

and north-eastern regions of the country ; and

(b) the progress achieved so far in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) The following areas have been earmarked for undertaking exploratory drilling by ONGC in the eastern and north-eastern region of the country during 1985-86.

Assam : Amguri, Bihubar and Changmaigaon.

Nagaland and Cachar : Badarpur and Kanchanpur. Besides drilling will continue at Chumukedima, Khoraghat, Champang and Barak.

Tripura : Rokhia, Baramura and Gojalia.

West Bengal : Raghunath, Kakdwip and Deganga.

(b) Action has been initiated to start drilling at the identified locations.

Accord on Lead Free Petrol

454. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI :
SHRI G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plans to market lead-free petrol in the country, as is being done by EEC, by 1989 ;

(b) whether Government propose to encourage use of alcohol from molasses as an anti-knock agent at the earliest instead of exporting alcohol and molasses periodically ;

(c) whether Government are aware that there are vested interests and/or muddled thinking in the concerned Ministries resulting in blocking the use of alcohol in petrol ; and

(d) whether Government are aware that 100 per cent alcohol, a renewable source of energy, is being used in cars in Brazil and if so, the reasons for delay in switching over to alcohol in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) : Alcohol is used in cars in Brazil, which is deficient in petrol and has a large surplus of molasses. Although the technology to blend power alcohol with petrol for use as automotive fuel has been established, commercial use of alcohol in India as automotive fuel has not been found feasible as surplus alcohol is not available for this purpose on a steady basis. Besides, use of alcohol as fuel is not considered to be optimum utilisation of this industrial raw material, which can preferentially be used for making high value-added chemicals in the country.

Production of Maruti Cars and their Out-of Turns Allotment

455. SHRI PIYUSH TIRKI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of cars produced month-wise with number of out of turn allotment ; and

(b) the total number of persons in the waiting list ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) A statement is annexed.

(b) 1,02,620 persons were waitlisted for Maruti cars as on 1.3.85 in addition to 6,869 for deluxe cars against foreign exchange.