

[3 December, 1999]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The "take or pay" clause is a standard provision in the LNG supply contracts. As per the Sale Purchase Agreement (SPA) signed between Petronet LNG Ltd. and M/s Ras Gas of Qatar, Petronet LNG Ltd. will have to pay at the average of the Contract Sale Price applicable during the relevant year for the difference between the Adjusted Annual Contract Quantity of LNG and the Actual Quantity of LNG drawn by Petronet LNG Ltd., for relevant period. However, quantity paid for and not drawn during the particular period, can be subsequently taken by Petronet LNG Ltd. under remaining Make-up Period of the contract.

#### Performance of PSUs

366. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) how many PSUs under his Ministry are running into losses for the last 3 years indicating the details of profit/loss, year-wise and undertaking-wise;

(b) what steps Government have taken so far to minimise the losses thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to fill up all the vacant posts of Manager, Director, Chairman in such PSUs which are lying vacant for the last 2 years so as to strengthen working of such PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) There is no PSU under the control of this Ministry which have been making loss for the last three years. However, Biecco Lawrie Limited incurred a net loss of Rs. 269.34 lakhs and Rs. 488.88 lakhs during the Financial years 1996-97 and 1997-98 respectively because of considering the extraordinary expenditure, i.e. Deferred Revenue Expenditure, Provision for Gratuity (erstwhile accounted for cash basis) and Provision for Leave Encashment etc. of Rs. 303.41 lakhs and Rs. 641.04 lakhs respectively in respect of these financial years. The Company made a net profit of Rs. 44.84 lakhs during the financial year 1998-99. The Government has also given grants of Rs. 50.00 lakhs in 1997-98, Rs. 34.00 lakhs in 1998-99 and Rs. 50.00 lakhs in 1999-2000 from National Renewal Fund to implement Voluntary Retirement Scheme by Biecco Lawrie to rationalize manpower in the company.

(c) No such post is lying vacant in the company.

#### PDS Kerosene in Haryana

367. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

- (a) the names of cities where the LPG connections are being released on demand;
- (b) how much consumption of PDS kerosene has gone down in these cities/States;
- (c) whether this reduced quantity would be allocated to Haryana for meeting the demand of poor citizens residing in villages;
- (d) whether people of this State are being given the PDS kerosene as per their entitlement; if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) how much is the entitlement of card holder of PDS kerosene?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY):** (a) LPG connection is being released on demand in Delhi.

(b) In lieu of release of three lakh new LPG connections, the SKO allocation to the State of Delhi was reduced by 43653 MT for 1999-2000.

(c) Kerosene is an allocated product and the Government release the additional Kerosene to the State/UTs based on the principle of higher growth rate to the States having lower per capita availability and lower growth rate to the States having higher per capita availability.

(d) The responsibility of retail distribution of kerosene within the State/UT, is that of the concerned State Government/UT and accordingly each State Government/UT decides about the quantity of SKO allocation to the card holders.

(e) Scale of distribution of kerosene to the card holders in the State of Haryana effective 1-4-1999 is as under:

(Litres per month per card holder)

Without LPG connection	: 10
With single Bottle Conn.	: 05
With double bottle Conn.	: Nil

**Purchase of Gas Stove From LPG Dealers**

†368. **SHRI RAM DEO BHANDARY:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any letter authorizing distributors to issue gas stove with the connection has been issued by the LPG companies;
- (b) whether direction has been given not to provide connection to the consumers in case they do not purchase gas stove from the distributors;
- (c) whether Government have received information in this regard through newspapers or other sources; and

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