

as PNGRB and OISD. Further, after the incident, the following actions are being taken by GAIL to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future:

- (i) Gas sampling and analysis at source point.
- (ii) Undertaking review and benchmarking of standard operating processes with respect to global pipeline operators.
- (iii) Creation of pipeline health monitoring group to monitor pipeline integrity and safety.
- (iv) Increased frequency of internal cleaning of pipelines.
- (v) Intense technical audit of pipeline operations and maintenance by statutory authorities.
- (vi) Increased frequency of various pipeline monitoring activities.

#### **Import of petroleum products**

861. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the proportion of domestic production and import of petroleum products during the last three years ending 31 March, 2014;

(b) the amount of expenditure on imports of petroleum products during the last three years ending 31 March, 2014;

(c) the factors that constrained the increase in the domestic production of petroleum products; and

(d) the steps Ministry proposes to undertake to overcome these constraints ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The proportion of domestic production and imports of petroleum products during the last three years ending 31st March, 2014 is given in Table-1 below:

*Table-I: Details of Domestic Production and imports during 2011-12 to 2013-14 (P)*

| Year        | Production of Petroleum Products Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) | Import of Petroleum Products MMT | Ratio of Import to Production of Petroleum Products |
|-------------|--|----------------------------------|---|
| 2011-12     | 203.99   | 15.85                            | 1 : 13  |
| 2012-13     | 217.82   | 15.77                            | 1 : 14  |
| 2013-14 (P) | 220.2  | 16.72                            | 1 : 13  |

The value of import of petroleum products is given in Table-II below:

*Table-II: Details of expenditure on import of petroleum products during 2011-12 to 2013-14 (P)*

| Year        | Import Value (₹ in Crore) |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| 2011-12     | 68091                     |
| 2012-13     | 68363                     |
| 2013-14 (P) | 74827                     |

P: Provisional.

(c) and (d) The domestic production of petroleum products is much higher than the domestic demand leaving a significant exportable surplus. Decision on addition of fresh refining capacity is taken based on techno commercial parameters and no constraints have been reported for the same.

#### **Exploration of unconventional Hydrocarbons**

862. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is planning to explore unconventional Hydrocarbons like Shale Gas, Basin Centred Gas considering the high presence of such gas in South Eastern parts of Bengal Basin, as assessed by experts; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the likely/proposed role of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) in such exploration; and

(c) if no, such plan is envisaged, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SH. DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) In order to explore the potential of unconventional hydrocarbon resources in Bengal Basin, ONGC has drilled 4 Research and Development wells in Damodar valley in Raniganj area and established the presence of Shale Gas. The available geo-scientific data in the Bengal Basin, does not indicate significant presence of basin centered gas in the region.

(b) The Government has, on 14.10.2013, notified the policy guidelines for exploration and exploitation of shale gas and oil by National Oil Companies (NOCs) in their onland PEL (Petroleum Exploration Lease) /PML (Petroleum Mining Lease) blocks awarded under the nomination regimes.

As per the policy, the NOCs will undertake a mandatory minimum work programme in a fixed time frame for shale gas and oil exploration and exploitation, so that there is optimum accretion and development of shale gas and oil resources.

(c) Does not arise.