

The projected demand is monitored on a regular basis and necessary changes in the projections are made based on the prevailing sales trend, change in policies or any other factor which may influence the demand. Action is taken accordingly to meet any fluctuation in demand of LPG due to such factors.

Policy for regional employment in ONGC

4600. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes any policy for the regional employment in ONGC; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Recruitment in Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Limited is done in terms of ONGC Recruitment & Promotion Regulations, 1980. ONGC conducts its recruitment at two levels; centralized and on decentralized basis. For class-I posts, the recruitment is done on centralized basis. Class-II posts are filled only through promotion. Recruitment for class III and IV posts is decentralized and is done by various segments of ONGC by way of public notification.

Identification of shale oil and gas reserves

4601. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has carried out detailed studies through various national and international agencies for the identification of shale oil and gas reserves in the country;
- (b) if so, the potential of shale gas and oil in various part of the country;
- (c) how much success has been achieved so far by the various domestic and international companies engaged in exploration and exploitation of shale gas and oil in the country during the last three years; and
- (d) the details of steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to discover more oil and gas reserves in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Shale Gas Resource Assessment in

Indian Basin has been done by various national and international agencies. The details are as under:

- a. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Limited has estimated Shale Gas resources of 187.5 Trillion Cubic Feet (TCF) for 5 basins *i.e.* Cambay, KG, Cauvery, Ganga and Assam.
- b. Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI) has estimated Shale Gas resources of 45.8 TCF Gondwana basin.
- c. United States Geological Survey (USGS) estimated Technical Recoverable Shale Gas of 6.1 TCF for three basins, *i.e.* Cambay, KG and Cauvery. Further, USGS estimated Technical Recoverable volume of 62 million barrels of shale oil for Cambay Basin.

(c) In order to exploit shale gas and oil in the country, Government of India on 14th October, 2013 announced the Policy Guidelines for Exploration and Exploitation of Shale Gas and Oil by National Oil Companies (ONGC and Oil India Limited (OIL)) in their onland Petroleum Exploration License (PEL)/Petroleum Mining Lease (PML) areas awarded under the nomination regimes. In pursuance of this Policy, under the first phase of assessment ONGC has identified and initiated shale gas and oil exploration activities in 50 PEL/PML areas; and OIL has identified and initiated shale gas exploration activities in 6 PEL/PML areas. All blocks are still under exploration stage.

(d) Government of India has taken various policy/administrative steps to discover more oil and gas reserve in the country. Some of the steps taken by the Government are as under:

- (i) Implementation of Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP), Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) and setting up of National Data Repository (NDR) for Dissemination of Geo-Scientific data.
- (ii) Appraisal of unappraised Areas in various sedimentary basins under National Seismic Program and Multi-client Geo-scientific surveys/activities in order to enable systematic exploration in these areas.
- (iii) Re-Assessment of Hydrocarbon Resources of the country.

Acquisition of stakes in oil and gas field by ONGC Videsh

4602. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: