

metres, *i.e.* Rs.32,29,800, to the Competent Authority. Further, action in the matter would be taken in accordance with the provisions of the Act and any orders passed by the Court in this regard.

Demand and supply of LPG cylinders

198. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly demand and supply of LPG cylinders in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand for the last three months, district-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that oil PSUs are not supplying LPG cylinders as per demand in these States; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof and the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) At present, the indigenous production of LPG is inadequate to meet the domestic requirements. The shortfall in availability is met through imports. The details of demand/sales during the period from November, 2008 to January, 2009 are 100836 Metric Tonnes (MT), 108565 MT & 105639 MT in Uttar Pradesh and 11828 MT, 12614 MT & 11577 MT in Uttarakhand respectively. The district-wise details are available with the Director (Marketing) of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) concerned.

(b) and (c) OMCs have reported that at present, there is no overall shortage of LPG in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the OMCs through indigenous production and imports in accordance with the genuine demand of customers registered with their LPG distributors.

OMCs have reported that as on 12.02.2009, a backlog of only one day exists in LPG supplies in the State of Uttar Pradesh due to spurt in demand. Government has advised OMCs to liquidate the backlog in the State by operating the bottling plants on holidays and during extended hours.

Harnessing of coal bed methane

199. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken on a report published by global consulting firm KPMG stating proven reserves of 765 Mtoe (Million tones of oil equivalent) and indicated reserves of between 1260-2340 Mtoe of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) in the country; and

(b) what modalities were adopted to harness this source of energy, especially in view of India's requirement of 75 per cent fuel being imported, involving huge foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has not commissioned any study by consulting firm KPMG on coal bed methane. However, even before publication of India

Energy Outlook 2007 by KPMG, in order to harness CBM potential in the country, the Government of India had formulated Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Policy in 1997 and awarded 23 Coal Bed Methane (CBM) blocks under three rounds of Coal Bed Methane Policy held so far. Prior to this policy, three blocks were awarded. The estimated resources of CBM in 26 awarded blocks are 1374 BCM. A total of 181 BCM of CBM reserves have been established so far in four CBM awarded blocks. As envisaged in the Hydrocarbon Vision 2025, one of the objectives of the Exploration Policy is to tap unconventional sources of natural gas like coal bed methane, natural gas hydrates, underground coal gasification etc.

Import of Crude oil

†200.SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crude oil has been imported by public sector oil companies during the year 2008-2009;

(b) if so, the quantity of crude oil imported every month from April 2008 to January, 2009 alongwith the price thereof; and

(c) the total value of this import paid by the companies every month including freight, duty etc. till reaching of the same to harbours in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The month-wise quantity of crude oil imported by the Public Sector Companies during April-December 2008, its price and total value, are as under:-

Month and Year	Qty. (TMT)	Price (Indian Basket) \$/bbl	Value (Rs. Crore)
April, 2008	7218	105.77	22533
May, 2008	6245	120.91	23045
June, 2008	7138	129.72	28914
July, 2008	7511	132.47	30762
August, 2008	7371	113.05	26750
September, 2008	6724	96.81	22142
October, 2008	7302	69.12	18326
November, 2008	6352	50.91	11497
December, 2008	6599	40.61	9010

TMT - Thousand Metric Tonnes

\$/bbl - US dollars per barrel

Figures for the month of January, 2009 are not yet available.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi