

(d) 124 retail outlet dealerships have been earmarked for SC/ST category in the RO marketing plan 1996-98. Actual allotment is made on the basis of selection made by Dealer Selection Board. Action for completing selection has been initiated by inviting applications.

[English]

Gas Terminal by BPCL

1982. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. propose to expand its natural gas storage capacity in the Eastern States; and

(b) if so, the number of gas terminals proposed to be set up in Orissa and other Eastern States during Ninth Five Year Plan alongwith the names of the places identified for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) BPCL do not have any Natural Gas storages in the Eastern States or elsewhere. However BPCL has one LPG bottling plant of 22 TMTPA capacity at Uluberia near Calcutta in West Bengal and one plant for 10 TMTPA capacity at Khurda in Orissa.

Under IX Plan, BPCL has planned a 0.6 MMTPA capacity LPG import terminal at Paradeep in Orissa State and, its expected completion schedule is 2001-02.

[Translation]

Vohra Committee

1983. SHRI ADITYANATH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vohra Committee have made any comments in its report on the nexus between criminals, politicians and bureaucrats;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are formulating any scheme to deal with the situation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) Vohra Committee, after analysing the available inputs, arrived at the following conclusions:

- (i) On the basis of the extensive experience gained by our various concerned intelligence, investigative and enforcement agencies, it is apparent that crime syndicates and mafia organisations have established themselves in various parts of the country.
- (ii) The various crime syndicates/mafia organisations have developed significant muscle and money power and

established linkages with government functionaries, political leaders and others to be able to operate with impunity.

- (iii) While the intelligence agencies and the agencies under the Department of Revenue, in their normal course of functioning, come across information relating to the linkages of crime syndicates/mafia organisations, there is presently no system under which they can pass on such information to an identified nodal agency. Sharing of such information is presently of an occasional nature and no evidence is available of the same having been put to any operational use.
- (iv) Even where an agency comes across certain information about the linkage of crime Syndicates, it has no mandate to immediately pass it on to one or more agencies. An agency, which comes across information regarding linkages is also apprehensive that the sharing of such information may jeopardize its own functioning through premature leakage. In sum, the various agencies presently in the field take care to essentially focus on their respective charter of duties, dealing with the infringement of laws relating to their organisations and consciously putting aside any information on linkages which they may come across.

2. In view of the aforementioned conclusions, the Vohra Committee recommended setting up a nodal agency headed by the Home Secretary to collect and collate information/intelligence from various Intelligence Agencies and to act, through identified organisation(s), so that the nexus of criminals with the politicians, bureaucrats and businessmen is broken. Accordingly, a Nodal Group was set-up on 2.8.95 with Home Secretary as the Chairman and Secretary (Revenue), Secretary (R&AW), Director (IB) and Director (CBI) as Members. The Nodal Group was reconstituted with effect from 5.1.96 with Cabinet Secretary assuming the charge of Chairman and with Home Secretary, Secretary (Revenue), Secretary (R&AW), Director (IB) and Director (CBI) as Members.

3. Subsequently, in compliance of the directions given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court the Nodal Group was reconstituted in January, 1998 with Home Secretary as its Chairman; Member (Investigation), CDBT, Director General (Revenue Intelligence), Director (Enforcement) and Director (CBI) as members; and Secretary (Personnel & Training), Secretary (Revenue), Secretary (R&AW) and Director (IB) as Special Invitees. The Nodal Group meets every month as directed by the Supreme Court.

[English]

Kashmiri Hindus

1984. DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the proportion of population of Kashmiri Hindus in the valley of Kashmir in 1989 and today;