

(c) and (d) IOC and BPCL have reported that shortage of LPG has been reported in the State of Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Odisha, Assam and Kerala.

OMCs have further reported that to clear the backlog, supplies to the affected markets are augmented by operating bottling plants on Sundays / holidays / extended hours or from alternate sources or through additional imports.

Complaints against distributors of BPCL

1367. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of distributors of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd., against whom complaints were received during the last three years and the current year, so far;
- (b) the details of the action taken in each case;
- (c) whether there have been instances where erring distributors and agents were shielded and let off with token penalty only; and
- (d) if so, the action taken or being taken to break the nexus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has reported that based on the established complaints, action has been taken against 64, 112, 106 and 41 LPG distributors, respectively during the years 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and April-September, 2013, as per provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG), 2001. Distributor-wise, details of action taken against each distributor are available with the Director (Marketing) of BPCL.

- (c) BPCL have not reported any such instances.
- (d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Availability of gas in the country

†1368. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that gas is also being considered to be a major source of fuel in the country, at present;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.