

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Research and Development	8.08	8.36	8.36	8.33	8.33	8.25	25.89	12.91	12.56
Information Dissemination	18.17	15.75	15.27	16.22	16.22	15.67	101.57	24.09	23.84
Human Resource Development	6.14	5.62	5.62	7.78	7.78	7.75	15.21	11.56	11.33
Modernisation and Replacement	74.91	151.23	152.48	249.31	352.45	351.49	105.63	39.93	39.61
Tribal Sub Plan	7.76	7.76	7.51	7.16	8.56	8.55	19.35	10.75	10.69
TOTAL	194.00	271.77	271.59	392.00	496.54	494.39	483.70	266.50	264.50
% of Utilisation of Fund against R.E.			99.93			99.57			99.25

B.E.— Budget Estimate; F.E.— Final Estimate; R.E.— Revised Estimate; and Exp.— Actual Expenditure.

Increasing quota of PDS kerosene to Maharashtra

2187. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Maharashtra is currently receiving only 27 per cent of kerosene through Public Distribution System (PDS);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government of Maharashtra had requested to increase the quota of kerosene to meet its rising demand for avoiding black-marketing of kerosene in Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, Government's response thereto indicating what criteria have been fixed by Government for providing kerosene quota to various State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) PDS kerosene constitutes 98% share in the total sale of kerosene in the State of Maharashtra.

(c) and (d) Quota of PDS kerosene in respect of States/UTs, including Maharashtra is rationalized based on various factors, *inter-alia*, increase in domestic LPG/PNG connections, non-lifting of PDS kerosene quota by the concerned States/UTs, cap on the per capita PDS kerosene allocation for non-LPG and non-PNG population.

Allocation of PDS kerosene made to the State during the last two years and current year is as under:

Year	Allocation in KL
2013-14	730464
2014-15	695844
2015-16	626256

In view of the requests of various State Governments, including Maharashtra, for restoration of kerosene quota, the Government has however, taken a considered decision to allow the States/UTs to draw one month of quota of PDS kerosene at non-subsidized rates during each financial year *w.e.f.* 2012-13 for special needs.

Security challenges of TAPI pipeline project

2188. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Turkmenistan is confident of overcoming security challenges to the TAPI pipeline projects and the same was communicated to Indian Government during the recent visit of officials at the high level delegation;

(b) whether the 10 billion US dollars 1735 km project is one of the those great ideas in regional cooperation, that hasn't materialized until now, if so, the details thereof and reasons for delay; and

(c) whether there are concerns about Taliban attacks in Afghanistan and the prevailing situation in Pakistan, if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The Ground Breaking ceremony to start the work on the Turkmen leg of the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) Pipeline was held at Mary, Turkmenistan on 13th December 2015. India was represented by Hon'ble Vice President at the event and during his meeting with the President of Turkmenistan, the later expressed optimism and confidence regarding successful completion of the project over coming all challenges.

(b) The 1814 km TAPI Project will be spread across four participating countries. While there are challenges due to terrain conditions, following the feasibility report and technical study conducted by relevant agencies, the overall project duration is estimated to be 6¾ years from the start of the Front End Engineering Design (FEED) process till handing over of the pipeline for commercial operation.