

the companies from time to time during the last about 3 years.

(c) to (e) The question of imposing interest at the stipulated rate and recovering the amount along-with the interest as arrears of land revenue by referring the matter to the Collector concerned is under active consideration.

Down stream Naphtha Cracker Units at Visakhapatnam

*106. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh wrote a letter on the 7th January, 1991 for setting up of Naphtha Cracker Down Stream Units at Visakhapatnam; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the action taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Chief Minister in his letter urged early clearance to the down stream units of the naphtha cracker at Visakhapatnam.

(b) Proposals for setting up of down stream units of the Naphtha cracker at Visakhapatnam are under process.

Promotion of Hindi through Roman Script

*107. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are examining the feasibility of promoting the study of Hindi in Roman script for the benefit of the people in the non-Hindi speaking States; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAJMANGAL PANDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Dangerous effects of Pesticides used in Agriculture

*109. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a recent WHO publication entitled Public Health impact of Pesticides used in Agriculture; and

(b) whether Government would keep in view the dangerous effects of pesticides on public health while evolving a National Pesticides Policy?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Existing legislations namely, Insecticides Act, 1968, Prevention of Food Adulteration, Act, 1954 and the Rules framed thereunder provide the legal framework for regulating the use of pesticides. The use of pesticides is regulated under these laws fully keeping in view public health considerations.

Indigenous Oil Production

*111. SHRI G. G. SWELL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the indigenous oil production at present vis-a-vis our current requirement;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of exploratory wells drilled are smaller in size as compared to those in China and other countries;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to invite private parties to step up indigenous oil production?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) The indigenous production of crude oil during 1989-90 was about 34.09 Million Tonnes as against the consumption of 51.94 Million Tonnes.

(b) and (c) The size and number of exploratory wells in a basin depend upon the number of prospects present in the basin and their volume as well as depth of reserves.

(d) The proposal regarding inviting private parties to explore for oil and gas in India under a fourth round of bidding is under consideration of the Government.

Supply of Natural Gas to Ahmedabad City through Pipelines

***112. SHRI ANATRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gujarat Government has made a proposal to the Central Government for supply of natural gas to Ahmedabad city through a pipeline; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken by the Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In view of the present availability and existing commitments of gas in the region it has not yet been possible to allocate natural gas for the project.

Survey Report on the Allotment of New LPG Distributorships in Tripura

***113. SHRI NARAYAN KAR:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Assam Oil Corporation has submitted a Survey Report identifying some new areas for allotment of new LPG distributorships;

(b) whether Government are contemplating to appoint new LPG distributors at Agartala and Belonia towns of Tripura;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what are the criteria for selection of new areas or places for LPG distribution?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The survey has established potential for setting up new Distributorships at Agartala, Belonia, Telimuro and Bishalgarh towns. These would be commissioned in a phased manner depending upon product availability.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) According to the present policy LPG Distributorships are being introduced in towns/cities with a population of 20,000 and above (as per 1931 census) in a phased manner, which offer viable distributorships, subject to overall product availability.

अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति के लोगों को एल० पी० जी० बितरकों के रूप में नियुक्ति

***114. श्री राम ब्रह्मेश सिंह :** क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि एल० पी० जी० का डीलर नियुक्त किये जाने के मामले में अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के लोगों के लिये 25 प्रतिशत आरक्षण का प्रावधान है ;