

(b) in case no action has been taken in the matter under reference the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government will lay on the Table of the House a complete statement of facts pertaining to effective steps taken to make the justice available to the common people?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Policy of Fixing of different levels of Refill Distributors of Indane

10699. **SHRI A. MURUGESAN:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) subsequent to his Ministry's Statement which appeared in the newspapers during May, 1978, with regard to fixing of different levels of refill distributors in Southern Region expressing their apprehension and fear on the policy, what are the steps taken to safeguard the Indane Distributors' future;

(b) as most of the Indane distributors appointed were from socially and economically weaker sections; and have taken loans from Banks, have the Ministry made periodical follow-up as to whether these distributors have cleared the loans; and

(c) if they have not cleared/reduced the loans from Banks, what steps are proposed to be taken to enable them to clear the debts?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA):

(a) Some of the Indane distributors in Southern Region had represented their concern regarding enforcement of the ceiling on the number of refills that could be handled by

the distributors in a month. The idea was to ensure that these distributorships do not become or continue to be too big and thus deprive others from the opportunity of running such distributorships. The working conditions and the cost of operations in different areas have already been taken into account while fixing these ceilings, which would provide reasonable return to distributors.

(b) and (c). Transactions of loan arrangements between the Indane distributors and the banks were direct deals. However, the Indian Oil Corporation are making efforts to release additional new gas connections to the extent possible subject to the availability of product from time to time in the case of those distributors who are operating below the prescribed ceiling limits.

A.I.R. coverage of Speeches of Ministers and Opposition Leaders

10700. **SHRI A. K. ROY:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) percentage coverage given in the AIR (Delhi) on the activities and speeches of the Minister and Opposition Leaders of the country during 1978 facts in details; and

(b) same for the Harijans, Adivasis and working class movement?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b). Since no such

data is being maintained, it is not possible to furnish the information asked for. Compilation of the information from the news-bulletins in various languages, which run into thousands, would be a tremendous task and will not be commensurate with the effort involved. However, AIR makes every effort to provide adequate and balanced coverage to all news-worthy events and happenings, on the basis of their news value.