

(f) The subsidy outgo per cylinder provided to NDEC (non) on account of this move would be at the rate of Rs. 461.58 domestic subsidized cylinder (@ Delhi *w.e.f.* 01.03.2013).

Mechanism for recovering market rate by gas agencies

918. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the domestic gas cylinder supplying agencies recovered market rate for LPG cylinders supplied in excess of six cylinders;

(b) whether there is any fool-proof mechanism to recover the market rate by these agencies; and

(c) the total amount recovered so far by these companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) With the implementation of capping scheme on 14.09.2012 (revised on 17/18th January, 2013), every domestic LPG customers is eligible for 5 LPG cylinders for the period 14.09.2012 to 31.03.2013 and 9 subsidized LPG cylinders for next financial year onward. Beyond this cap, the domestic cylinder are supplied at domestic non subsidized rate. The non-subsidized rates are revised by the OMCs and recovered from the customers while billing them for the same.

OMCs have reported that they have sold around 25.6 million LPG cylinders at domestic non subsidized rates during 14th Sep, 2012 to 31st January, 2013. The current rate of 14.2 kg domestic non-subsidized cylinder in Delhi as on 01.03.2013 is 904.50 per cylinder.

Further exploration of Rajasthan fields

919. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL gas be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has allowed one company to further explore Rajasthan fields;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that it will reduce Government's share in profit; and

- (d) the reasons behind granting this permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Government of India (GoI) as a general policy has allowed exploration in the Mining Lease (ML) Area in the country with a condition that any risk to the Government revenue on account of cost recovery is appropriately mitigated. This has been allowed to derive the maximum value from the asset under ML area, by way of optimally exploiting oil/gas resources present in such areas.

(c) The new policy has provisions to protect government revenue, by restricting permission to only those discoveries, which yield net positive revenue to Government.

(d) Not allowing exploration in mining lease areas will result in locking up of hydrocarbon reserves till the end of ML period, which can stretch up to 20 years.

Cities to be covered under PNG network

†920. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether supply of gas through pipeline is cheaper than the supply of gas through cylinders in city areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) the State-wise and city-wise details of piped natural gas (PNG) supply; and

(d) the cities which are proposed to be covered by piped natural gas supply in the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The retail price of PNG/CNG in any city is fixed by the CGD entity operating in the city. The price of PNG/CNG is a function of the weighted, average of the price of the gas (domestic gas/RLNG/spot LNG), operating expenses, various Central, State and local taxes and levies and it varies from entity to entity. For example, in Delhi, Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) has reported that the current price of PNG is

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.