

(c) IOCL has reported that three contractor hired workmen died in the accident and as per report from police, two are missing. Payment of *ex-gratia* of Rs. 5 lakh each, to next of kin, of the three deceased workmen and the two missing workmen, has been done by IOCL.

(d) As reported by IOCL, loss to the tune of Rs. 98 crore has been estimated due to the fire.

(e) The Inter Disciplinary Enquiry Committee constituted under the aegis of OISD for investigating the incident, has submitted its report. The Committee has given several recommendations to prevent the reoccurrence of such incidents. IOCL has informed that disciplinary action has also been initiated against 14 officers.

Increase in sale price of gas in the country

†285. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during 2004, sale price of gas in the country was fixed at 1.8 dollar per mmbtu or the British thermal unit administrative price mechanism system by ONGC;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that price has been increased a number of times since then up to June, 2013; and

(d) if so, the details of amount and time of increase in this price and reasons of each price increase?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The sale price of Administered Pricing Mechanism gas produced from nominated blocks of National Oil Companies *viz.*, ONGC and OIL was Rs. 2850/MSCM (considering net calorific value of gas as 10,000 Kcal/SCM) during 2004.

(c) and (d) The details of APM gas price revision since 2004 along with reasons are as under:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Effective date of increase in price	Consumers	Applicable Price (Rs./MSCM or\$/MMBTU)	Reasons for Increase
01.07.2005	Power, Fertilizers, specific and users committed under court orders and small scale consumers having allocation up to 50,000 SCMD	Rs. 3200/MSCM*	(i) To move towards a market determined price in a phased manner. (ii) To provide reasonable rate of return on investment made by NOCs.
Mid night of 5th/6th June -2006	City Gas Distribution Projects and small consumers having allocation up to 50,000 SCMD	Rs. 3840/MSCM*	To move towards a market determined price in a phased manner.
01.06.2010 (in case of City Gas Distribution Projects from 08.06.2010)	Power, Fertilizers, specific and users committed under court orders and small scale consumers having allocation up to 50,000 SCMD	\$4.20/MMBTU	(i) To align with market price of gas. (ii) To provide better remuneration to NOCs.

(MSCM=1000 SCM).

*The price is excluding royalty and at net calorific value of 10,000 Kcal/SCM.

The applicable APM price for APM consumers in North Eastern region is 60% of above prices.

Consumers other than Power, Fertilizers, and specific end users committed

under court orders and small scale consumers having allocation up to 50,000 SCMD (who are not entitled for APM gas but are getting APM gas supplies due to existing supply linkage and operational requirement) get supply of APM gas at market Determined Price (MDP).

Removing of subsidies from petroleum products

286. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has removed or planning to remove subsidies on all petroleum products;

(b) if so, the details of the subsidy policy of Government, product-wise;

(c) whether Government has undertaken any study to find the effect of such a step on the people and economy;

(d) if so, the details of the study; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Based on the recommendation of the Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. Kirit S. Parikh to advice on a viable and sustainable system of pricing of petroleum products, the Government has made the price of Petrol market-determined with effect from 26.6.2010. Since then, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) take appropriate decision on pricing of Petrol in line with the international oil prices and market conditions.

Further, pursuant to the decision taken by the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA) in its meeting held on 17th January 2013, the Government has authorized the OMCs to (a) increase the retail selling price of Diesel in the range of 40 paise to 50 paise per litre per month (excluding VAT as applicable in different State/Union Territories) until further orders, and (b) sell Diesel to all consumers taking bulk supplies directly from the installations of the OMCs at non-subsidized market determined price, with immediate effect.