

fuel efficient, the company has issued circular dt. 25.4.89 to all such customers and dealers for refund of the deposits taken by the company.

(b) The company have reported that the retail prices of their Pick Up F-305 as on 28.4.89 is Rs. 1,08,901.63 Ex-Pithampur works, plus transportation RTO charges, Insurance charges etc.

(c) In view of the clarifications given by the company there is no cause of action against the company.

Advertisements for LPG agencies and petrol pump dealerships

1422. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI; Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state;

(a) what is the number of agencies of LPG dealership and petrol pumps, advertised by Indian Oil Corporation Bharat

Petroleum Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Limited during the last three years, zone-wise;

(h) what is the number of gas agencies and petrol pump dealerships allotted during this period, zone-wise; and

(c) what is the number of gas agencies and petrol pump dealerships still unallotted and by when these agencies and dealerships will be allotted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) The information in respect of Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation is given in the Statement. (See below.)

The information in relation to part (c) of the question includes IBP Company also.

Statement

(a) Company	East		West		North		South	
	RO	LPG	RO	LPG	RO	LPG	RO	LPG
HPC .	69	12	62	33	109	29	63	19
BPC .	51	4	58	17	80	41	56	14
IOC .	60	43	65	20	125	4	68	7
TOTAL :	180	59	185	70	314	74	187	40

(b) Company	East		West		North		South	
	RO	LPG	RO	LPG	RO	LPG	RO	LPG
HPC.	58	23	38	55	84	54	85	54
BPC	40	9	37	30	87	75	74	34
IOC .	87	112	101	49	168	151	134	107
TOTAL :	185	144	176	134	333	280	293	195

The cases of allotment given above relate to advertisements issued during the last three years as well as earlier years :

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(c)	R.O.	L.P.G. (on i all India Basis)
HPC.	244	163
BPC .	212	135
IOC .	260	289 ,
IBP	90	
Total :	806	587

As a number of steps precede the actual allotment of a distributorship/dealership, it is not possible to indicate the exact time by which the above dealerships/distributorships will be allotted.

Telecommunication services in Assam

1423. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware that the telecommunication services in Assam are unsatisfactory; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to improve the telecommunication net -work in Assam and particularly in, Guwahati?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) Telecommunication services in Assam are generally satisfactory. However, to further improve the services, the following action is being taken;

(i) Installation of electronic exchange at Guwahati with remote units at Dfc-pur, Jhalukbari and Noonmati.

(ii) Replacement of manual exchanges at Karimganj, Hailakande and North Lakhimpur by electronic ones.

(iii) Expansion of Guwahati telephone exchange.

(iv) Rxpansion of Dibrugarh exchange.

' In addition to above, the following actions are being taken under Mission Better Communications to further improve the present service;

(i) Replacement of bid unserviceable telephone instruments.

(ii) Replacement of fault-prone cables,

(iii) Replacement of heavy overhead alignment by underground cables

Requirement of energy in rural and tribal areas

1424. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI; Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state;

(a) what is the per capita energy requirement in rural and tribal areas of the country;

(b) whether this requirement is high Or low as compared to other developing countries in the commonwealth; and

(a) if low, what steps have besen taken by Government to increase the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) The Report of the