

(a) whether the Government provide any priority for awarding distributionship of L.P.G. & Petrol Pumps to State Government agencies;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government have received any request from Government of Kerala regarding L.P.G. distributionship to Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation (K.S.C.S.C.);

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) As per existing policy, oil companies advertise the locations included in the approved Marketing Plans under different reserved categories in two newspapers, one in English daily and one in vernacular daily, and invite applications from the candidates meeting the eligibility criteria relating to nationality, age, educational qualification, residence, income multiple dealership norms, etc. The Corporations owned or controlled by the Government can apply for locations advertised under Open category. The restrictions relating to annual income, residence and multiple distributorships norms would not be applicable in their case. However, no priority or reservation is provided for Government Corporations, and Cooperative Societies.

(c) to (e) Requests are received from time to time from individuals/organisations for opening of dealerships/distributorships in different parts of the country and allotment in their favour. Locations found economically viable are included in the Marketing Plans. Candidature of the Civil Supplies Corporation of Kerala will also be considered alongwith others on merit by Dealer Selection Boards in case the Corporation apply for award of dealership/distributorship.

#### Multi-State Showcase Projects

918. SHRI K. PARYMOHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has carried out or initiated site specific investigations for setting up of multi-state showcase power projects based on the imported coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation has received any proposals for said projects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER, MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has initiated site specific technical investigations like topographical survey, soil investigation and environment data generation for the following mega thermal power projects:—

Name of the Project/ State	Capacity (MW)	Fuel
Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu	1000-1500	Imported coal/blend of domestic and imported coal.
Pipavav, Gujarat	2000	Imported coal/LNG.
Krishnapatnam, Andhra Pradesh	1500	Imported coal/ blended coal (domestic and imported)

These projects are envisaged to be implemented by private developers to be selected through international

bidding process.

(c) and (d) Powergrid Corporation of India, who have been entrusted with this task by the Government of India, has recently invited pre-qualification proposals for the shortlisting of potential developers through international competitive bidding process for Cuddalore (1000-1500 MW) in Tamil Nadu and Pipavav (2000 MW +) in Gujarat.

[Translation]

#### Investment by International Oil Companies

919. DR. ASHOK PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal from the international oil companies for making investment in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) In addition to a large number of foreign investment proposals in the petroleum sector which have already been approved through Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB), the following proposals for investment from international oil companies are pending with the Government:—

- (i) LNG Terminal at Trombay in Maharashtra with a capacity of 3.0 MMTPA by M/s TOTAL Gas and Power India, France with Tata Electric Company having foreign investment amounting to Rs. 425 Crore at 50% share.
- (ii) Aromatic complex (Paraxylene/PTA at Panipat) by Indian Oil Corporation in a joint venture with M/s Petronas of Malasia. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 4056 Crore. The equity distribution and source of funding are yet to be finalised.

In addition to above, Government have offered 18 exploration blocks under New Exploration Policy (NELP) for bidding to public sector and private companies including international oil companies on terms that provide for level playing field to investors.

(c) The proposals mentioned at Sl. No. (i) to (ii) above are at different stages of processing/negotiation and a decision thereon will be taken in due course.

[English]

#### Re-Opening of Research Centre, Assam

920. SHRI NEPAL CHANDRA DAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a medical research centre at Karimganj District of Assam managed by the Central Government has been wound up;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to re-open the research centre; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) and (b) There is no Government Medical Research Centre established by the Central Government at Karimganj Distt. of Assam.

(c) No

(d) Does not arise.

#### Permission to Open Medical and Dental Colleges

921. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Institutions given permission by the Union Government for opening Medical and Dental Colleges in various States in the private sector during the last ten months; and

(b) the criteria followed in granting such permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) List of such colleges is given in the attached statement.

(b) Such permissions are granted on the recommendations of the concerned professional Councils in accordance with the provisions of the IMC/the Dentists Acts and Regulations framed thereunder.