

time high to about 70 million standard cubic meters per day as it doubles up efforts to raise domestic output to curb imports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the ONGC produced about 64 million metric standard cubic meter per day (mmscmd) of gas in November last year and this year the output is close to touching 70 mmscmd; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (d) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation's (ONGC) average natural gas production during the month of November, 2018 was 69.94 Million Standard Cubic Meters per Day (MMSCMD) as compared to 65.47 MMSCMD during the month of November, 2017. The rise in production is mainly from offshore fields of ONGC due to drilling of new wells.

High operating cost of Indian refineries

2371. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian refineries are facing high operating cost, high logistics cost and have no plug and play system for utilities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for the same?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The Indian Refining industry has continuously upgraded through benchmarking of its refineries with the global refining industry and steps have been taken to improve performance, reduce operating costs and enhance energy efficiency of refineries. The operating costs and refining costs depend upon refinery complexity, type of crude processed, product mix etc.. Refineries therefore optimise the operating cost while maximising net value addition. Indian refineries, for their operation, generally rely on captive power and utilities for their stable operation. However, in some refineries hydrogen and water supplies have been outsourced through BOO (Build, Own and Operate) and BOOT (Build, Own, Operate and Transfer) mode.

Reduction in production by OPEC and its allies

2372. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the decision by OPEC and its allies to cut oil

production by 1.2 million barrels per day starting January, 2019 can potentially increase prices and add to the country's woes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that with the reforms initiated by Government and US dollars 300 billion slated to be invested in the Indian hydrocarbon sector in the next ten years across the value chain, India's production will be able to keep pace with its rising demand; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The crude oil production and price fluctuation is a frequent market phenomenon and they are determined by many factors, including geo-political situations and demand and supply in the global market. Keeping in view India's energy security, Indian public and private companies source crude oil from diverse sources, depending on their technical and commercial considerations.

(c) and (d) In order to meet growing energy demand in the country and to establish required infrastructure, Government has given approval to several projects pertaining entire hydrocarbon value chain. These projects are at various stages of implementation.

Targets under PMUY

†2373. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of subsidy being provided to common consumers along with the State-wise details of LPG connections provided under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) since its inception till date; and

(b) the details of the targets fixed for the next three years under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) During the month of December, 2018, subsidy per cylinder on domestic LPG in Delhi was ₹ 308.60. State/UT-wise details of LPG connections released under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) as on 28.12.2018 are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Year-wise targets fixed and connections released under PMUY across the country are as under:—

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.