

- (b) the changes that are being introduced in the policy in that regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) was the sole canalizing agency for import of crude oil till July, 1998. Thereafter, to fulfill the need to private and joint sector refineries to procure crude oil, its import was decanalised. Import of crude oil was further decanalised from April 2002, with all the Public Sector Oil Companies being permitted to import crude oil independently to meet their respective requirement from different countries/National Oil Companies. As per the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) 2009-14, the import of crude oil, under chapter 27 ITC(HS) 2709 00 00 EXIM code, is "free".

Natural Gas for AP

285. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has recently released 2.0 mmscmd to Andhra Pradesh (AP) to tide over the power crisis in the State partially;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons that gas was given only for one month;
- (d) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh requested for extending this period; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and what action has been taken on the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas as per the request of APTRANSCO and Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh had allowed supply of 2.0 mmscmd RLNG by swapping with KG-D6 gas for supply to Independent Power Producers (IPPs) in Andhra Pradesh for a period of 30 days starting from October 20, 2012.

- (c) the proposal of APTRANSCO was only for a period of 30 days.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.