LPG Agencies in Manipur

575. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received requests from the State Government of Manipur and other private agencies for the increase in the number of LPG distributors in the State during the last two years;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) the details of the Government's plan of action in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The marker surveys conducted by the Oil Industry have established the potential for opening an LPG distributorship each at Imphal, Nambol, Tamenglong, Senapati, Jiribam, Moirangkhom and Keishampet. New distributorships would be set up in these locations in a phased manner, subject to product availability.

Railway Link From Silchar to Giribam

576. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the extension of the railway line from Silchar to Giribam;

(b) whether the Government propose extension of the railway line beyond Giribam towards Manipur valley in the near future; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) The Silchar-Giribam Railway line has been commissioned on 31st March, 1990.

(b) No, Sir

(c) Does not arise

Loktak Hydro-Electric Project

577. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are considering any plan to deepen portion of the Loktak lake to provide constant water supply to the Loktak Hydro-Electric Project; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI BABANRAO DHAKANE): (a) and (b). Water level in Loktak lake is adequate for planned generation of energy at Loktak Hydro-electric Project and there is no plan to deepen portion of the lake to supply additional water to the project.

Appointment on Compassionate Ground

578. SHRI R.M. BHOYE:
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of cases of appointment on compassionate ground are pending with Railways for more than two years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the total number of such cases;

(c) the steps taken to provide employment to the above dependants of the deceased railway employees and the time by which such type of cases of employment are likely to be decided; and

(d) the number of such appointments made during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Complaints Against LPG Dealers in Nasik, Maharashtra

579. SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation and the Bharat Petroleum, Nasik (Maharashtra) have received several complaints from consumers of LPG;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) and (b). Bharat Petroleum Corporation had received 36 complaints from its consumers of Nasik Town during 1990. The complaints related to delay in release of new LPG connections/refill supplies, LPG delivery ex-godown/showroom, forcible sale of hotplates, etc. IOC is not marketing LPG in Nasik.

(c) All these complaints were investigated and 12 complaints were established. Appropriate action was taken in accordance with the Marketing Discipline Guidelines, and Dealership Agreement.

Stock of Oil

580. PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:
SHRI HARIBHAU SHANKAR MAHALE:

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

(a) the quantity and the number of days for which Government possess reserve stock of oil and other petroleum products, itemwise;

(b) whether oil is being imported from any other country, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures being taken to ensure that transport system of the country is not paralysed?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): (a) and (b). Adequate stocks of crude oil and petroleum products are presently available in the country. Over 40% of the country's requirements are met by imports of crude oil and petroleum products from different countries. The major supplies are from USSR, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia and UAE.

(c) Despite the difficult oil scenario which the country is facing, HSD supplies to retail outlets throughout the country are presently being maintained at the same level as in the corresponding period of the previous year. In respect of State Road Transport Undertakings, a 10% cut has been applied effective November 1, 1990 on HSD supplies over the consumption in the previous year. However, full HSD requirements on account of net addition to fleet are being catered for.