

(c) Government of Rajasthan will get one hundred percent (100%) share of Royalty on production of oil & gas from the state. As per the Production Sharing Contracts, profit petroleum payments are received by the Union of India.

Gas grid at national level

†1743. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

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

- (a) whether a decision to make a gas grid at national level is being taken by Government;
- (b) if so, whether pipelines will have to be laid therefor in the country;
- (c) if so, how many gas lines and their length that would have to be laid under this plan; and
- (d) the number of cities and villages in the country to be supplied gas therefrom and the total amount to be incurred on laying the entire pipeline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) There is an existing natural gas transportation network in the country. The network has trunk pipelines of more than 9,000 km. The pipelines are owned and operated by Central & State Public Sector Undertakings, as also Private Companies.

Dahej-Uran Pipeline (DUPL) & Dabhol-Panvel pipeline (DPPL) (581 km), Jagoti-Pitampur (200 km), Vijapur-Kota (180 km) and Kelaras-Malanpur (120 km) pipelines have been commissioned by GAIL in July 2007, March 2007, January 2007 and July 2006 respectively. In 2009, Reliance Gas Transportation Infrastructure Limited (RGTIL) has commissioned Kakinada-Hyderabad-Uran-Ahmedabad pipeline (1385 km) for transporting gas from KG basin to consumers in other parts of the country. Dadri-Panipat pipeline (133 km) is under implementation by Indian Oil Corporation (IOC).

GAIL has been issued authorizations for Dadri-Bawana-Nangal Pipeline (610 km), Chainsa-Gurgaon-Jhajjar-Hissar Pipeline (310 km), Jagdishpur-Haldia Pipeline (876 km), Dabhol-Bangalore Pipeline (730 km) and Kochi-Kanjirkkod-Bangalore/Mangalore Pipeline (822 km). Reliance Gas Transportation Infrastructure Limited (RGTIL) has been granted authorizations for Kakinada Basudebbpur-Howrah Pipeline (1100 km), Vijaywada-Nellore-Chennai Pipeline (600 km), Chennai-Tuticorin Pipeline (670 km) and Chennai-Bangalore-Mangalore Pipeline (660 km).

To encourage investment in the sector and to regulate the same in a non-discriminatory manner, the Government of India has enacted 'The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006'.

The pipelines are owned and operated by Central & State Public Sector Undertakings, as also Private Companies. The pipeline network has to be further augmented to connect new sources of indigenous gas & Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) to customers in new areas/states. As laying of natural gas trunk pipelines allows growth of natural gas-based industries, it spurs economic

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

development in the area. Hence, efforts are being made to further develop natural gas transportation network in the country, while no specific scheme has been formulated by the Union Government for the same, as of now.

Deregulation of prices of petroleum products

†1744. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

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

(a) whether fixing of consumer sale prices of petroleum products in the country by Government, is being proposed to be deregulated;

(b) if so, when the proposal came up for consideration and by when it has been decided to be implemented; and

(c) for which petroleum products the fixing of sale price is outside Government control, at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) The Government abolished the Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) with effect from 1st April 2002 and decided that pricing of all petroleum products, except PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG, would be market-determined. In order to provide PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG at affordable prices, the Government formulated subsidy schemes, which are in operation since April 2002.

To protect the consumer and the economy from the increasing price volatility and uncertainty of the international oil prices since 2004-05, Government is, however, modulating the retail selling prices of the four sensitive petroleum products; namely Petrol, Diesel, Domestic LPG and PDS Kerosene as an administrative measure.

Except the prices of four sensitive petroleum products, the prices of all other petroleum products are determined by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies, based on commercial considerations.

Exploration of crude oil and natural gas

†1745. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that exploration of reserves of crude oil and natural gas in the country is an ongoing process;

(b) the number of crude oil and natural gas reserves found in the country till June, 2009, with available quantity of crude oil and natural gas; and

(c) the annual average crude oil and natural gas produced by public sector oil companies during the last five years, and the quantity produced in the private sector?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.