

**Drilling: operations in H f.**

(682. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state;

(a) the locations where the Oil and Natural Gas Commission propose to undertake drilling operations in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) the results of drilling operations so far undertaken in Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) ONGC propose to take up drilling at Nurpur and Jawa-lamukhi in Himachal Pradesh; besides Cheri, where drilling is already in progress.

(b) So far no commercial discovery of oil or gas has been made in Himachal Pradesh.

**New Policy for allotment of Petrol Pumps, Kerosene and UPG Agencies**

693. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state-

(a) whether any new policy for the allotment of more LPG agencies, petrol pumps and kerosene has been formulated to help the war-widows and the deserving ex-service-men;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the number of agencies granted to war widows and the ex-servicemen upto the 31st October, 1986 under this policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT):

(a) and (b)

With effect from the 1985-86 Marketing Plan of the oil industry, a separate reservation of 7 per cent has been introduced for the following categories of persons: —,

(i) Defence Personnel who are permanently and severely disabled either in war or an military duty during peace time.

(ii) Widows and motherless dependents of defence personnel whose husbands/guardians are killed while on Military duty either in war or peace.

(iii) Extremely deserving cases of Ex-Servicemen who have no means of livelihood.

(c) Prior to the separate reservation mentioned in (a) above, a common category of physically handicapped including Defence Personnel disabled in war, and war widows was in existence. Under the above mentioned earlier categorisation, 746 dealerships/distributionships had been granted till 1-2-1986; this number includes cases of disabled defence personnel and war widows.

**Non-production by Farakka Thermal Power Station**

694. SHRIMAHENDRAPRASAD:

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state-

(a) whether it is a fact that even the first unit of the Farakka Super Thermal Power Station could not start commercial operations upto October this year after being commissioned in January, 1986; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?