

(a) whether Government would lose Rs.4,000 crore in KG royalty as per reports appearing in the print media recently:

(b) if so, what steps Government proposes to defend the gas utilization policy as laid down by the Group of Ministers (GoM) and to protect its revenues;

(c) whether Government has approved to source gas at \$ 4.2/unit to fertilizers and power plants; and

(d) if so, what legal steps Government proposes to take to ensure that Government, as licensor of all natural resources, would not sell gas at discounted price in the national interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) Under Production Sharing Contract (PSC) signed between Government and signatory to the PSC, Government take, including royalty, is to be paid to the Government as per the provisions of PSC. The royalty rates on crude oil produced from deepwater blocks is 5% of well head price for the first 7 years and 10% thereafter on ex-royalty basis.

As regards gas supply to fertilizer and power companies plants, it is being made as per Empowered Group of Ministers (EGOM) approved price of US \$ 4.2 per million British Thermal Unit (MMBTU) for average crude price greater or equal to US \$ 60 per barrel in the preceding financial year and the priority decided by Empowered Group of Ministers.

Curbing consumption of petroleum products by PCRA

970. SHRI RAJ KUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA) has made any contribution in curbing consumption of petroleum products;

(b) if so, the details thereof, qualitatively and quantitatively; and

(c) the annual expenditure incurred by PCRA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA) undertakes various activities for propagating awareness among the people for conservation of petroleum products in various sectors of economy viz., Transport, Domestic, Industry and Agriculture. Some of the major activities undertaken by PCRA are Nationwide Mass Awareness Campaign launched in 2008-09, Driver Training Programme, Energy Audit, Model Depot Project etc.

On the basis of a survey, PCRA has informed that the Mass Awareness Campaign "Save Fuel Yaani Save Money" could lead to a saving in the range of 1.4% to 14.3% varying from region to region and from sector to sector if the media campaign is sustained.

(c) The actual expenditure incurred by PCRA during the last three years is as under:

Year	Expenditure (in Rs. crores)
2006-07	21.02
2007-08	20.89
2008-09	57.36

Distribution of LPG by Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam

971. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that customer services of the Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam, which is Indian Oil's distributor of LPG cylinders in Almora and Ranikhet, are pathetic and its gas supply is irregular;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry or survey would be conducted in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would allow more LPG distributors by other OMCs in Almora and Ranikhet, so that consumers are given a choice and spared from monopolistic practices of Indian Oil and its distributors; and

(d) if so, by when and if not the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) has reported that they have not received any complaint of pathetic customer services and irregular gas supply by Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam (KMVN) in Almora and Ranikhet District of Uttarakhand.

Inspection of the distributors are carried out as per norms to monitor its functioning. Mechanism is in place for redressal of customers' grievances at different levels and appropriate corrective action is taken on feedbacks received.

Presently, various means for lodging complaints are available with the customers viz., complaint register kept at the distributorship, through website of IOC, through mail, customer / zonal service cell as also through toll free number 18002333555 to the complaint call centers of the IOC.

These complaints are monitored and appropriate remedial action are taken by IOC in a time bound manner.

(c) and (d) As on 01.06.2009, public sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are operating 168 LPG distributorships in the State of Uttarakhand, including four in Almora and one in Ranikhet.

IOC has also reported that Letter of Intent (LOI) for setting up of one more new LPG distributorship in Almora has already been issued to KMVN to cater to the LPG requirements of the area. However, in the case of Ranikhet, a new LPG distributorship is not feasible at present as per norms in vogue.

Shortage of cooking gas in Kerala

972. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of cooking gas supply in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;