

Appointment of LPG distributorship is a continuous process and the concerned Oil Marketing Company schedules the date of draw of lots for selection of LPG distributorships after giving proper intimation to the eligible candidates by registered post and advertisement through press media.

Biju Patnaik National Steel Institute

4610. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the time-frame for upgradation of Biju Patnaik National Steel Institute to the National Centre of Excellence with status of Deemed University; and

(b) whether any agency has been engaged to prepare the feasibility report?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI CHAUDHARY BIRENDER SINGH): (a) and (b) There is no time-frame for such upgradation. MECON Ltd. has been engaged to submit a techno-feasibility report on the project.

Establishment of steel plant in Puducherry

4611. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating on establishment of a steel plant in the Union Territory of Puducherry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any study has been conducted on identifying a suitable place in Puducherry, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI CHAUDHARY BIRENDER SINGH): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The Government is not considering to set up Steel Plants. Steel being a deregulator sector, the role of Government is limited to that of a facilitator only for the growth of steel industry in the country. Decisions relating to setting up of steel plants etc. are therefore the sole decision of the individual steel manufacturer based on various factors including commercial consideration and market dynamics.

Cases filed against senior officials of the Ministry

4612. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has filed any cases against any senior officials of the