

(b) Presently, the normative requirement of gas for power sector at 70/75% PLF is around 81.5 mmscmd and after commissioning of 5449 MW of gas based power generation capacity, the normative requirement of gas would be around 102.90 mmscmd.

The current requirement of natural gas for fertilizer sector is 49.321 mmscmd which would increase by 14.4 mmscmd by the end of 2017-18.

(c) The cost of production of natural gas varies from company to company and field to field depending upon size/type of the reservoir, location of reservoir, operating cost, financing cost, depreciation, depletion and amortization applicable and accounting procedure followed by various E&P companies as well as taxes and duties levied by the Government. The price of domestic natural gas is determined in accordance with the New Domestic Natural Gas Pricing Guidelines, 2014. Save as otherwise provided in the above guidelines, the base price of domestic natural gas supplied from a particular source is same for all consumers irrespective of their location, except for North East Region where the rate is 60 per cent of the notified rate for certain allocations. However, the delivered price of the domestic natural gas may change from State-to-State depending upon transportation charges, State and Local Taxes and levies etc.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Government has taken several steps to improve the availability of gas which, *inter-alia*, include, intensification of domestic exploration and production activities through New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) rounds, development of shale gas policy framework, research and development of gas hydrate resources in the country, import of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), exploring possibility of transnational gas pipelines, clearance for exploration and development of some NELP blocks, exploration in the Mining Lease Area with certain conditions and acquisition of overseas oil and gas assets.

#### **Supply of gas for industries in Agra**

1981. DR. E. M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme for encouraging the industries in Agra region to use the gas to avoid pollution;

(b) if so, why the other industries which are short of fuel and closed are not treated at par to revive the industrial production; and

(c) whether there is any package contemplated in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) In order to protect Taj Mahal from environmental pollution, Supreme Court of India *vide* order dated 30.12.1996 in the case of M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India directed Government to supply natural gas to the industries in Agra-Firozabad. Accordingly, an allocation of 1.1 MMSCMD of domestic APM gas was made to GAIL for supply to industries in Agra-Firozabad (TTZ region). Further, in order to ensure that natural gas is supplied at uniform rate to all the industries in TTZ region, Uniform Pricing Mechanism (UPM) was implemented in the region *w.e.f.* 16.7.2012, wherein natural gas is supplied at a uniform rate to all the industries by pooling the supply of domestic APM gas with imported Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) as per requirement/drawl of industries.

#### **Rise in enrolment under DBTL scheme**

1982. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) whether there has been a sharp rise in enrolment of LPG customers joining the Direct Benefit Transfer for LPG (DBTL) scheme;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof during the last six months including Odisha;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to enrol all customers particularly below poverty line and weaker sections for distribution of subsidy;

(d) the State-wise and year-wise total amount distributed so far under DBTL scheme since its inception; and

(e) whether complaints regarding irregularities in the scheme have been received and if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Government of India has re-launched Direct Benefit Transfer for LPG consumer (DBTL) scheme called, 'PAHAL', in 54 districts of the country on 15.11.2014 and in remaining districts of the country on 1st January, 2015. As on 01.05.2015, 12.77 Crore LPG consumers have joined the scheme. The State-wise details of the customer joining DBTL Scheme, including Odisha as on 01.05.2015 is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) Government has launched Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana to increase the coverage of bank account especially for people of weaker Sections. Under the scheme, bank account can be opened on zero balance and at least one person in every household in the country would have a bank account.