

(a) whether Government are contemplating to award the work of filling of mini gas bottles to the private sector; and

(b) if so, the outlines of the proposal and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). The LPG Phase IV project for augmentation of bottling capacity and related facilities is presently under formulation. The role of the oil marketing companies and the possibility of associating the private sector will also be considered in this exercise.

Financial Restructuring of Engineering Projects (India) Ltd.

*217. SHRI P. M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposal from the Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. for its financial restructuring;

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon;

(c) whether the Ministry of Finance has been consulted about the future economic viability of the unit; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Financial restructuring of the company would be considered by Government after decision is taken regarding its future set-up, keeping in view all aspects including economic viability of the company.

Review of Salary Structure of Public Sector Executives

*219. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER :
SHRI T. BASHEER :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to review the salary structure of Executives of Public Sector Undertakings to attract best talent in the country; and

(b) if so, when will the review be completed and given effect to?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) and (b). As far as executives below the Board level working in Public Enterprises (PEs) following Central DA pattern are concerned, Government had appointed a High Power Pay Committee (HPPC) on the directors of the Supreme Court, to go into the various aspects relating to pay scales and other incidental matters such as additional DA, interim relief and other allowances. The Committee which is being reconstituted due to the demise of its Chairman, Mr. Justice P. N. Singhal, in October, 1986 would be submitting its report to the Government within a period of 12 months from the date of assumption of office. Appropriate action would be taken by Government on the recommendations of the HPPC. Salary structure of executives working in Public Enterprises following the industrial DA pattern and of the incumbents of Board level posts are being reviewed by the Government.

Waiting List for Telephone Connections in Rural Areas

*220. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applicants for telephones in the waiting list in the rural areas all over the country as on 1.9.1986;

(b) the number in the rural waiting list in the Kerala State; and

(c) which State has the highest percentage in the rural waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) The information is compiled twice a year viz. on 31st March and 30th September. The waiting list in rural areas as on 31.3.1986