

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Since domestic natural gas is a scarce commodity, Government has been following the policy of sectoral priority in allocation of domestic gas and presently there is no policy for allocation of domestic gas to individual States.

Plan to reduce LPG gas connections

270. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:

KUMARI SELJA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are planning to reduce the number of LPG connections in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that they are not planning to reduce the number of LPG connections in the country except blocking those suspect duplicate domestic LPG connections which do not meet the Know Your Customer (KYC) norms.

Improving refineries of IOCL, BPCL and HPCL

271. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is scope for improvement of refineries of IOCL at Haldia and BPCL as well HPCL at Mumbai; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Indian refineries have adopted modern technologies for production of petroleum products and continuously upgrade the technologies in line with their requirements and international trends.

Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited have recently undertaken a number of initiatives for upgradation and modernization of their refineries. Details of such initiatives/projects are given as under: