

(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.

- (b) if so, what is Government's reactions in this regard;
- (c) whether Government has identified the sources of gas in the country; and
- (d) if so, details of the availability of the types of gas, their sources and quantity and when Government got information about them for the first time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has taken following steps to ensure energy security of the Country:

- (I) Offering more areas for exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons through New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP)/Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) bidding rounds;
- (II) Pursuing various alternate sources of energy such as Coal Bed Methane (CBM), Shale Gas/Shale Oil and Gas Hydrate;
- (III) Introducing various guidelines/policies such as allowing exploration in Mining Lease (ML) area after the expiry of exploration period and submission of Integrated Development Plan (IDP) for early monetization of hydrocarbon discoveries;
- (IV) Diversified import of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG);
- (V) Exploring feasibility of bringing overseas gas through trans-national pipelines.

Besides, the Government has been trying to conserve petroleum products by generating awareness among the general masses through various programmes/activities through Petroleum Conservation Research Association which has been setup with the objective to promote measure for accelerating conservation of petroleum products.

(c) and (d) The details relating to various sources of natural gas is as under:

Conventional Natural Gas: So far, a total of 99 gas discoveries have been made under the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) regime in onland and offshore areas, resulting in accretion of about 747 Billion Cubic Meters (BCM) of Gas In-Place. The first gas discovery under the PSC regime was reported in the year 1999-2000 in Eastern Offshore area.

Unconventional Natural Gas- Coal Bed Methane (CBM): So far, about 9.9

Trillion Cubic Feet (TCF) of In-Place CBM volumes have been established in 8 CBM blocks through exploration activities. The first commercial production of CBM in the country commenced in Raniganj (South) block in West Bengal in the year 2007.

Shale Gas: The resource estimation of shale gas has been carried out for selected sedimentary basins and sub-basins in India by several agencies. Under the "Policy Guidelines for Exploration and Exploitation of Shale Gas and Oil by National Oil Companies under Nomination regime" issued by the Government on 14.10.2013, the right to exploration and exploitation of shale gas and Oil lies with NOCs holding PEL/PML granted under the nomination regime. Currently, there is no commercial production of shale gas in the country.

Gas Hydrate: Currently, the Gas Hydrate activities are in R&D stage worldwide and there is no commercial production.

The source-wise availability of gas in the country during 2012-13 was as under:

Source	Avg. Daily availability (MMSCMD)
ONGC	50.90
OIL	5.70
PMT	9.02
Other JV	2.84
KG-D6	25.74
Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas (R-LNG) including Spot	40.07
Coal Bed Methane	0.29
TOTAL	134.56

Implementation of pilot project in Odisha

1369. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state whether Government has agreed to place the estimated fund with the State Government of Odisha for implementation of the pilot project of direct transfer of subsidy in cash to poor for purchase of kerosene in Bolangiri district of Odisha.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): No, Sir. There is no such proposal at present.