

(d) These JVs were authorized by the Central Government before the ‘appointed day’ under the PNGRB Act, *i.e.*, 1.10.2007, and, hence, they do not need fresh authorization from PNGRB. As provided in proviso to Section 17(2) of PNGRB Act, 2006, these JVs are only required to furnish particulars of their activities to PNGRB within six months of the appointed day.

EOUs permission for domestic refineries

*426. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:

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

(a) whether there is an increasing demand of petroleum products in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons for promoting existing domestic refineries as Export Oriented Units (EOUs)?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the demand of petroleum products is increasing. Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC) has reported that the estimated demand of petroleum products during 2009-10 is 1,36,614 Thousand Metric Tonnes (TMT). These estimates are subject to changes in the economic conditions in the country, pricing and taxation policies for petroleum products. The production and demand of petroleum products for the last three years are as under :-

(In Million Metric Tonnes (MMT))

Year	Production	Demand/ Consumption	% age Growth in Demand
2006-07	140.1	120.7	6.7
2007-08	149.9	128.9	6.8
2008-09 (Provisional)	157.5	133.4	3.5

The present refining capacity in the country is 177.97 MMT including 29 MMT in Special Economic Zone (SEZ). The estimated provisional consumption of petroleum products is 133.4 MMT during 2008-09. Thus the present capacity excluding SEZ refinery is in excess of the demand of petroleum products in the country in near future on an overall basis making the country a net exporter of petroleum products. However, some products like Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and Kerosene are in deficit, and are being imported.

Presently, there is no Export Oriented Unit (EOU) refinery in the country. As on date, there is also no proposal under consideration of this Ministry for promoting the existing domestic refineries as EOUs.