

#### **Allocation of natural gas for fertilizers units**

1300. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:  
SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the steps taken by his Ministry to allocate natural gas to fertilizers producing units of our country, as delay in gas allocation has an adverse impact on the fertilizers sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): In the meeting of Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) on Pricing and Commercial Utilization of Gas under NELP held on May 28, 2008, it was decided to give the highest priority to existing gas-based urea plants in allocation of KG D6 gas. In compliance of the decision, 15.33 mmcmd gas was allocated to existing gas-based urea plants to meet their existing shortfall to enable their full capacity utilization. Subsequently, in the meeting of EGoM held on October 27, 2009, allocation of 0.178 mmcmd gas has been made to Deepak Fertilizers, the only existing gas-based plant producing subsidized fertilizers other than urea.

Regarding demand emanating beyond 2008-09 from de-bottlenecking of and expansion of fertilizer plants, conversion of Naphtha based and fuel oil based fertilizer plants and revival of closed fertilizer plants, it was decided in the EGoM meeting held on May 28, 2008 that it would be given the highest priority at that stage and will be met from production in subsequent years. Further, in the EGoM meeting held on 27.10.2009, it was also decided that such plants would be supplied natural gas as and when they are ready to utilize the gas.

#### **Cess on sale of petroleum products**

†1301. 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 cess is being charged on the sale of diesel and petrol from the consumers in order to mobilise funds for construction of roads in the country;

(b) if so, the rate at which cess is being charged and the funds collected in this way till December, 2010;

(c) whether it is a fact that highways are now being constructed in the country on public and private participation model;

(d) if so, whether Government has decided to stop charging this cess from consumers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Road Transport

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.