

worked out considering the volumes and prices prevailing at major international markets such as Henry Hub, National Balancing Point, Alberta and Russia. The formula has been finalized considering the requirements of producing and consuming sectors, and had tried to make a fine balance between their interests. The prices are notified every six month in accordance with said guidelines.

To incentivize additional production of natural gas, Government vide Notification dated 21st March, 2016 granted marketing including pricing freedom on natural gas produced from Deep water, Ultra deep water and High Pressure-High Temperature areas subject to ceiling price based on landed price of alternate fuels. Further, Government has also granted marketing and pricing freedom for sale of natural gas under Discovered Small Field Policy, Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy and Coal Bed Methane (CBM) contracts. In addition, Government *vide* Notification dated 28th February 2019 granted marketing and pricing freedom to those new gas discoveries whose Field Development Plan (FDP) will be approved for the first time after the Notification.

#### **Cracker and Petrochemical Complex at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh**

450. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is establishing a Cracker and Petrochemical Complex at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh under AP Reorganisation Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the present status of this project and whether a decision has been taken about the viability gap funding?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP), GAIL India Limited (GAIL) and HPCL signed a MoU on 27th January, 2017 at Vishakhapatnam for the Petrochemical Complex with an estimated cost of ₹ 32901 crore at Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh. Feasibility study has been carried out for the project. Oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) have indicated to the GoAP that Viability Gap Funding is necessary to make the project viable. GoAP has requested Government of India (GoI) to fund the Viability Gap for this Project. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has conveyed

to GoAP that Refinery and Petrochemical Projects are capital intensive projects and require huge amount of investment. It was also conveyed that the proposed project shall have a direct, indirect and induced impact on the economy of the Andhra Pradesh which shall, besides industrialisation, result in substantial increase in income, output, employment and tax earning in the State. Accordingly, State Government may take appropriate decision on the issue in overall interest of the State.

### **Connection and subsidies provided under PMUY**

†451. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the State-wise updated details of the gas connections and subsidies provided under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY)?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): State/UT-wise details of LPG connections released under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) are given in Statement (See below). Subsidy is given to PMUY beneficiaries as per applicable rates. Besides, a deposit free LPG connection is provided under PMUY with a cash assistance upto ₹ 1600 per connection to Oil Marketing Companies is borne by the Government. Total subsidy on domestic LPG including PMUY beneficiary provided by the Government in 2018-19 is ₹37, 220 crore.

### ***Statement***

#### ***State/UT-wise details of LPG connections released under PMUY***

| Sl. No. | State/UT                    | LPG connections released |
|---------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1       | 2                           | 3                        |
| 1.      | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 13,113                   |
| 2.      | Andhra Pradesh              | 3,90,947                 |
| 3.      | Arunachal Pradesh           | 44,698                   |
| 4.      | Assam                       | 34,93,420                |
| 5.      | Bihar                       | 85,66,691                |
| 6.      | Chandigarh                  | 88                       |
| 7.      | Chhattisgarh                | 29,98,474                |

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.