

Fall in international crude oil prices

428. SHRI R.C. SINGH:

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a fall in the international crude oil prices from the record high of 147.25 dollar a barrel in July to 111 dollar in August;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has any plan to review the global crude oil price scenario and its impact on domestic oil prices and accordingly cut the fuel prices in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Indian basket of crude oil touched an all time high of \$ 142.04 per barrel on 03/07/2008. The international price of crude oil has softened since then. The average price of Indian basket of crude oil was \$ 113.05 per barrel in August'08.

(c) and (d) In spite of the recent fall in the international oil prices, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) continue to suffer substantial under-recoveries on the marketing of sensitive petroleum products namely; Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG. The under-recoveries of OMCs based on refinery gate prices applicable as on 01.10.2008 for PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG and 16.10.2008 for Petrol and Diesel are as under:

PDS Kerosene	Rs/Litre	28.07
Domestic LPG	Rs/Cyl.	322.14
Petrol	Rs/Litre	2.37
Diesel	Rs/Litre	6.45

The prices of crude oil and petroleum products in the international market fluctuate on daily. Government is closely monitoring the international oil prices and will continue to protect the interests of consumers.

Development of beach tourism

429. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to develop beach tourism project at Shamuka near Puri;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed to be set up under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia* indicating the Central help that is proposed to be given to the State to help successful execution of the project?