

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported a shortage LPG supplies in the States of Manipur and Tripura due to restricted movement of bulk LPG tank trucks, local law and order problems, economic blockade by the students Union in the State of Manipur, shortage of products and labour problem at private bottling plant in the State of Tripura. However, there is no shortage of LPG supplies in the other States of North-Eastern Region including Nagaland.

Government has reviewed the overall backlog situation and has advised OMCs to liquidate it by operating the bottling plants on holidays and during extended hours.

(b) and (c) OMCs have assessed the annual requirement/demand of domestic LPG/commercial LPG for the entire country for the current year 2010 as 13.7 MMT including 304.7 Thousand Metric Tonne (TMT) for the North-Eastern Region. Against the projected demand of 13.7 MMT, 9.7 MMT is indigenously available and the balance quantity is being imported to meet the demand in full.

The details of demand/sales of domestic LPG cylinders in the North Eastern Region during the period from January to October, 2010 are 166.2 lakh.

(d) to (f) OMCs have issued notice inviting applications for selection of LPG distributors under the scheme Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitaran Yojana for establishing LPG distributors in five locations in the State of Nagaland.

Similarly, OMCs are in the process of setting up five regular LPG distributors in the State of Nagaland under Industry Marketing Plan 2008-10.

The selection of the same is in progress as per policy.

Oil and natural gas explorations in the country

3070. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in Uttarakhand where new exploration work to find oil and natural gas is being commissioned;

(b) in how many areas in Uttarakhand oil and natural gas have been found and the details thereof; and

(c) the quantum of oil and natural gas discovered in Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the North Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) In order to find out hydrocarbon prospectivity, Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) under Ministry of Petroleum

and Natural Gas conducted Aero Magnetic Survey during 2005-06, which partly covered boundary areas of Uttarakhand. There is no immediate plan to carry out any further geo-scientific survey by DGH in Uttarakhand.

Besides above, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) carried out survey for discovery of oil and gas in Uttarakhand. Oil India Limited (OIL) operated two nomination Petroleum Exploration Licenses (PELs), namely Kashipur and Kashipur Extension in Uttarakhand. However, no oil/gas discovery was made. Subsequently, both the blocks were relinquished by OIL.

(c) Under the PSC regime, total 11 exploration blocks have been awarded so far in Andaman-Nicobar deepwater area under various rounds of NELP. All these blocks are under exploration phase and no oil/gas discovery has yet been made.

In the North-Eastern States, so far 4 gas discoveries (one in Assam and 3 in Tripura) have been made under the PSC regime.

All the above discoveries are under various stages of evaluation/appraisal. Quantum of gas reserves will be known after the discovery is properly appraised.

Besides above, in nominated areas, ONGC has established a total of 858.91 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) of in place reserves of Oil + Oil Equivalent of Gas (O+OEG) in the North-East States as on 1.4.2010. Further, in nominated areas, OIL has established initial in place reserve of 23.946 MMT of Oil + Oil Equivalent of Gas (O+OEG) in the North-East States during last three years.

Employment opportunities for rural women

†3071. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by Government to find out the amount of unemployment among the tribal and non-tribal rural women during the past three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;

(c) the number of rural women who have been provided employment in each State under various rural development schemes during each of the last three years;

(d) whether Government has prepared any scheme to promote employment to women during the current year and the next three years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) Ministry of Rural Development has not conducted

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.