

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Proposed take over of gas marketing by government

2094. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to take over the distribution and marketing of gas at the delivery end from Reliance Industries Limited (RIL);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Production Sharing Contract (PSC) signed between the Government and the Contractor gives marketing freedom to the Contractor, subject to the Gas Utilization Policy framed by the Government. The EGoM constituted to decide issues pertaining to commercial utilization of gas under NELP has decided that the Contractor would sell gas from NELP to consumers in accordance with marketing priorities determined by the Government. Hence, the gas production from KG D6 is being sold in accordance with Government's priorities and decisions made by the Government in this regard.

Households covered by LPG

2095. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of rural and semi-urban households in Punjab so far covered by the LPG connection; and

(b) by when all the households in the State are expected to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that as on 01.01.2010, they are serving 52.84 lakh LPG customers including 6.44 lakh customers in rural areas through their 431 LPG distributors in the State of Punjab, the number of domestic connection being more than the approximate number of households.

The enrolment of new LPG customers and release of new LPG connections is a continuous process. New LPG connections are made available to the prospective customers including those residing in rural and semi-urban areas in Punjab, as soon as possible and in any case, within a period of sixty days.