

(d) whether it is also a fact that BP has so far invested only US \$ 477 million entailing no such permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (d) An application for authorisation to market Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) was submitted to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas from BP Exploration (Alpha) Limited (BPXA), a wholly owned subsidiary of BP plc on 11th June 2014 claiming investment of US\$477 million (including US\$ 259 million of Capex investment) and proposed investment of US\$2300 million.

To get marketing rights for transportation fuels, namely, Motor Spirit (MS), High Speed Diesel (HSD) and Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF), an applicant must meet the requirements as per Clause 3 of Marketing Resolution dated 8th March, 2002. The requirements *inter-alia*, include investment or proposed investment of Rs. 2000 crore in exploration or production, refining, pipelines or terminals leading to additionality to the existing assets and/or creation of new assets in the eligible activities. The applicant also in case of proposed investment *inter-alia* has to achieve financial closure within five years, complete the project/projects in all respect within ten years, sign an agreement containing conditions and milestones, with the Government in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas/Regulatory Board with the provision of bank guarantee of ₹ 500 crore for the proposed investment.

With reference to this application dated 11th June, 2014, Directorate General of Hydrocarbons has reported that British Petroleum (BP) share of expenditure was US\$508 million between financial year 2011-12 and financial year 2013-14 of which the capital expenditure (Capex) component and operational expenditure (Opex) component is US\$171 million and US\$337 million respectively. This did not meet the joint requirements of the Clause 3(I) and 3(IV) of the Marketing Resolution dated 8th March, 2002, and thus the application dated 11.6.2014 was rejected.

Restricting subsidy on kerosene to unelectrified households

1168. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether based on National Sample Survey data for 2011-12, nearly 95 per cent of the rural BPL households use subsidized kerosene mostly for lighting;

(b) whether most of the States are almost meeting target on rural electrification in phases thereby reducing the demand for kerosene for rural BPL households;

(c) if so, whether Government would consider restricting subsidies on kerosene only to unelectrified household; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) has informed that as per Consumer Expenditure Survey (CES) conducted during NSS 68th Round, approximately 48% of the population in the 0-30% percentile class of HPCE (Monthly Per Capita Expenditure) is using kerosene for lighting purpose. NSSO does not define population as BPL and APL and information on whether kerosene is subsidized or not also not available with NSSO.

(b) Ministry of Power has informed that the progress of erstwhile Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) is generally satisfactory. The Plan-wise coverage and achievement in release of free electricity connections to BPL households under the scheme is as under:

Five Year Plan	Coverage	Achievement	Percentage
X Plan	76,88,642	75,94,023	99%
XI Plan	1,87,20,174	1,42,35,022	76%

Expansion of electrification services automatically reduces the demand of kerosene for lighting purposes.

(c) and (d) At present, there is no such proposal under consideration of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to restrict subsidies on kerosene only to unelectrified households.

**Non-receiving of bids for shipment of natural gas
from US by GAIL**

†1169. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Public sector oil company, Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) has not received any bids, even after extension of time limit of tender thrice for shipping natural gas through nine newly made Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) tanker sea vessels from USA;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for tackling this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.