

implementation of dual pricing for diesel with market rates for bulk direct consumers, State Transport Undertakings (STUs), Industries and some State Government Departments are drawing their diesel requirements from the Retail Outlets selling diesel at subsidized rates.

Feed gas price for Assam Gas Cracker Project

584. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering any concession on feed gas price for the Assam Gas Cracker Project as per the concessional gas pricing, applicable for the North-East;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the details of measures, to be taken up to make the Assam Gas Cracker Project plant techno-economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) BCPL is a petro-chemical plant and a non-APM consumer, hence under the present guidelines of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, the North Eastern Regional (NER) concessional price is not applicable to this plant. However, the Inter-Ministerial Committee headed by Secretary, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals constituted for the commissioning of Assam Gas Cracker Project, in its report issued in November 2013, has recommended that NER concessional price as currently applicable to power and fertilizer sectors (*i.e.* 60% of prevailing natural gas price) be made applicable to BCPL for 15 years of plant operation. In order to implement the recommendations of the Committee, a relaxation from Cabinet would be required for this plant. As per recommendations of the Committee, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals will move the proposal in this regard.

Cancellation of LPG connections

†585. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether various oil companies have inspected LPG connections in Uttarakhand;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the details of LPG connections that have been cancelled after inspection, district-wise and;
- (d) the details of the grounds on which LPG connections have been cancelled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (d) The public sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have reported that they regularly attempt detection of ineligible LPG connections and blocking of the same through a Know Your Customer process.

OMCs have reported that detection of unauthorized/bogus LPG connections also happens during regular and surprise inspections by Officers of OMCs, and independent agencies such as Anti Adulteration Cell and Vigilance Department of OMCs.

As per Liquefied Petroleum Gas (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order, 2000 and its subsequent amendments thereof, one household can have one domestic LPG connection under PDS, else it entails blocking /termination of the LPG connection. District-wise details of total number of LPG connections blocked by OMCs as on 01.11.2013, in the State of Uttarakhand is given in the Statement.

Statement

District-wise details of total number of LPG connections blocked by OMCs as on 01.11.2013, in the State of Uttarakhand

District	Multiple LPG Connections Blocked as on 01/11/2013
1	2
Almora	26727
Bageshwar	28201
Champawat	31025
Chamoli	35409
Dehradun	32171

1	2
Haridwar	30164
Nainital	34670
Pauri	30927
Pithoragarh	28106
Udham Singh Nagar	28889
Uttarkashi	24039
Tehri Garhwal	35129
GRAND TOTAL	365457

Impact of shale gas on natural gas pricing

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

- (a) whether Government has studied about the large scale production of shale gas and its impact on the prices of natural gas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this phenomenon will help us in getting gas at a lower price than earlier; and
- (d) the details of average landing price of natural gas and its components including price of gas, transportation cost etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The resource estimation of shale gas has been carried out for selected sedimentary basins and sub-basins in India by several agencies. Further, the Government has issued "Policy Guidelines for Exploration and Exploitation of Shale Gas and Oil by National Oil Companies under Nomination regime" on 14th October, 2013. Under this Policy, the right to exploration and exploitation of Shale Gas & Oil will lie with the NOCs holding Petroleum Exploration License (PEL)/Petroleum Mining Lease (PML) granted under the nomination regime.