

(b) whether Government has issued/proposes to issue any guidelines to all the oil companies of public sector with regard to their advertisements; and

(c) the criteria fixed by oil companies of the public sector to opt for print media and electronic media for publicity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The year-wise amount spent on advertisements by oil PSUs during the last three years and the current year is given below:

(₹ in crore)

PSU	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
IOCL	215.81	181.22	174.97	160.69 (from 1.4.2014 to 4.3.2015)
BPCL	39.17	45.89	41.37	37.85 (from April-Dec, 2014)
HPCL*	37.47	30.10	31.49	19.86 (from April-Dec, 2014)
ONGC	39.68	41.77	40.57	41.32 (till mid January, 2015)
EIL	0.09	0.18	0.32	0.33 (upto 2.3.2015)
CPCL	1.86	0.62	0.35	0.19 (provisional) (till January, 2015)
NRL	0.57	0.15	0.72	1.43 (upto 28.2.2015)
MRPL	1.32	1.18	0.58	9.72 (till 7.3.2015)
BLL	0.48	0.27	3.96	3.96 (from April-Dec, 2014)
OIL	4.13	5.23	6.69	9.01 (from 1.4.2014 to 5.3.2015)
GAIL	24.21	33.76	36.20	25.40 (from 1.4.2014 to 5.3.2015)

\* Excludes loyalty card expenses

(b) Government has not issued any guidelines in this regard.

(c) Oil PSUs choose the medium for advertising on the basis of their communication objective, their target audience, availability of budget etc.

#### **Memorandum for stopping extraction of CBM by ONGC**

1549.SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a memorandum from Cauvery Delta Farmers' Association urging stoppage of extraction of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A memorandum addressed to the Hon'ble Prime Minister regarding the proposed Coal Bed Methane Extraction Project in the Cauvery Delta submitted by the All Farmers Organization Committee, Thanjavur, Nagapattinam and Thiruvarur has been received in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas through Secretary to Governor, Government of Tamil Nadu.

M/s Great Eastern Energy Corporation Limited (GEECL) was awarded one CBM block, namely, MG-CBM-2008/IV, measuring an area of 667 sq. km., in the State of Tamil Nadu, for exploration and exploitation of CBM gas in Mannargudi area.

The contractor has not submitted the requisite documents *viz.* Bank Guarantee (BG), Financial Performance Guarantee (FPG) etc. as required under the contract till date despite notice issued by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG). The exploration phase-I expired on 03.11.2013 and the contractor has not initiated any exploration activity in the block. Action for cancellation of the contract has been initiated as per the provisions of CBM contract.

In the State of Tamil Nadu, no block has been awarded to Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) for exploration and exploitation of Coal Bed Methane.

#### **Decline in price of non-subsidized LPG cylinders**

1550. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise and public sector oil company-wise number of non-subsidized LPG cylinders used by domestic and commercial users during current financial year separately;

(b) whether price of non-subsidized LPG cylinders have decreased during the last nine months;

(c) if so, the reduction-wise details thereof; and