

determination of the Provident Fund amount, which has been admitted by RPFC. Currently the matter is *sub-judice*.

Impact of rise in CNG prices

2287. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether sharp increase in petrol prices has revived demand for Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), which works out to be 70 per cent cheaper;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to provide better CNG infrastructure (CNG stations) soon to meet the demand of customers, particularly in Delhi; and

(c) whether Environment Protection Control Agency (EPCA) has also asked Indraprastha Gas Ltd. (IGL) not to revise CNG prices frequently as rise in prices may blunt CNG green edge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) Indraprastha Gas Ltd. (IGL) has reported an increase in the sale of CNG in Delhi, Noida, Greater Noida and Ghaziabad cost from 17.55 lakh kg./day to 19.97 lakh kg./day between April' 11 and November' 11.

(b) IGL has presently set up and commissioned 274 stations in Delhi and NCR towns of Noida, Greater Noida, and Ghaziabad. Out of this, a total of 228 CNG stations are operational in Delhi, Noida, Greater Noida and Ghaziabad and remaining CNG stations are under mandatory clearances.

Further, in order to meet the demand for CNG, IGL has plans to setup 32 more CNG stations by the end of the current financial year, taking the number of commissioned stations in Delhi and NCR to 306. The total number of CNG stations in NCT of Delhi is expected to reach 259 by the end of March, 2012. Thereafter, IGL plans to add around 30-35 stations every year.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority for NCR (EPCA) had invited IGL in October, 2011 to discuss the CNG price rise in Delhi. IGL officials had apprised EPCA of the pressing reasons of substantial increase in input cost of gas due to diminishing availability of domestic gas, appreciation of US Dollar against Rupee, hike in electricity cost and investment in infrastructure.

Diversification of country's sources of LNG supply

2288. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK :

SHRI SANJAY RAUT :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether on the sidelines of the East Asia Summit of Energy Ministers' in Brunei, the Minister has held discussions with Energy Ministers of Brunei, Indonesia, Australia and Malaysia

in order to seek diversification of India's sources of supply of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) to double the LNG re-gasification capacity by 2016; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the respective countries to the request of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On the sidelines of the East Asia Summit of Energy Ministers in Brunei, discussions were held with Energy Ministers of Brunei, Indonesia, Australia and Malaysia, among others. GAIL has informed that Brunei LNG's Board has not yet agreed to supply LNG. GAIL is in preliminary discussions with upstream suppliers from various proposed and upcoming LNG liquefaction plants in Indonesia, for sourcing LNG on long-term basis.

Import of crude oil

2289. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of crude oil imports for the financial years 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11;

(b) the total import of crude oil from Iran for the above period;

(c) whether there is any problem with regard to payment for crude oil to Iranian companies;

(d) if so, whether Government considers this as a reason for the change in import quantity; and

(e) whether India has stopped using Asian Clearing Union (ACU), if so, the details thereof in case of debt accumulation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) The details of crude oil imports and import of the same from Iran for the financial year 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 is given as under:—

(In Million Metric Tonne)		
Year	Total crude oil import	Import from Iran
2008-09	132.8	21.8
2009-10	159.3	21.2
2010-11	163.6	18.5

(c) to (e) The Asian Clearing Union (ACU) was withdrawn by the RBI in December, 2010. Oil companies in India have examined different alternatives to clear payments