

Production and Distribution of L.D.P.

2817. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of Low Density Polythene for domestic use and otherwise in the country;

(b) the production capacity of L.D.P. and what is the actual production;

(c) the total quantity of L.D.P. imported during 1973-74; and

(d) the procedure for its distribution and whether the small units have been denied its allocation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH):

(a) There is shortage of Thermoplastic Resins including low Density Polythene for some time now as production has not kept pace with the increased demand.

(b) and (c). The details are as follows:—

Name of the firm	Item manufactured	Approved capacity (In metric tonnes)	Production (In metric tonnes)	
			1973	1974 (Jan/Oct)
M/s. Union Carbide India Ltd., Bombay.	LDP	20,000	14754	11016
M/s. Alkali & chemical Corpn. of India Ltd. Calcutta.	LDP	13,000	13118	9648

The total quantity of Low Density Polythene imported during 1973-74 was 3400 Metric Tonnes.

(d) There is no distribution control on Thermoplastic Resins including Low Density Polythene. However, approximately 80 per cent of Low Density Polythene is distributed to Small Scale consumers as against 20 per cent to Large Scale consumers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE CHEMICALS (SHRI K. R. GANESH):

(a) and (b). There were some complaints regarding the inadequacy of urea allotted for industrial use. Government have since then allotted an additional quantity of urea in order to meet adequately the estimated requirements of urea for industrial applications.

Despatch of Urea for Industrial use

2818. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints about the irregular despatch of Urea for industrial use; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to improve the situation?

Production and Requirement of Soda Ash

2819. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of soda ash produced in India and by whom; the country's requirement thereof and the quantity imported;

(b) whether there is any control over price or distribution of it and