

*[Translation]***Rise in Price of Petrol and Diesel**

2733. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the extent to which rise in prices of petrol and diesel have been noticed during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government have any scheme to control the continuous rise in prices; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c). The price of petroleum products are administered by the Government. The ex-storage point price of petrol and diesel has been revised in Sept., 1992 and Feb., 1994 during the last three years and the increase in price is given below :

	Rs./KL	
	Sept. 92	Feb., 94
MS-87	997.10	1000.00
Diesel	997.10	750.00

The prices of petroleum products are fixed taking into consideration various factors like production cost, socio-economic condition etc.

*[English]***New Pipelines**

2734. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :

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

(a) whether the proposal for gas pipelines from Jorhat and crude oil pipeline from Noharkatia to Numaligarh refinery has not been cleared so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to clear the above pipelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) to (c). Government has given first stage clearance on 5.12.95 for preparation of Detailed feasibility Report in connection with the proposal of GAIL for construction of gas pipelines for supply of gas to Numaligarh Refinery from Lakwa. For the Jorhat-Numaligarh crude oil pipeline project OIL have been requested to modify and resubmit their proposal, in the light of the latest crude oil production profile for the North-Eastern Region for the period 1996-97 to 2006-07.

Inclusion of Dalit Christians in SCs List

2735. SHRI K.M. MATHEW :
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL :
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN :
SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA :
SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA
RAO VADDE :
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to include the Dalit Christians in the Scheduled Castes List and to accord the status of SCs/STs to them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to provide reservation benefits to Dalit christians and Dalits belonging to other minority communications;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) to (c). The matter relating to inclusion of Christians of Scheduled Caste origin in the list of Scheduled Castes is under the consideration of the Government. In respect of Scheduled Tribes they may profess any religion.

(d) to (f). Reservation benefits as OBCs have already been extended with effect from 8.9.1993 to those sections of the Dalit Christians and Dalits belonging to other minority communications who have been included in the list of Other Backward Classes for the purposes of providing reservation in direct recruitment in civil posts and services under the Government of India.

Violation of Human Rights

2736. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the recently released annual report of Amnesty International, charging the Government and Indian security forces of largescale violation of Human Rights, in detention of thousands of persons without trial for long spells and perpetrating atrocities on undertrials and others in custody;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?