

**Earning from Security Deposits**

348. SHRI AJAY MUKHOPADHAY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG consumers in the country, State-wise;

(b) the earnings made by the Indian Oil and Bharat Petroleum Companies on account of Security Deposits from the consumers;

(c) the earnings from the interest of amount deposited as security; and

(d) the mode of use of this amount by the companies.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) The number of LPG connections in the country as on 1.10.1998 was about 340 lakhs. The state wise details of customers are given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) The amounts deposited with the Public Sector Oil Companies on account of security deposit by the consumers as on 1.10.98 was Rs. 3472.43 crores.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

**Statement***State wise details of customers*

State	(Figs in Lakhs)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	27.07
Arunachal Pradesh	0.47
Assam	4.90
Bihar	9.88
Delhi	20.43
Goa	2.03
Gujarat	25.37
Haryana	10.45
Himachal Pradesh	5.81
Jammu & Kashmir	5.03
Karnataka	17.89

1	2
Kerala	13.07
Madhya Pradesh	17.02
Maharashtra	54.52
Manipur	0.86
Meghalaya	0.47
Mizoram	0.76
Nagaland	0.42
Orissa	4.39
Punjab	14.04
Rajasthan	13.44
Sikkim	0.29
Tamil Nadu	26.84
Tripura	0.59
Uttar Pradesh	43.28
West Bengal	18.16
Andaman & Nicobar	0.11
Chandigarh	1.64
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.06
Daman & Diu	0.12
Lakshadweep	0.01
Pondicherry	0.63

**Atrocities on Minorities in Rajasthan**

349. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether atrocities have been committed by higher caste persons on Minorities and other weaker sections of society especially on women and Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Western Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken by the Union Government to curb this tendency; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) The Government is aware of some incidents of atrocities, which have been committed on minorities and other weaker sections of socie-

ties in various parts of the country including Western Rajasthan. Even as 'Police and Public order', are state subjects and it is essentially for the State Government to take such preventive and punitive measure as are necessary to curb such crimes the Central Government on its part has been not only sending advisories on the issues, but has also been supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in improving the implementation of Welfare schemes and policing infrastructure.

#### **Revival of Petrol Pumps/LPG Agencies**

350. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new policy has empowered the oil corporation to take decision regarding revival of Retail Outlets suspended/cancelled under commissioning process after 1970;

(b) if so, the details of petrol pumps, kerosene and LPG agencies of Haryana, Punjab and Delhi which were suspended/terminated since 1991 and revived thereafter;

(c) the reasons for selecting the year 1970 as base year instead of selecting the year 1965;

(d) whether the Oil Corporation is monitoring the working of these dealers to avoid repetition of malpractices by them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (c) The matter is under examination and consideration of the Government.

(b) Two LPG distributorships and one RO dealership in Punjab and one LPG distributorship in Delhi, which were suspended/terminated since 1991, have been revived.

(d) and (e) Regular inspection are carried out by the oil company officers as per norms to detect/prevent any malpractices at the retail outlets and LPG distributorships. Particular watch is kept on dealerships which have indulged in malpractices in the past.

#### **Involvement of International Criminals in Crimes at Mumbai**

351. SHRI T.R. BAALU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the international criminals are involved in the crimes at Mumbai;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to deploy Central Intelligence Agencies to help the State Government in curbing the criminal activities at Mumbai; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (c) The Government is aware of the existence of organised gangs operating in various parts of the country; including Mumbai, and having connections with international criminals. The Central Government shares intelligence with the State Governments and also provides them financial assistance for improving their policing infrastructure.

[Translation]

#### **Drug Addiction**

352. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY :

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL :

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of drug addicts are increasing in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to control over the situation alongwith the details of drug de-addiction centres set up in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) Several studies and reports have indicated that there is rising incidence of drug abuse amongst certain vulnerable sections of the society which includes inter alia street children, transport workers, slum dwellers, commercial sex workers, people in the border areas and opium growing areas of the country etc. Peer Group pressures, curiosity, industrialisation/urbanisation and weakness of parents, family system are such obvious reasons.

(c) Recognising drug abuse as a psycho-socio-medico problem, the Ministry is implementing the scheme for Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention which is a community based rehabilitation approach for building awareness about the ill effects of the drug abuse, treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts. Under the