

mention of only one reason. The second question of the hon. Member is whether the private sector company engaged in power generation and power supply in Bombay are also incurring a comparable amount of losses? I think we should not compare the private power generation units running in a metropolitan city with any state Electricity Board because the private company operating in metro city like Bombay do not have to supply a part of their power for the use of agriculture sector. Besides, there are many other social factors which are taken into consideration by the State Electricity Boards but not by the private companies. So far as the question of participation of private companies in power generation is concerned, there is no legal restriction on it but the conditions laid down for this regard, perhaps do not encourage the private power generation companies. However, there are certain proposals under consideration of the Government and the conditions laid down therefor are being revised to a large extent to seek the increased participation of private companies in power generation.

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO: Sir, while giving the reply, the hon. Minister was telling that because of the autonomy given to the various Electricity Board, this is happening. Power generation is an important sector or a key sector for the progress of any nation. Having seen the experience of the failures of various Electricity Boards causing loss of thousands of crores of rupees every year, which has got impact on the sickness of the industries, price escalation and so many other consequential effects, will the Minister think in terms of bringing a legislation to discourage such autonomy which is misused or the authority which is misused, or encourage the private sector to come in a big way in power generation?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Sir, the State Electricity Boards have functional autonomy. But they are under the administrative control of the State Governments. I have already stated, Sir, in reply to the

previous supplementary that proposals are under the consideration of the Government so that certain relaxation can be made as far as the existing conditions are concerned to encourage participation by the private sector in the development of power programme.

[Translation]

SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Is it true that the funds allocated by the Central Government to Bihar Electricity Board for rural electrification is not spent on rural electrification but on certain other heads?

AN HON. MEMBER: There is large scale bungling in Bihar. Please allow us to ask question.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: We can tell you about only those reasons for losses in State Electricity Boards which have been detected by the Central Government and the Central Electricity Authority but it will not be possible for us to tell you about all the reasons of losses in any particular state or all the Electricity Boards in the country. The hon. Member belongs to that particular state, so he can tell us about the reasons for losses. However, whatever we can do in this regard, we shall certainly do that.

Secondly, we receive complaints regarding the funds to be allocated for rural electrification. We are keeping a close watch on it and making all out efforts to ensure that funds allocated for rural electrification are spent on it.

[Translation]

Allotment of Petrol-Diesel Pumps and LPG Agencies to SCs/STs

*478. SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of Government in regard to allotment of new petrol/diesel pumps and L.P.G. agencies;

(b) the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to whom those pumps and LPG agencies have been allotted during the last three years, State-wise; and

(c) the position in this regard in Madhya Pradesh?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The new Petrol/Diesel Retail Outlets, Kerosene/LDO dealerships and LPG distributorship included in the oil industry Marketing Plans are allotted to different categories as follows:—

i) Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST)	:	25%
ii) Physically Handicapped (PH)	:	7 1/2%
iii) Defence Category (DEF)	:	15%
iv) Freedom Fighter (FF)	:	5%
v) Open Category (Open)	:	47 1/2%

The reservation for Defence Category has been raised to 15% from 7 1/2% reducing the Open Category, to include the widows/dependents of the Indian Peace Keeping Force Casualties for the Marketing Plan 1988-89 only. The suitable candidates for these dealerships/distributorships are selected, on merit, by the independent Oil

Selection Boards.

(b) No. of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST) to whom LPG distributorships and Retail Outlet (Petrol/Diesel) dealerships have been allotted during the last three years.

S.No.	State/Union Territory	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90	
		LPG	R.O.	LPG	R.O.	LPG	R.O.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	11	6	3	—	7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	5	—	1	1	—
3.	Assam	1	5	2	—	—	3
4.	Bihar	5	19	3	6	1	5
5.	Goa	—	—	—	3	—	2
6.	Gujarat	—	3	3	14	2	3
7.	Haryana	—	7	2	3	—	1
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6	2	1	1	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1	2	—	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	2	10	3	7	1	3
11.	Kerala	2	10	7	3	4	—

S.No.	State/Union Territory	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90	
		LPG	R.O.	LPG	R.O.	LPG	R.O.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12.	Mahdya Pradesh	1	7	6	8	2	1
13.	Maharashtra	3	3	6	6	3	10
14.	Manipur	—	2	—	2	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	—	8	—	2	—	1
16.	Mizoram	1	1	1	—	—	1
17.	Nagaland	—	3	—	—	—	1
18.	Orissa	—	4	2	6	—	3
19.	Punjab	1	2	3	3	—	2
20.	Rajasthan	—	13	4	11	—	1
21.	Sikkim	—	—	—	1	—	—

S.No.	State/Union Territory	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90	
		LPG	R.O.	LPG	R.O.	LPG	R.O.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
22.	Tamil Nadu	3	15	7	10	1	3
23.	Tripura	—	—	2	—	—	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	5	20	13	16	—	10
25.	West Bengal	1	—	2	8	1	5
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	—	—	—	—	—	—
27.	Chandigarh	—	—	—	—	—	—
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—	1	—	—
29.	Daman & Diu	—	—	—	—	—	—
30.	Delhi	1	—	2	—	—	—

S.No.	State/Union Territory	1987-88		1988-89		1989-90	
		LPG	R.O.	LPG	R.O.	LPG	R.O.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
31.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—	—	—	—
32.	Pondicherry	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total :		34	152	75	115	16	62

(c) During the year 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 (upto February, 1990), 16 (Petrol/Diesel) Retail Outlets and 9 LPG distributorships have been allotted in Madhya Pradesh to persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the statement laid here indicates the percentage of reservation made for different categories and also the percentage of its fulfilment. I would like to know from the hon. Minister through you as to what is the quota of reservation fixed for the allotment of dealership or depot as per the existing rules and whether that has been fulfilled? If not, under what categories reservation is yet to be fulfilled?

[*English*]

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, this policy has been followed; the targets that have been fixed by the Ministry are more or less fulfilled and implemented. In the case of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, I think they have completed 23 per cent already.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Sir, I had asked a specific question as to what quota of reservation has been fixed for different categories and how much of it has been fulfilled but I have not got the reply to my question. I hope that while replying to my second supplementary the hon. Minister would also cover it thereunder.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the allotment of dealership or agency of petroleum products, the setting up of a Depot has an important role to play. While a depot is located at an approachable and convenient place, it is also a place from where one can have the supply conveniently and at fair prices. A depot was sanctioned for the supply of petroleum products for Ujjain in second phase-B in 1984. Therefore, I would like to ask the

Minister that in view of the forth-coming singhasth festival, i.e. Kumbh Mela when crores of people are expected to visit that place, will the Government set up required number of depots there to ensure the supply of petroleum products in Ujjain? What is the criterion of population for the allotment of an LPG agency?

[*English*]

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, the norms have been fixed; the targets have been fixed and the targets have been achieved by and large. It is our desire to see that more and more petrol pumps and LPG agencies are started in remote areas subject to availability.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have asked a very simple and specific question as to what is the criterion of population for the allotment of an LPG agency? The people are facing difficulties on account of shortage of LPG. It is a question of public importance and I must have a reply to it. If I do not get reply to my question, then, what is the use of asking questions? (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, I think the hon. Member has not followed me. I have said that the norms which have been set up are being fulfilled in every State. But there are certain constraints with which they are operating. In every category of consumers, we have taken care to see that all the categories get these dealerships and in every State there is no lag at all so far as the Ministry is concerned.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, a month back, the Government appointed a number of committees for the allotment of petrol and diesel pumps and among the Members of these committees there are heavyweights from different political parties which support the Government. Then and there, there is a

complaint that there is no SC and ST. Is it because there is no heavy weight of the Scheduled Caste in the ruling party and supporting parties or that you purposefully avoid Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes so that adequate allotment is not given to SC and ST in the allotment of petrol and diesel pumps?

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, the supplementary does not arise out of the main question. Anyway I am prepared to answer it. There is no motive to exclude any category from the Oil Selection Board. However, I will verify and write to him later. But my information is, Scheduled Castes also have been represented in these Boards.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARASTE: There is Narmada Gas Agency in Shahdol district of Madhya Pradesh which is owned by a former Minister of State for Urban Development. The consumers of that area are not getting regular supply of gas cylinders. Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether he would ensure the regular supply of it. Secondly, will the hon. Minister state whether a diesel and petrol pump has also been sanctioned in the name of the wife of the former Minister of State for Urban Development?

[*English*]

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, this is a specific case to which the hon. Member has drawn my attention. I will look into it.

[*Translation*]

SHRINANDLAL MEENA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, applications were invited for the allotment of LPG gas agencies in tribal areas and these are still pending, so I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to by what time action will be taken on these applications? What action Government propose to take on the applications of the tribals?

[*English*]

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: The Adivasi areas and tribal areas receive our special attention. It is our intention to see that LPG cylinders and petrol are also made available to them wherever possible. We are giving importance to those areas.

[*Translation*]

SHRINANDLAL MEENA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question was as to what is the stand of the Government in respect of the application of the tribals for the allotment of gas agency in tribal areas? Does the Government propose to allot gas agencies to the tribals only in the tribal areas.

[*English*]

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, wherever Adivasi and other tribals reside, with a view to avoid cutting of forest trees, we have introduced a special scheme to those people to supply cylinders. That is, for the purpose of avoiding tree cutting for fuel use. But in remote areas where kerosine is required for Adivasis and for other people, special efforts are being made to supply it through trucks. We are opening counters there. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT PANJA: There are a large number of unemployed youth who have applied for allotment of new petrol, diesel pumps and LPG agency. The conditions for allotment are such that it will not be possible for them to provide for so much security amount as being provided by other categories and also to fulfil so much formalities.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any special quota has been earmarked for unemployed youth. Would the Minister also put only lenient conditions on them, taking into consideration their economic background?

SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY: Sir, it is our effort to give agency for the unemployed youth also. I have got the list which I

have already laid on the Table of the House, where the categories have been identified.

May I read again for the benefit of the House?

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes	—	25%
Physically Handicapped	—	7 1/2%
Defence category	—	15%
Freedom Fighter	—	5%
Open Category	—	47 1/2%

We have classified and identified these various categories. Unemployed youth also come under these categories.

SHRI AJIT PANJA: What about the strict conditions?

[*Translation*]

SHRIKESHARI LAL: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the number of licences, statewise, issued during the last three years for gas agencies, petrol pumps and diesel pumps to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The hon. Minister wants to evade the main question. He may please clarify it.

[*English*]

SHRIM.S. GURUPADASWAMY: I have got a whole List of a category-wise distribution. It is a very long list. I can lay it on the Table of the House. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. I have not called you.

Rationing of Petrol

+
*479. PROF. P.J. KURIEN:
SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce rationing of petrol to reduce its consumption; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: It was earlier announced that you would take steps to reduce the consumption of petrol. Petrol is being imported and lot of foreign exchange is spent. I would like to know what are the steps you will take to reduce the consumption of petrol. Is it only by increasing the price of petrol? What are the other steps that you are going to take to reduce the consumption of petrol?

SHRIM.S. GURUPADASWAMY: There is rising demand for petrol and petroleum products each year. In spite of the fact that the price of petrol and petroleum products except kerosene is increasing, our anticipation is the demand will not go down but the demand will be increasing. During the past five years, there has been a growth of about 7.5% in demand. Therefore, we are trying our best to control consumption and various methods are adopted in this regard. One of