

to non increase in the retail selling price of domestic LPG from May 2002 onwards have not been assessed as yet.

Marketing rights to foreign oil investors

†2195. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of private and foreign companies who have agreed to invest in the field of oil exploration in exchange of marketing rights;
- (b) the increase in oil production likely to occur due to this;
- (c) whether Government propose to give marketing rights to private and foreign companies in case they invest in oil exploration and refining;
- (d) if so, the number of companies which responded in this regard; and
- (e) by when final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANG WAR): (a) Government: not received any such proposal from private/foreign companies.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government have laid down the guidelines vide its resolution dated 8th March, 2002 for granting of authorisation to market transportation fuels to the new entrants. These guidelines, *inter-alia*, stipulate the condition of investment of Rs. 2,000 crore in eligible activities including oil exploration and refinery.

(d) and (e) Government have received the requests for granting of authorization to market transportation fuels from Reliance Petroleum Limited (RPL), Essar Oil Limited (EOL) and Nagarjuna Oil Corporation Limited (NOCL) and permission in favour of RPL and EOL has been granted as they were found eligible as per the laid down guidelines of the Government.

Disparity among LPG/SKO dealers in Delhi

2196. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.