

position would be reviewed at the end of the year. In the meantime, PMT JV solicited Expression of Interests (EoI) from prospective buyers to purchase gas up to 4 mmscmd from 1st April, 2006 for a period of two years with a caveat that the JV reserved the right to decide the quantity to be sold. As informed by PMT JV, GSPC and another buyer offered the highest price for this gas. The issue of continuing gas supplies to the power and fertilizer sector consumers by GAIL beyond 31-3-2006 was reviewed in the Ministry in March, 2006 and it was decided that this arrangement needed to be continued for a further period of 2 years, i.e., up to 31-3-2008, as then there were no alternative sources of gas supplies and any disruption in gas supplies would have resulted in idling of the existing assets in these important sectors.

(c) It was decided in 2007 that, in accordance with the provisions of the PSC, all gas produced by PMT JV would be sold to Government nominee, i.e., GAIL, from 2008-09. Accordingly, the entire production of PMT JV is being supplied to GAIL from 1-4-2008.

(d) and (e) The entire gas produced from PMT is already committed and is being sold by the Government nominee, viz., GAIL (India) Limited. However, The requirement of gas for Pipava Power Plant has been noted for the future demand of gas for power sector.

#### **Toxic fumes at petrol pumps in Delhi**

119. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA:

SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that in a study carried out by the Energy and Resources Institute at 40 petrol pumps of Delhi, it has found the level of toxic fumes containing pollutants like benzene, toluene and xylene is several thousand times higher than the permissible limits;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps, the Ministry is taking to meet the highest safety and occupational health standards at all petroleum storage points?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), namely; Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have reported that they have not received any report/study carried out by the Energy and Resource Institute (TERI) on Benzene, Toluene and Xylene contents in emissions at some petrol pumps in Delhi.

(c) Public Sector OMCs are implementing the standards prescribed by the Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) and the recommendations of MB. Lal Committee

related to safety and health at the supply location of petroleum products. Health monitoring of staff handling toxic products is carried out regularly and health records are maintained as per the laid down standards.

Further, BPCL and HPCL have installed Vapour Recovery System (VRS) Stage-I at their supply locations i.e. Bijwasan, Delhi and Loni, Pune respectively. Further, some OMCs have also installed VRS Stage-II systems at some of their retail outlets including in Delhi. Such systems help to recover the fuel-vapours which get generated while fuelling a customer's vehicle from under-ground storage tank.

#### **Charging of marketing margin by natural gas producers**

120. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

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

(a) whether the Ministry has communicated or in the process of doing so with the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers about policy matter of marketing margin charged to fertilizers industry by private sector natural gas producers; and

(b) by when Government will declare the final policy in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) On references made by the Department of Fertilizers seeking clarification on the marketing margin being charged by Reliance Industries Limited on the sale of natural gas to the fertilizers industry, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has referred the issue of marketing margin applicable on sale of natural gas by any marketer to the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) under section 11(j) of PNGRB Act, 2006. Accordingly, the Board has been entrusted with the determination of the quantum of Marketing Margin chargeable on the sale of natural gas to end consumers by a marketing entity, on the basis of the marketing costs incurred by it.

#### **Establishment of new refineries**

121. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is planning to set up refineries in some States in the near future;

(b) if so, the names of the States; and

(c) whether Maharashtra is also being considered for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Consequent to de-licensing of refinery sector since June, 1998, a refinery can be set up anywhere in India by a private or public sector company depending on its techno-commercial viability. A