

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Rental arrears as on 1.3.97 are Rs. 472.59 lakhs.

(b) There has been no waiver case during the last one year.

(c) The year-wise details of rental arrears recovered during the last 3 years are as under :

Year	Amount
1994-95	51.82 lakhs
1995-96	92.88 lakhs
1996-97	113.13 lakhs

(d) Necessary action as per rules has been initiated to recover pending rental arrears.

[Translation]

Regularisation of Colonies

2703. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposals to regularise unauthorised colonies of Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) Proposals have been received from the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi for regularisation of unauthorised colonies in Delhi as existed on 31.3.1993. However, in CWP No. 4771/93, the High Court of Delhi has restrained the respondents including Union of India, from taking any decision or action to regularise any unauthorised colony till further orders. The matter is still sub-judice.

[English]

Drought Prone Areas Programme

2704. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of districts in different States of the country under D.P.A.P. schemes, State-wise;

(b) whether any project proposal has been submitted by the Government of Tripura for implementation of D.P.A.P. in South Tripura District of the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to accord sanction to the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Under the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), 155 districts in 13 States are presently covered. The State-wise coverage is attached as statement.

(b) and (c) As per the available information, no project proposal has been received from the Government of Tripura for the implementation of D.P.A.P. in South Tripura district. Even otherwise, Tripura and other North Eastern States of the country have not been covered under the Programme, since these States do not fulfil the criteria of percentage rainfall and irrigation as well as of Moisture Index, which is an index of moisture stress on vegetation.

Statement

State	Number of DPAP Districts
1. Andhra Pradesh	11
2. Bihar	16
3. Gujarat	10
4. Himachal Pradesh	3
5. Jammu & Kashmir	2
6. Karnataka	11
7. Madhya Pradesh	25
8. Maharashtra	22
9. Orissa	8
10. Rajasthan	10
11. Tamil Nadu	15
12. Uttar Pradesh	18
13. West Bengal	4
Total	155

Oil Selection Board

2705. SHRI K. KANDASAMY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government is aware that at present the posts of Chairman and Members of Oil Selection Board (Southern Region) are vacant; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to expedite the appointment of Chairman and Members?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Oil Selection Boards have since been

abolished by the Government in public interest. Necessary action to reactivate the selection process is being taken expeditiously.

[Translation]

Drinking Water

2706. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey of the villages of Bihar, particularly those of Saharsa, Supaul and Madhepura districts for formulating/commissioning the water supply schemes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work of the schemes is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As on 1.2.97 there were 6364 Not covered habitations and 24,050 Partially covered habitations in Bihar.

(c) All the Not Covered and Partially Covered habitations are expected to be provided with safe drinking water facilities by 1997-98 and 2000 AD respectively by the State Government.

[English]

Development and Welfare of Minorities

2707. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a request has been made to the Prime Minister and also Chairman, Plannings Commission that specific allocation be made in the Ninth Five Year Plan for the development and welfare of minorities, particularly in the sphere of education;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) A request has been made to the Prime Minister by the General Secretary, All India Janata Dal (Minority Committee), New Delhi, for an allocation of Rs. 1000 crore for education of Muslims in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(c) Ninth Five Year Plan which is now under formulation will give full weightage to this request.

[Translation]

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation

2708. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation proposes to increase its activities abroad;

(b) if so, the details of the objectives in this regard;

(c) whether O.N.G.C. has signed or propose to sign any agreement with foreign Gas Companies in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The objective is to enhance oil security for the country by acquiring equity oil abroad

(c) to (e) ONGC Videsh Ltd. had farmed-in for exploration ventures in Egypt and Yemen with British Gas. Presently ONGC-VL has not signed any agreement with any foreign gas companies.

[English]

Oil Depots

2709. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the places in Karnataka where Oil Depots of Bharat Petroleum, Indian Oil Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum are located;

(b) the storage capacity of each depot separately at present;

(c) whether the local people are being benefited by the above mentioned undertaking; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The places in Karnataka having oil storage depots/terminals of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd., Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. and the storage capacity of each depot are given in the attached statement.

(c) and (d) The oil storage depots at the above mentioned places in the State of Karnataka have ensured the availability of petroleum products of mass consumption nearer to the consumption zones. These depots also help in generating indirect employment through various ancilliary services.