

It has planted more than 4000 tree which gives a ratio of 1 : 10 between the trees cut and trees planted. ONGC has been directed to plant a total of one lakh trees. It has contributed Rs. 2 crores to CIDCO for development of two parks one at Uran & other at Nhava. The quarrying of hills has been confined to the barest minimum. Committees have been set up to keep a close watch on the preservation of environment.

#### Gas cylinder mishaps in Hyderabad

10914. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the five gas cylinder mishaps which occurred in the Hyderabad city within the short span of one month during February-March, 1983 resulting in deaths of seven persons and injuries to many others were due to manufacturing defects of the equipment or due to the negligence of the users; and

(b) in either case what safety measures Government have proposed to take to prevent such mishaps in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PETROLEUM IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): (a) Out

of the five gas cylinder mishaps which occurred in Hyderabad during February-March, 1983, three were due to negligence of users and the remaining two due to malfunctioning of equipment. None were due to manufacturing defects.

The oil companies have launched an intensive safety campaign to create safety awareness among the LPG consumers as detailed below:-

1. Inserting safety advertisements in leading papers and magazines on all India basis in different languages.

2. Distribution of safety instruction cards/booklets to domestic gas consumers indicating detailed safety instruction and various Do's and Don'tsin handling the LPG equipment.

3. T.V. spots appearing at prime time from Bombay and also from Delhi over the national hook up, in Hindi and English.

4. Radio commercials on the AIR in Hindi and English from Akashvani during super 'A' time.

5. Water soap solution bottles have been developed for free distribution to the customers for carrying out leak-checks on cylinders.

6. Release of LPG safety films entitled "Safety with cooking Gas" was organised through the Films Division. Production of some more films and cinema slides on LPG are being planned by the oil companies.

7. On a test basis, the oil companies would depute their field officers to visit some consumers, premises to make random checks of the equipment to see that the delivery boys are checking the consumers' LPG equipment properly. On the scheme becoming successful, the visits are proposed to be extended to many more areas to educate the consumers about safety aspects.

8. It has also been recently decided to enlist college girls during summer vacations so that they can go from house to house to check up on the proper use of LPG equipment by the house-wife.

#### Merger of Hindusthan Samachar & Samachar Bharti With PTI and UNI

10915. SHRI BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state is there any proposal to help merging the Hindustan Samachar and Samachar Bharati with P.T.I. and U.N.I.?

THE DUPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : No Sir

#### Agreement With HMG Nepal

10916. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the estimated per killowatt or per unit cost of generation and distribution of hydel power at the three Dams on rivers Koshi, Kamla and Bagmati as compared to the various thermal power units in Bihar?