

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) A Task Force under the Chairmanship of the Chairman, Unique Identification Authority was constituted by the Government to suggest an implementable solution for direct transfer of subsidy on certain items including LPG to intended beneficiaries. The Task Force submitted interim report for a phase-wise roll out of the proposed subsidy scheme for domestic LPG. The details are as under:-

Phase-I : Cap consumption of subsidized cylinders.

Phase-II : Consumers buy LPG at market price, with direct transfer of subsidy to their bank account.

Phase-III : Identify and target segmented customers for subsidy.

As far as phase-I/capping of subsidized LPG cylinders is concerned, no decision has been taken. Pilot on phase-II is going on in Mysore in the State of Karnataka.

CAG audit of RIL's expenditure on KG-D6

751. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has asked Government to allow Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) to recover expenditure on its eastern offshore KG-D6 oil and gas field only after auditing of the investment/expenditure made by the company;

(b) whether Government has taken any action in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has advised Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MOP and NG) to take precautions to ensure that the audit of expenditure prior to adjustment to the account of RIL be effectively done to ensure that only admitted items are approved.

(b) and (c) The final report on the Performance Audit of Hydrocarbons Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) has been tabled in the Parliament by Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG). The report of the CAG has been referred to Public Accounts Committee (PAC) and the same is under consideration of the PAC.

Reduction in dependence on oil import

752. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any concrete steps to reduce the import dependence of oil and gas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;