

LPG connection of the public sector oil marketing companies in the 'safe custody' of the LPG distributor within 60 days, upon which they will be issued a "Termination Voucher" and the security deposit will be refunded to them.

(c) and (d) Such consumers can avail the domestic LPG connection again upon 'security deposit' of the same amount as mentioned in the "Termination Voucher".

**Formulation of Integrated National Policy for  
alternative fuel sources**

†2309. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to formulate an integrated national policy to promote exploration of shale gas, gas hydrate and coal methane as an alternative to check the rising prices of crude oil and its ill-effects on the financial situation;

(b) if so, by when such a policy would be announced; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) No, Sir, there is no proposal to formulate integrated national policy for exploration of shale gas, gas hydrate and Coal Bed Methane (CBM). The status on CBM, gas hydrate and shale gas is as under:—

Government has already implemented CBM Policy and has awarded 30 exploration blocks so far under the CBM Policy.

Gas Hydrate Programme is at Research and Development stage worldwide. Currently, suitable technology for commercial production of gas hydrate is not available. However, Government is pursuing National Gas Hydrate Programme with the cooperation of other countries such as USA, Germany and Japan.

Government has initiated steps for the assessment of shale gas resources in selected onland basins as well as to formulate a Shale Gas Policy. Implementation of Shale Gas Policy is dependent upon completion of resource assessment, carving out blocks and finalization of terms and conditions for exploration of shale gas in the country in consultation with all concerned Departments/Agencies.

**Allocation of kerosene to Madhya Pradesh**

†2310. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is not allocating kerosene as per the number of ration-card holders in Madhya Pradesh (MP);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.