

cooking gas connections to consumers, on a deposit of Rs. 4000/-;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of such cooking gas connections released under the scheme upto March 31, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the Tatkal Scheme introduced from March-April, 1995 IPG connection on demand is released immediately to the following categories of prospective customers against one time payment of non-refundable lump-sum amount of Rs. 4000/- besides payment of normal/applicable security deposit for loaned equipment as applicable for domestic consumers :

- (A) Physically handicapped person.
- (B) Doctors under medical profession.
- (C) NRIs
- (D) Staff of foreign nationality serving in embassies, consulates, trade commissioners.
- (E) Foreign nationals residing in India under valid visa.
- (F) Persons returning to India on transfer of residence basis.
- (G) Retired defence personnel with in one year of their retirement.
- (H) Professionals, namely, lawyers, Chartered Accountants, Chartered Engineers, Cost Accountants, Architects and Company Secretaries.
- (I) Any person who has booked his LPG connection more than one year ago.

(c) Under Tatkal Scheme 56771 LPG connections had been released upto 31st March, 1996.

रसोई गैस की कमी का पता करने संबंधी मानदण्ड

2877. श्री ईश दत्त यादव:

श्री नागमणि:

क्या प्रधान मंत्री य. चताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) सरकार द्वारा रसोई गैस की कमी का पता करने हेतु क्या मानदंड निर्धारित किए गए हैं;

(ख) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान उत्तर प्रदेश सहित किन-किन क्षेत्रों में रसोई गैस की कमी के संबंध में सूचना मिली है; और

(ग) सरकार द्वारा इस संबंध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री टी.आर. बालु): (क) आमतौर पर एल.पी.जी. डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर्स को बुकिंग के 24 घंटों के भीतर रीफिल की सुपुर्दगी करनी होती है। डबल बाटल कनेक्शन के लिए बुकिंग को छोड़कर 24 घंटों से अधिक की सभी बकाया बुकिंग रीफिल बैकलाग मानी जाती है। इसके आधार पर तेल कंपनियों के फील्ड अधिकारी इस बैकलाग को निपटाने के लिए भरण संयंत्रों या आपात आपूर्तियों से आवश्यक आपूर्ति की व्यवस्था करके सुधारात्मक कार्रवाई करते हैं।

(ख) से (ग) उत्तर प्रदेश सहित देश में सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की तेल कंपनियों के डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर्स को यहां पंजीकृत एल.पी.जी. के वर्तमान उपभोक्ताओं की मांग कमोबेश पूरी तरह पूर्ण की जा रही है। कभी-कभार उत्पन्न होने वाले अस्थायी बैकलाग को बढ़ाए गए घंटों और अवकाश के दिनों में भरण संयंत्रों के प्रचालन के माध्यम से एल. पी.जी. की आपूर्ति में वृद्धि करके और समीपवर्ती क्षेत्रों में स्थित भरण संयंत्रों से आपूर्तियों की व्यवस्था करके निपटारा जाता है।

Collaboration with Global Agencies for development of NRSE

2878. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Science and Technology is collaborating with global agencies for the development of new and renewable sources of energy (NRSE);

(b) if so, what progress has been made; and

(c) what have been the results of our own R&D in this regard during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Ministry of Non-conventional Energy Sources (MNES) is collaborating with

global agencies for the development of new and renewable sources of energy.

(b) 83 projects have been taken up with external financial assistance in the areas of wind energy, solar photo-voltaics and small hydel projects.

Out of these 83 projects, five have been completed, while the rest of the projects are in various stages of completion.

(c) During the 8th Five Year Plan, MNES has supported 157 projects on R&D in the area of new and renewable sources of energy. A 5 KW Polymer Electrolyte Fuel Cell (PEFC) has been developed and tested by the SPIC Science Foundation at Madras. A hydrogen/hydride-fueled prototype motorcycle (1 HP, 4-stroke, 100 cc) has also been developed and tested on road conditions.

The first prototype of 150 KW Wave Energy Plant was installed at Vizhinjam with the support of Department of Ocean Development (DOD) and involvement of Ocean Engineering Centre at the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, and declared as a National Test Site. After evaluation of the performance of the plant, a new power module of 55 KW rating with an improved air turbine and a variable speed induction generator was installed in April, 1996.

The Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) has been funding projects in the area of photo-voltaics, wind energy, biomethanation and batteries. In the area of photo-voltaics, small area silicon solar cells with 16% efficiency and large area crystalline solar cells with 13% efficiency have been developed.

In the area of Wind Energy, National Aerospace Laboratory has designed a wind mill, and the associated battery charges, which after installation have provided valuable inputs for performance evaluation leading to design modifications. In the area of biomethanation, a pilot plant for the treatment of 50 cubic metre/day waste water has been set up at Government Medical College, Nagpur. In the area of batteries, a technology for 12 V/100 Ah maintenance free lead acid battery has been developed at Central Electrochemical Research Institute (CECRI), Karaikudi.

During the 8th Five Year Plan, Development of Science & Technology (DST) embarked upon setting up several demonstration units of micro-hydel stations based on cross flow turbine technology developed at Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. Till date, nine such units have been commissioned with capacities ranging between 10 KW to 100 KW in UP, Kerala, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh.

Involvement of DDA Engineers in Scam

2879. SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report which appeared in the Times of India, dated 21st July, 1996, regarding the DDA Engineer Member involved in scam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted into the allegations; and

(d) if so, the details of the findings thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT & MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) No press report regarding "The DDA Engineer Member involved in scam" has been noticed in the Times of India dated 21.7.1996.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Per Mega Watt cost of Electricity Generation

2880. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the cost per Mega Watt (MW) of electricity generation projected in Ninth Five Year Plan and the total amount of money required to reach the targeted 55,000 MWs in the Plan period;