

non-compliance of given instructions, suitable action under MDG is taken against such defaulting distributors.

- (v) Government has launched intensive 'Safety Campaign' through print and electronic media highlighting safety norms in usage of LPG.

#### **CNG stations in Bengaluru**

3171. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) when the work to provide CNG and PNG gas to vehicles and domestic purpose in Dharwad, Belgaum and Tumkur in Karnataka was commenced;

(b) by when these are likely to commence operations;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in the entire Bengaluru region, there are just two CNG stations; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Ministry to increase the same in Bengaluru and set up stations in other areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) in the year 2015 has authorized M/s Megha Engineering and Infrastructure Limited (MEIL) for Tumkur and Belgaum and M/s Indian Oil Adani Gas Private Limited for Dharwad for development of city or local Natural Gas Distribution (CGD) networks in the State of Karnataka. The authorized entities are in the process of laying the pipelines.

(c) and (d) PNGRB on 18.2.2015 has authorized GAIL Gas Limited for development of CGD networks in the urban and rural areas of Bengaluru. Three CNG stations have been commissioned by GAIL Gas Limited in Bengaluru, out of which two stations are exclusively for Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC). Apart from these three CNG stations, one more CNG station for BMTC will be commissioned by June, 2017. Further, GAIL Gas has plans to construct another ten CNG stations in Bengaluru during 2017-18.

#### **Leasing out of crude oil storage capacity**

3172. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to lease out newly built underground crude oil storage capacity;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to fill up the storage capacity of Padur at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) In order to reduce budgetary support of Government of India towards filling up of Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) facilities with crude oil, the Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserve Ltd. (ISPRL), on 25 January 2017, signed the Definitive Agreement on Oil Storage and Management with Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) of UAE for filling up one of the two caverns at Mangalore SPR facility. The other cavern at Mangaluru and Vishakhapatnam SPR facility has been filled with crude by Government.

(c) For filling up Padur SPR facility, preliminary Expression of Interest (EoI) from reputed companies was invited.

#### **Distress sale of SAIL subsidiaries**

3173. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided not to go in for distress sale of three Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) subsidiaries such as Salem Steel Plant, Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Plant and Chandrapur Ferro Alloy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is also considering for a management that will turn around these; units; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) to (d) The Government has accorded 'in-principle' approval for strategic disinvestment of only three units of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) *i.e.* Visveswaraya Iron and Steel Plant (VISP), Bhadravati, Salem Steel Plant (SSP), Tamil Nadu and Alloy Steel Plant (ASP), Durgapur. These three units of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) have been consistently making losses. The entire process of the strategic disinvestment would be carried out with the help of a Transaction Adviser (TA), a Legal Adviser (LA) and an Asset Valuer (AV). The Request for Proposal (RFP) for appointment of TA, LA and AV have been uploaded on SAIL website.