

(a) the number of LPG agencies at present in Kerala;

(b) the number of agencies forwarded to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(c) the number of agencies planned to be awarded in Kerala this year; and

(d) the number of such agencies earmarked for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and (b). There are at present 137 LPG distributorships in the State of Kerala, out of which 31 belong to 'SC/ST' categories.

(c) and (d). In addition to the above, the oil industry has planned, upto its Annual Marketing Plan 1988-89, to establish 47 more distributorships in Kerala, out of which 11 have been earmarked for candidates under 'SC/ST' categories.

Promotional Avenues for Farm Radio Officers

4682. SHRI B.B. RAMAIAH:
SHRI V. SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) when the Farm and House Radio Section was started in Akashvani programmes;

(b) the number of farm radio officers working in this section as on date;

(c) whether there are no promotional avenues for this cadre of employees working for more than 15 years; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF IN- FORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) Farm and Home Units in All India Radio were first established in 1966.

(b) Seventy-seven.

(c) and (d). Farm Radio Officers are presently eligible for promotion to one post of Joint Director (Farm & Home). However, a provision has been made in the proposed Indian Broadcasting (Programme) Service to amalgamate the cadre of Farm Radio Officers with that of Programme Executive to provide them better promotional avenues.

Selection grade for A.I.R. Farm Radio Officers

4683. SHRI B.B. RAMAIAH:
SHRI V. SOBHANADREES-
WARA RAO:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the cadres of programme officers that are given benefits of selection grade;

(b) the reason for not extending the benefit of selection grade to the Farm Radio officers and Family Welfare Extension officers who are also the programme officers in practice; and

(c) the steps being taken to give selec- tion grade to all such Farm Radio officers and Family Welfare Extension officers who have completed 14 years service in their respective grades?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF IN-

FORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) After implementation of the IV Central Pay Commission recommendations, all non-functional Selection Grades in the Programme cadres of AIR as well stand abolished.

(b) and (c). In view of (a) above, the question of extending the benefit of non-functional selection grade to the Farm Radio Officers and Extension Officers in All India Radio does not arise.

Electrification of Narwana Cooperative Group Housing Society Complex Delhi

4685. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the reply given on 30 August, 1988 to Unstarred Question 4243 regarding electrification of Narwana Cooperative Group Housing Society in Patparganj area and state:

(a) the progress made so far with regard to internal electrification there; and

(b) the time by which DESU will be able to complete the remaining electrification work and supply of electricity to the Society?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). 85% work of electrification including construction of the sub-station, in the Colony of Narwana Cooperative Group Housing Society is complete. The balance electrification work is expected to be completed by 30th April, 1989. Thereafter, permanent electric connections can be taken by the prospective consumers on completion of usual commercial formalities.

World Bank Loan for Hydel Power Project

4686. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a big hydro electric power project in Northern Region is in the offing;

(b) if so, the location and the other details thereof;

(c) the total estimated cost of the project and the time by which it is likely to start producing electricity; and

(d) whether the World Bank has sanctioned a loan for construction of its structure and if so, the details thereof including the terms on which the loan has been agreed to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d). Nathpa Jhakri Hydroelectric Project, with an installed capacity of 1500 M.W., located in Kinnaur and Shimla districts of Himachal Pradesh has been sanctioned for execution as a joint venture of the Government of India and Government of Himachal Pradesh. The total cost of the generation project is Rs. 1472 Crores. The Project is expected to yield benefits in the Ninth Five Year Plan. The World Bank has agreed to finance the Nathpa Jhakri Hydroelectric Project to the extent of US \$ 444 Million, for which a formal agreement with detailed terms and conditions, is to be concluded.

[Translation]

Construction of Bhel Pahari Dam by D.V.C.

4687. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Damodar Valley Corporation has conducted a survey to construct Bhel Pahari Dam in Girdih district of Bihar; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the action taken by D.V.C. so far and the time by which it is proposed to complete