

the Government, *inter-alia*, took a decision 'in principle' on 25.06.2010 that the price of Diesel would be made market-determined, both at Refinery Gate and Retail Level.

However, in order to insulate the common man from the impact of rise in international oil prices and the domestic inflationary conditions, the Government continues to modulate the retail selling prices of Diesel.

Self-sufficiency in production of oil and gas

4315. SHRI N.K. SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the projected exploration and production of oil and natural gas likely to be achieved during the next three years;
- (b) whether the country is lagging behind in the exploration and production of oil and natural gas as compared to the other developed/developing countries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the corrective action taken by Government in the matter including steps initiated to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of oil and natural gas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) In next 3 financial years from 2012-13 to 2014-15, projected crude oil and natural gas production is about 133.127 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) and 135.047 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) respectively. Year-wise projection for crude oil and natural gas production is as below:

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Total
Crude oil production (MMT)	42.305	45.580	45.242	133.127
Natural gas production (BCM)	43.177	43.771	48.099	135.047

In the corresponding period, the projections of exploration are 106324 line kilometer of 2D seismic, 60934 sq. km. of 3D seismic and 833 exploratory wells.

(b) and (c) India is not lagging behind in exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas and new technologies are being inducted on the need basis. The experience and knowledge gained by multinational companies in other sedimentary basins of the world is being tapped through participation in exploration in the country.

(d) Government/Exploration & Production (E&P) companies have taken actions for enhancing crude oil and natural gas production which *inter-alia* include: (i) Increasing hydrocarbon exploration and production in the country, (ii) Development of unconventional sources of hydrocarbon, and (iii) Acquisition of overseas oil and gas assets by Indian companies.