the prevailing policy, if any, on pricing of CBM including any linkages with traded liquid fuels.

(d) and (e) Four Contractors namely M/s Great Eastern Energy Corporation Limited (GEECL) (Raniganj South block), M/s Essar (Raniganj East block), ONGC (Jharia block) and Reliance Industries Limited (Sohagpur East & West blocks) have sought the approval of Government of India (GoI) for the gas price formula/basis for valuation of CBM gas. The approval of GoI has been issued for 3 contractors namely M/s GEECL, M/s Essar and ONGC. The proposal of RIL has been scrutinized and additional information has been sought.

Reform in gas pricing regime

2264. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to reform its gas pricing regime for survival of gas industry;

(b) whether according to report of PLATTS-9 global provider, the delay in price rise of gas in consonance with international price would delay in seabed surveys and appraisals of various upcoming projects;

(c) if so, whether Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has recently discussed the issues of reforming gas pricing regime; and

(d) if so, the details of discussion and the time likely to be taken to resolve the gas price issues at an early date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Dr C. Rangarajan, the then Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister in May, 2012, to look into the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) mechanism in petroleum industry. Based on the recommendations of Rangarajan Committee Report, natural gas pricing guidelines were notified by the Government on 10.1.2014 which envisaged the revised gas price to be applicable from 1st April, 2014. Meanwhile, the schedule for Lok Sabha elections 2014 was announced and Model Code of Conduct for the Guidance of the Political Parties and Candidates came into effect *w.e.f.* 5.3.2014. The Election Commission vide its letter dated 24th March, 2014 deferred the notification of Gas Price till the election process. Accordingly, the revision of prices as per these guidelines (Natural Gas Pricing Guidelines

for Domestically produced gas notified on 10.1.2014) was deferred by the Government vide order dated 28th March, 2014.

(b) to (d) While the Government is not aware of the report in question which has not been brought to its notice, the Government considered the gas price issue recently and it was decided that the whole issue of gas pricing would need comprehensive re-examination and directed that the Domestic Natural Gas Pricing Guidelines, 2014 will be kept in abeyance up to 30.09.2014 and till that time, the domestically produced gas would continue to be priced at the rate prevailing on 31.03.2014.

Increase in prices of diesel and petrol

2265.SHRI MOTI LAL VORA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of increase in the prices of diesel and petrol since 26 May, 2014 till date and the reasons therefor;

(b) the quantity of crude oil being imported by Government;

(c) the percentage of crude oil production in the country;

(d) the quantity of crude oil being produced by ONGC;

(e) the number of drilling machines with ONGC and the number of drilling machines it has hired; and

(f) the steps being taken by ONGC to increase the production of crude oil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The details of increase in retail selling price (RSP) of Petrol and Diesel (in retail) since 26th May, 2014 at Delhi are given below:

(₹/litre)

Date	Petrol*	Diesel (in retail)	Reason for increase
26.05.2014	71.41	56.71	RSP as on 26.05.2014
01.06.2014	-	57.28	Petrol: Based on changes in the prices of international oil market
07.06.2014	71.51	-	