

(c) the requirement of gas cylinders in Punjab per month and the number of gas cylinders being supplied to Punjab every month; and

(d) the steps being taken to make good of the shortage?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present approximately, 5.24 lakh LPG refill cylinders are being supplied each month. These meet the requirement fully.

(d) Recently a temporary shortage in the supply of LPG refills was reported from a few locations in Punjab on account of the overall shortfall in the availability of bulk LPG. With the measures already taken, the situation has since improved. The situation is being closely monitored to ensure regular supplies to the consumers.

#### **Construction of Bridge on Thane Creek**

9841. **SHRI VAMANRAO MAHADIK:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of the railway bridge on Thane creek along Thane-Belapur railway line was held up for the last one year or so because of the collapse of one of the span of bridge;

(b) if so, the reasons for this mishap and the findings of the enquiry thereof; and

(c) the name of company entrusted with the construction contract and whether due to mishap, another contractor was entrusted with the work of completion of the bridge?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) M/s Asia Foundation and Construction Co. (AFCONS), Bombay.

As there was no mishap, the question of replacing the contractor engaged for this work did not arise.

#### **Innovative Technologies for Power Sector**

9842. **SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have stressed the need for application of innovative technologies for meeting the requirements of the power sector;

(b) if so, whether any concrete proposals are being considered in this regard;

(c) if so, whether any foreign help in being sought in this regard; and

(d) if so, by what time the final decision for introducing the new technology in power sector is likely to be taken up?

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN):** (a) Government has, inter-alia, stressed the need for application of innovative technologies for optimising the utilisation of the existing power generating capacity to meet the growing requirements of the power sector in the country.

(b) The areas identified by the Government in this regard include:

- i) Renovation and modernisation of the existing thermal power stations
- ii) Renovation and uprating of the existing hydro power stations
- iii) Systems improvement
- iv) Reduction of transmission and distribution losses

- v) Load management; and  
vi) Energy conservation.

(c) Proposals for application of innovative technologies in these area including the need for foreign help in this regard are examined by the Government on case to case basis, as and when received.

(d) Identification and introduction of innovative technologies in power sector is a continuing process.

#### **Conversion of Miraj Latur Line**

9843. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken decision for the conversion of Miraj-Latur metre gauge into broad gauge;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard;

(c) whether the work on this project is behind schedule;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) when this project is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

[*Translation* ]

#### **Production and demand of Cement**

9844. SHRI DAULAT RAM SARAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the production of different varieties of cement in the country and estimated requirement thereof, separately;

(b) the details of the varieties of cement technically certified and those not certified, respectively; and

(c) the reasons for allowing the manufacture and use of such uncertified cement?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Variety-wise production of cement by the large size cement plants in the country during the calendar year 1989 was as under:

| <i>Name of the variety</i>                                             | <i>Quantity in Million tonnes</i> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ordinary Portland Cement                                               | 29.82                             |
| Pozzolana Portland Cement                                              | 7.47                              |
| Portland blast furnace cement                                          | 4.37                              |
| White Cement                                                           | 0.22                              |
| Special purpose cement (oil well, low heat, high strength cement etc.) | 0.33                              |
| <b>Total</b>                                                           | <b>42.21</b>                      |

No estimates for varietywise requirement of cement have been made. However, as per the projections made by the Working Group on Cement Industry for the 7th Plan,

total demand for cement in the country for the year 1989-90 was expected to be 49 million tonnes.