrol Pumps and LPG Agencies To Unemployed Youths**

\*165. SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether petrol pumps and LPG agencies are being allotted to unemployed youths as announced by the previous Gov-

ernment.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

[*Translation*]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA): (a) to (c). No scheme to allot petrol pumps and LPG agencies for unemployed youths was finalised by the previous Government. However, as per existing policy for allotment of retail outlets (diesel/petrol dealerships) and LPG distributorships, preference is given to unemployed graduates and unemployed engineering graduates over other applicants, except Consumer Cooperative Societies, in the 'Open' category.

[*English*]

SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Sir, unfortunately, I have the English version of the answer sheet and therefore I will put my supplementaries in English. The hon. Minister has read it out in Hindi. But I have got the English copy of the answer.

MR. SPEAKER: Mandhataji, is there any discrepancy between the written answer and the oral answer?

SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: It doesn't make any difference in any way.

MR. SPEAKER: That is all right.

SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: I know the hon. Minister personally. He is very well-versed in English.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He has replied in English. It is in Roman script. That is all. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: I had asked whether the previous Government had framed any policy regarding allotment of gas

agency and other related items to unemployed youth. And the answer says, no scheme was finalised by the previous Government. I want to ask....(*Interruptions*) ....

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is an important question.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT PANJA: Where has Shri V. P. Singh gone? he is absent.(*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: He has gone along with Shri Rajiv Gandhi somewhere. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He has a right to put the question. Mandhata Singhji, please, address the Speaker.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: The answer given is: No scheme was finalised by the previous Government. It clearly indicates that the previous Government has done some spade work and it was not finalised. May I know from the Minister what spade work was done by the previous Government and whether the present Government proposes to pursue the same and act accordingly?

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA: I think, Shri Mandhata Singh knows, the previous Government was headed by Shri V. P. Singh. Shri V. P. Singh made an announcement at the two public meetings one was held in Madras and the other one was held in Kerala on the 23rd of September, 1990. And the announcement was, "Government is thinking of allotting petrol pumps, gas agencies and other agencies to those meritorious students who are economically weak. Such meritorious and economically weak students will be provided loans from banks to establish and run these agencies. This will be done with a view to provide employment to educated youth and will be a step towards self-employment of youth. And

thereafter on 4th October, a letter was sent by the Prime Minister's Office to the then Secretary of Petroleum and thereafter nothing was done over it.

SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Reacting to the Minister's answer.

SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: The second part has not come.

SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: I reserve my second question.

MR. SPEAKER: What reserve?

[*Translation*]

You are asking your second supplementary question.

SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: I can connect two questions together. The Minister says that the Government was thinking. Firstly, I want to know whether that thinking.....

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA: I said, letter was sent from the Prime Minister's Office and not by Government.

SHRI MANDHATA SINGH: Yes. Shri V. P. Singh represented that Government. I hope, you concede that. I want to ask whether that thinking has stopped. And then the related question is like this. The answer says that under the existing scheme of things unemployed youths are given preference. May I know, during the last one year, how many unemployed youngmen were given these facilities and will the Minister lay a detailed statement on the Table of the House?

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA: So far as these figures are concerned, that is not available with me. I will supply that to the hon. Member.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, his question was whether that

thinking has stopped or is it under the consideration of the Government?

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: He has not said that thinking has been stopped.

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: When their Government was thinking, they were also sinking. So, how could they do it? *(Interruptions)*

*[Translation]*

SHRI KALKA DAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know whether there is any reservation for the Scheduled Caste youths, so far as the allotment of petrol pumps and gas agencies is concerned and if so, the details thereof? I would also like to know, the number of petrol pumps and gas agencies allotted in the last ten years and the number of people belonging to the Scheduled Castes among them?

*[Translation]*

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in terms of the present scheme, the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, who fall in the age group of 21 to 50 years, are entitled to get the facility of twenty five per cent reservation.

SHRI KALKA DAS: I had asked about the total number of gas agencies and petrol pumps allotted during the last ten years and the percentage of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe allottees among them.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA: Right at the moment these statistics are not available.

SHRI KALKA DAS: Will these be placed on the Table of the House?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes Sir, these will be placed.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has not replied to the original question raised by the member whether the present Government proposes to follow or not the policies of the previous Government in this regard. At the same time I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many gas agencies and petrol pumps have been allotted in Delhi and elsewhere since the Chandra Shekhar Government assumed charge. I would also like to know about the number of allottees begging to SC and ST among them and the ratio adopted and whether in the process of allotment any favouritism was made in this regard?

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA: In reply to the second part of the question I would like to state that not a single allotment has been made since Shri Chandra Shekhar became Prime Minister.

AN HON. MEMBER: Allotments have been made.

SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA: No, Sir. In response to the announcement made by the previous government regarding the allotment of petrol pumps to the talented students and allotment of gas agencies to the poor people, we are giving due consideration to this aspect.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN: The previous Government has made a provision of allotting petrol pumps and gas agencies to the unemployed youths but these are being distributed among the private parties. In November 1987, a decision was taken by this Ministry to allot L. P. G. agencies to wholesale consumers' cooperatives but as per my knowledge no allotment has been made so far. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has made any announcement to allot the dealership of gas agencies and petrol pumps to cooperatives or the decision has been reversed. What are the reasons therefor?

**SHRISATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is an open category and the consumers' cooperatives which fall under this category, are given priority but at present there is no provision for the cooperatives in this regard.

[*English*]

**SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN:** There are so many wholesale consumer cooperatives which are waiting for distributorship. At least 12 of them are waiting but they are not going to be allotted the distributorship. (*Interruptions*)

**SHRI K. S. RAO:** The policy of the Government to allot its petrol pumps and gas agencies to unemployed youth is excellent. As matters stand today, the petrol pumps and the gas agencies are at a distance of 20 to 40 kms. in some areas particularly in the delta and coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh. The need for these things is too high because the farmers are using tractors in a good number and the people are using gas because no other form of fuel like wood is available. So it is both for serving the purpose of giving employment to more and more youth as well as to help the consumers who are not able to carry the cylinders which causes danger to the life. It causes even danger to the life if they carry cylinders in cycles for long distances. Transport buses are not permitting them to carry cylinders in buses. I wish to know from the hon. Minister as to whether he would think in terms of bifurcating or trifurcating even the existing agencies which is necessary and install more, in the semi-urban and urban places in the villages which are developing into new centres so that more youth can be employed and it will also be within the reach of the farming community as well as the consumers.

**SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA:** Sir, I will get this proposal examined by my Ministry.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI MITRA SEN YADAV:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the policy of the Government regarding allotment of petrol pumps, diesel pumps and gas agencies includes the disabled and others belonging to the category of handicapped. Sir, Diesel pumps are in great demand in rural areas now a days. As such, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any rule has been framed or not with regard to allotment of diesel pumps at Development Block level.

**SHRISATYA PRAKASH MALVIYA:** Sir, 7.5% reservation is being provided for the physically handicapped persons and as far as part (b) is concerned, this right rests with the State Governments.

#### **Delay in supply of LPG Refills**

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\*166. **SHRI R. N. RAKESH:**  
**DR. CHINTA MOHAN:**

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a newsitem captioned "Endless wait for LPG Refill", appearing in the Tribune dated 29 November, 1990;

(b) if so, whether the supply of LPG in the country falls far short of the demand;

(c) if so, the position in regard to its demand and supply;

(d) whether any time limit has been fixed by the Government for supplying LPG refills to consumers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the arrangements made for initiating action against distributors for not supplying refills within the prescribed time limit and the number of such distributors against whom