

*[English]***Supply of LPG**

3790. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB:
SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

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

(a) the details of demand, supply and consumption of LPG cylinders in Orissa at present;

(b) whether there is acute shortage of LPG cylinders in some parts of Cuttack, Angal and Jagatsinghpur of Orissa and Bihar;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the supply position in the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The LPG sales during 1997-98 were about 50 TMT in Orissa.

(b) and (c) The LPG demand of existing consumers enrolled with PSU oil companies in the State of Orissa and Bihar is being met by and large in full. However, whenever LPG backlogs develop due to law and order problems, floods or any disruption in availability due to emergency shutdowns at any of the productions sources etc., oil companies take immediate measures to meet the demand in the affected markets through maximising LPG imports and by operation of LPG bottling plants during extended hours and on Sundays and holidays to clear the LPG backlogs. Presently there is no LPG backlog in the States of Bihar and Orissa as reported by oil companies.

(d) Plans have been drawn for higher availability of LPG by increasing the capacity of existing production sources, putting up new plants and higher imports through existing and new facilities.

Reduction of Customs Duty

3791. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance to FACT (Cochin);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware that the Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT) has suffered heavy loss due to the reduction of Customs Duty on caprolactum; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to tide over the present situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL): (a) to (d) FACT has submitted a proposal seeking *inter-alia* moratorium on payment of interest for a period of two to three years on Government loans taken for the ammonia replacement project and for rescheduling of repayment of the principal.

The company has earned profit up to the year 1997-98. However, during 1998-99 (up to Oct. 98), it has reported loss which is ascribed amongst other things due to reduction of basic customs duty on caprolactum.

The financial performance of FACT during the past few years are as under:

(Rs. Crore)	
Year	Profit/Loss
1995-96	76.76
1996-97	61.78
1997-98	53.94
1998-99 (up to Oct. 98)	(-) 78.99 (Prov.)

The company has requested for enhancing the basic customs duty on caprolactum, which has not been found to be tenable.

Hidings of Militants in Bangladesh

3792. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the insurgent groups have made their hidings in hilly areas of Bangladesh adjacent to Indo-Bangladesh border and spreading their activities in Tripura;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Union Government so far on the requests made by the Government of Tripura for

the deployment of additional battalions of Border Security Force, Army of Assam Rifles in the State.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Reports indicate that there are camps in Bangladesh which are being used by North East insurgent groups for safe havens, sanctuary, and training purposes. The matter has been taken up with the Government of Bangladesh and they have assured that they will not allow negative elements to use their territory for activities prejudicial to the interests of India.

(c) The deployment of Army/Central para Military Forces is reviewed from time to time in view of the overall security scenario and the availability of these forces.

Review of National Health Policy

3793. SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have undertaken any review of the National Health Policy in view of the situation arising from emergence and re-emergence of diseases;

(b) if so, the details of lines on which this review has been undertaken;

(c) whether AIDS is proposed to be included in the National Health Policy; and

(d) if so, the details of programmes undertaken/proposed to be undertaken indicating the success achieved over the years in curbing the different diseases under the National Health Programme/National Health Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) to (d) The exercise for revision of the National Health Policy has been initiated and will be finalised only after taking into account the views of State Governments, experts and all concerned.

The achievement made in respect of major National Health & Family Welfare Programmes is in the attached statement.

Statement

Statement showing Achievements under Major Health & Family Welfare Programmes in the Country during Eighth Plan

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Achievements
1	2	3
1.	National Malaria Eradication Programme	The Malaria incidence has been contained between 2-3 million cases annually for more than a decade including 8th Plan period. The facilities for case detection and treatment for Malaria are in existence in all parts of the country free of cost. During 8th Plan period of Kala-azar endemic districts of West Bengal and Bihar states have been covered under Kala-azar Control Scheme and Filaria endemic urban areas have been covered under National Filaria Control Programme through 206 control units, 27 survey units and 199 Filaria Clinics.
	National Leprosy Eradication Programme	All the districts of the country have been covered with free MDT services so far. A total of 10.8 million patients have been cured by Multidrug Therapy. Reduction in prevalence rate of leprosy has been from 57/10,000 population in 1981 to 5.3/10,000 by March, 1998.