

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that the Government of Andhra Pradesh had sought 10 lakh and 15 lakh new LPG connections under the Deepam Scheme during the year 2008-09 and 2009-10 respectively.

(b) to (d) OMCs had agreed to release 2.5 lakh new LPG connections under the Deepam Scheme during the year 2008-09 out of which 1,45,816 LPG connections were actually released in the State during that year.

Release of new LPG connections is a continuous process. The allocated LPG connections during the year 2008-09 could not be released due to delay in identification and releasing beneficiaries list by the State Government, the identified beneficiary approaching the distributor, time taken in verification of the authenticity of the beneficiary by the distributor and non-payment of security deposit by the State Government, OMCs have released 22,454 connections in the State during the period April, 2009 to June, 2009. While it is not possible at this stage to indicate the total number of LPG connections likely to be released by the OMCs during the year 2009-10 under the Scheme, OMCs have been advised to release the maximum number of possible LPG connections under the Scheme subject to availability of equipments, fulfilment of procedural requirements and payment of security deposit by the State Government.

Chaturvedi Panel Report

2525.SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering capping the profits of crude oil producers, as per the guidelines issued by the Chaturvedi panel report;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the panel had recommended that public sector oil companies should contribute their revenues beyond \$75 a barrel to the Central exchequer, and the private producers needed to chip in 50 per cent of their incremental earnings;

(d) if so, the reaction of public and private sector oil companies in this regard; and

(e) in what manner Government plans to recover the increment profits made by the oil companies during the last year, when the oil prices had touched \$140 a barrel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) At present, no proposal has been formulated in this regard.

(b) to (e) Do not arise, in view of (a) above.