

During the last three years Oil Companies have allotted 22 retail outlet dealerships in Uttar Pradesh.

(d) and (e) Oil Companies have issued advertisement for 359 retail outlet dealerships and 477 LPG distributorships in Uttar Pradesh which are pending for allotment. The Dealer Selection Boards have recently been dissolved. It generally takes about 6-12 months for commissioning of the dealership/distributorship from the date of interview.

LPG dealerships in Uttar Pradesh

4971. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications received by government for LPG dealership from the State of Uttar Pradesh during the years 1998-1999 and 1999-2000 and as well as during the current year;

(b) the necessary action taken thereon; and

(c) the time by which the above applications are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (c) During the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 Oil Companies had issued advertisements for 466 LPG distributorships in Uttar Pradesh.

As the functioning of the Dealer Selection Boards was kept in abeyance since April, 1999, interview for some of the locations could not be held. The Dealer Selection Boards have since been dissolved. Selection for the locations already advertised and pending for selection will commence on reconstitution of the Dealer Selection Boards.

Joint venture of IOC and ELF

4972. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Oil Corporation and French Oil Company ELF propose to carry out joint research and development activities in India;

(b) whether the two oil companies also propose to market fuel and diesel additives;