

has invoked arbitration disputing the claim of the Government of unjust benefit and restitution claimed in the aforesaid Ministry's notice dated 3.11.2016.

Formulation of consumer-friendly petroleum price policy

†936. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has taken/propose to take steps to formulate a consumer-friendly price policy by abolishing multi-layer tax system and by making production cost a basis for price fixing in view of ever rising prices of petroleum products;

(b) if so, the details thereof, till date; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Refining of crude oil is a process industry where crude oil is processed through several processing units. Each of these units produces intermediate products streams which results in difficulty in apportioning the total cost of individual refined products. Therefore, individual product-wise costs are not identified separately. OMCs are applying Trade Parity Pricing methodology to compute RSP of Petrol and Diesel and Import parity pricing methodology to compute the RSP of PDS Kerosene and Subsidized Domestic LPG.

Further, the Government has made the excise duty on Petrol and Diesel specific. Central Government is not levying customs and excise duty on sale of PDS Kerosene and Subsidized Domestic LPG.

Funds spent on welfare of locals in Auraiya, U.P. by GAIL

937. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether protests of people living around Pata in Auraiya District of Uttar Pradesh are increasing day-by-day as it has become very difficult to survive in that area due to continuous leakage of poisonous gas of GAIL plant;

(b) if so, steps taken by Government to improve the living standard of people living in that area, keeping in view their health related issues;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.