(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA) : (a) to (d) The Government had constituted an Expert Group, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kirit S. Parikh, to advise on a Viable and Sustainable System of Pricing of Petroleum Products. In the light of the Expert Group's recommendations, the Government made the price of Petrol, both at the Refinery Gate and at the Retail Level, market-determined with effect from 26th June, 2010. The Government has also taken an 'in principle' decision that the price of Diesel will be made market-determined, both at Refinery Gate and Retail Level. However, Government has initially increased the retail selling price of Diesel by only Rs. 2/- per litre with effect from 26th June 2010 (at Delhi), with corresponding increases in the rest of the country.

As Petrol is now a deregulated product, the oil companies/refineries are free to decide the pricing mechanism at the refinery gate depending upon market conditions and commercial considerations. Presently, the refinery gate pricing of Diesel is based on the Trade Parity Principle.

Targets set for oil exploration during the Tenth and Eleventh five year plans

†1525.SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the targets fixed for exploration of oil and natural gas reserves during Tenth and Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the oil wells drilled in different parts of the country by Public Sector Oil Companies during the said period and the quantity of oil and gas expected to be extracted therefrom;

(c) the amount spent on drilling of these wells dunng the said period: and

(d) the steps taken by Government for drilling more oil wells in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA) : (a) The targets for In-Place reserves accretion during 10th and 11th Five Year Plan are 902.93 and 2141.70 MMTOE respectively.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) A total of 902 and 624 exploratory wells have been drilled in different parts of the country during the 10th and IIth Five Year Plan (Upto 2009-10). The In-Place reserves accretion during 10th and 11th plan is as under.

10th year plan		11th year plan (upto 2009-10)	
Oil (MMT)	Gas (BCM)	Oil (MMT)	Gas (BCM)
425.5	688	271.1	384.9

(c) During 10th plan, Rupees 39439.61 crores have been spent on drilling of exploratory and development wells. During the first 3 years of 11th plan (2007-10), Rupees 49285.89 crores have been spent for the same.

(d) Government has been offering area to boost exploration activities. So far 263 blocks have been awarded under Pre-New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) and eight rounds of NELP. As a result of exploratory drilling, 127 oil/gas discoveries have been made till date.

Amendment in Land Acquisition Act, 1894

1526. SHRIMATI KUSUM RAI : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is contemplating to amend Land Acquisition Act, 1894 to make it more farmers friendly in view of large seale protest by farmers in different States, particularly Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the proposed amendments therein; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SISIR ADHIKARI) : (a) Introducing the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Bill, 2010 in the Parliament is under consideration.

(b) and (c) The details of the Bill would be known once it is introduced in the Parliament.

Funds for rural development schemes in Gujarat

1527. SIIRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: