

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The domestic gas production in Indian during the calendar year 2013-14 was 35.41 Billion Cubic Metres (BCM) as compared to 40.68 BCM gas produced in the year 2012-13, resulting in a volumetric decline of about 12.95%.

The natural gas consumption also declined in the year 2013 to 52.22 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) as compared to 60.03 BCM in 2012.

(c) Following policy measures have been undertaken by the Government to increase oil/gas exploration and production activities in the country:

- Shale Gas and Shale Oil Policy have been announced by the Government of India in October, 2013 for National Oil Companies (NOCs) to explore and exploit shale oil and gas resources in nomination regime acreages.
- Policy for exploration in the Mining Lease (ML) areas held by the Contractors after the expiry of exploration period has been announced in 21.10.2013.
- Policy on Non-exclusive Multi-client Speculative Survey for assessment of unexplored sedimentary basin has been approved in 27th February, 2014.

Incidents of murders, riots and rapes in the country

†*54. SHRI ISHWARLAL SHANKARLAL JAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of incessant incidents of murders, riots, rapes, etc. in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government proposes to hold consultations or conferences with States or proposes to set up a special force to keep a tab on such incidents with a view to maintain law and order in the country;

(c) whether a few States of the country have seen a spate in incidents like riots, rapes, murders in the last three years, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government is taking any measures or making any appropriate policy to prevent such incidents and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) to (d) There has been incidents reported on incidents regarding the disturbance of law and order have been reported from various States/UTs involving incidents of murders, riots, rapes. 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Therefore, the State Governments are primarily

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

responsible for the prevention, detection registration and investigation of crime and for prosecuting the criminals through the machinery of their law enforcement agencies as also for protecting the life and property of the citizens. The information during the year 2011-2013 on murder, riots and rapes is given in the Annexures respectively [See Appendix 232, Annexure No. 4, 5 and 6]. Steps were taken to control the same by issuing necessary Advisories from time to time for the prevention of such incidents and also by taking various follow up measures and conferences at the Prime Minister's and the Home Minister's level with the State authorities in order to prevent the recurrence of such untoward incidents. The Government of India has issued the following advisories to all States/UTs requesting them to take all necessary steps in order to prevent crimes against women.

- (i). Advisory on Crimes against Women-Measures needed to curb issued on 4.09.2009.
- (ii). Advisory on 22nd April 2013 whereby the States/UTs were requested to raise the representation of women in Police to 33%.
- (iii). Advisory on Registration of FIR irrespective of the territorial jurisdiction and Zero FIR was issued on 10.05.2013.
- (iv). Advisory on protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2013 issued on 28.05.2013.
- (v). Advisory based on Hon'ble Supreme Court directions regarding filing of FIR mandatorily in case of missing children was issued on 25.06.2013.

On the legislation front, the Government of India has enacted the following Acts:

- (i). The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 which provides stringent punishment for persons who have committed crimes against children was initiated on 19th June, 2012
- (ii). Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013
- (iii). Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005
- (iv). Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
- (v). Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986; and
- (vi). Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006 (PCMA).

Guidelines and protocols for medical-legal care for survivors/victims of sexual violence have also been issued by the Government.

The Government has also taken measures for amendment in the Criminal Law for prevention of such incidents in the country thereby causing resentment and deterioration

of law and order situation. As per the amended law, a rape convict can be sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for a term not less than 20 years, which may extend to remainder of the convict's natural life. It also provides for the death sentence to repeat offenders. And for the first time, stalking and voyeurism have been defined as non-bailable offences if repeated for a second time, while acid attack convicts can get a 10-year jail sentence.

A Nirbhaya Fund was initiated by the Government to support initiatives by the Government and NGOs working towards protecting the dignity and ensuring safety of women in India with participation of the various associated Ministries to work out details of the structure, scope and the application of the fund at a cost (One Time) of Rs. 204.25 crore, recurring expenditure (Operational Cost for 5 Years) of Rs. 102.12 crore and expenses for the central monitoring and evaluation project management unit of approx Rs. 15.32 crore (total Rs. 321.69 crore). In pursuance to this, an integrated Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) platform was envisaged for supporting Geographical Information System (GIS) Based Call Taking and Global Positioning System (GPS) based Police vehicle dispatch function that helps to improve the efficiency in responding to women distress calls and provide speedy assistance. Distress/emergency alarms generated by landlines/mobiles and more specifically generated by women through mobile phone applications or individual devices pioneered by the Deptt. of Information Technology (DIT) would be tracked. The proposed system is to be implemented in the 113 identified cities identified by the Ministry of Women and Child Development which includes 53 cities having a population of more than million and which are headquarters of the State/UT as well as headquarters of 41 highly crime prone districts.

Mandatory use of Hindi language in social media

*55. SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has issued any circular to its departments and to State Governments imposing mandatory use of Hindi language in social media; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) The Department of Official Language issues circulars from time to time for the use of Hindi in electronic media by Ministries/Departments of Central Government. However, no such circular has been issued to the State Government .

(b) The Department of Official Language issues circulars from time to time for implementation of official language policy as per the Official Languages Act, 1963 and Official Languages Rules, 1976. In compliance to the same, D.O. No. 12015/13/2013-OL (Tech) dated 17.09.2013 has been issued.