Setting up of National Data Repository

3803.SHRI A.W. RABI BERNARD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country is in the process of setting up a National Data Repository (NDR) centre as part of making hydrocarbons prospecting more flexible;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Centre would have legacy data dating back to 1947; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The Government has initiated the process of setting up a National Data Repository (NDR) at Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) office, NOIDA for centralized storage and upkeep of Exploration and Production data of the country. NDR is expected to store and maintain hydrocarbon exploration & production data in a safe and reusable manner, in perpetuity.

(c) and (d) The NDR would be capable of loading legacy data which are in readable formats and can be digitized. Exploration & Production data obtained from National Oil Companies and available with DGH will be uploaded and stored in the NDR.

Black marketing and artificial shortage of LPG

†3804. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware about the black marketing and artificial shortage of domestic LPG in the country particularly in the rural areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to tackle the problem of black marketing and artificial shortage of domestic LPG; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (d) The possibility of malpractice/ irregularities in subsidized domestic LPG cylinders by some unscrupulous elements cannot be ruled out due to the lower retail price of subsidized LPG for domestic use *vis a vis* the market price for commercial LPG. Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(OMCs) are always maintaining vigil to prevent and take action against black marketing of cylinders.

OMCs also carry regular surprise inspections at distributor's premises, conduct refill audits, surprise checks at customers premises and en-route checking of delivery vehicles. If LPG distributors are found guilty of any malpractice, punitive action is taken in accordance with the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG).

Moreover, various initiatives have been taken by the Government *viz.* capping on supply of subsidized cylinders, de-duplication, introduction of Transparency Portal and KYC exercise which have reduced the misuse and diversion of subsidized LPG cylinders.

Details of established cases of black marketing (overcharging and diversion) for last three years and from April-May, 2014 are as under:

Year	IOCL	BPCL	HPCL	Total
2011-12	338	43	321	702
2012-13	317	60	251	628
2013-14	155	35	287	477
April-May, 2014	20	15	72	107

In all established cases of black marketing action is taken against the erring LPG distributors as per the provisions of MDG.

Sharing losses on sale of LPG and kerosene by OMCs with private refineries

†3805. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to put some burden of the loss being incurred by Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) from selling of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and kerosene upon other private refineries including Reliance Industries; and

(b) if so, the details along with the latest status thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.