

Deregulating Pricing of diesel, LPG and kerosene

*44 SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to deregulate the pricing of diesel, LPG and kerosene; and

(b) if so, the details of subsidy given at present on diesel, LPG and kerosene and the method proposed to be adopted to cut down the subsidy to zero level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) There is no such proposal before the Government, at present. Moreover, in order to protect the consumer from the inflationary impact of rising international oil prices, the Government continues to modulate the Retail Selling Price (RSP) of Diesel (in retail), PDS kerosene and subsidized domestic LPG, resulting in incidence of under-recovery to the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). In order to reduce under-recovery on sale of diesel and in pursuance of the decision taken by the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs, the Government on 17.01.2013 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 States/Union Territories) until further orders; and (b) sell Diesel to all consumers taking bulk supplies directly from the installations of the OMCs at the non-subsidized market determined price. Also effective 14th September, 2012, the Government decided to cap the supply of Subsidized Domestic LPG cylinders for each domestic LPG consumer to 6 cylinders (of 14.2 Kg) per annum, which was subsequently increased to 9 and to 12 cylinders on 17th January, 2013 and 30th January, 2014 respectively.

Based on the Refinery Gate Price (RGPL) effective 1st July 2014, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are currently forced to incur an under-recovery of ₹ 3.40/litre on Diesel (for retail consumers), ₹ 33.07/litre on PDS Kerosene and ₹ 449.17/cylinder (14.2 Kg) on Subsidized Domestic LPG. In addition, the Government is providing a subsidy of ₹ 22.58 per cylinder (14.2 kg) on Domestic LPG and ₹ 0.82 per litre on PDS Kerosene.

Honouring people jailed during emergency period

*45. SHRI RAMNATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to honour the people including those from Bihar who were jailed during emergency by giving them status of 'freedom fighter', if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there have been several representations/demands to Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) There is no such plan under consideration of the Government to honour the people who were jailed during emergency by giving them the status of 'freedom fighters'.

(b) to (d) A representation from Shri Shiv Kumar Mishr was received through Shri K.C. Tyagi, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) for honouring the people who were imprisoned during emergency by treating them at par with the freedom fighters. A reply has been sent to Shri Mishr intimating that presently there is no such policy to grant pension to those who suffered during emergency.

Undertakings privatised/disinvested

†*46. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Undertakings under the Ministry which have been privatised/disinvested till date;

(b) the Undertaking-wise amount received by Government thereon; and

(c) whether Government has received information about alleged irregularities in privatisation/disinvestment of the Undertakings and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Government of India has disinvested in three undertakings under the Ministry of Steel namely Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC) and MOIL Limited.

(b) The undertakings-wise amount realised by the Government by disinvestment is as under:

Name of the Public Sector Undertaking	Amount realised (₹ in crore)
SAIL	2550.83
NMDC Ltd.	15921.57
MOIL Ltd.	618.76
TOTAL	19091.16

(c) No, Sir. Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.