

1	2	3
22.	Lakhimpur	1.24
23.	Majuli	0.24
24.	Marigaon	1.28
25.	Nagaon	2.60
26.	Nalbari	1.56
27.	North Cachar Hills	0.23
28.	S Salmara Mankachar	0.73
29.	Sibsagar	0.90
30.	Sonitpur	1.40
31.	Tinsukia	1.06
32.	Udalguri	0.97
33.	West Karbi Anglong	0.17

#### **Inclusion of natural gas in GST**

2849. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has made a renewed request to the Finance Ministry for inclusion of natural gas in the ambit of GST to promote the use of the environment-friendly fuel by reducing multiplicity of taxes and improving business climate; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Article 279A (5) provides that Goods and Services Tax Council shall recommend the date on which GST shall be levied on petroleum crude, high speed diesel, motor spirit, natural gas and aviation turbine fuel. Thus while, petroleum products are included under GST, the date on which GST shall be levied on such products shall be as per decision of the Goods and Service Tax Council. All the States and Union Territories (UT) with Legislature are represented in the GST Council by their Minister-in-charge of Finance or Taxation or any other Minister nominated by

the State/UT. Any decision regarding levy of GST on petroleum products has to be decided as per recommendation of the GST Council. The matter for bringing excluded petroleum products including Natural Gas have been taken up with Ministry of Finance.

#### **Enhancement of crude oil storage capacity in the country**

2850. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any comprehensive scheme to enhance the storage capacity of crude oil considering the fact that energy demand in the country is forecasted to grow more than any other country in the world in the next two decades;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Government of India, through a Special Purpose Vehicle called Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserve Limited (ISPRL), has established Strategic Petroleum Reserves (SPR) facilities with total capacity of 5.33 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) at 3 locations, *viz.* Vishakhapatnam, Mangaluru and Padur. All these locations were commissioned and dedicated to the nation in February, 2019. As per the consumption pattern of 2017-18, the total capacity is estimated to provide for about 9.5 days of crude oil requirement. In addition, Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) currently have stock for 64.5 days. Hence, total capacity storage of crude oil and petroleum products is 74 days. Further, in 2018, Government has given 'in principle' approval for establishment of two additional SPR facilities with total storage capacity of 6.5 MMT at two locations *viz.* Chandikhol in Odisha and Padur in Karnataka.

#### **Changes in process of gas pump allocation**

†2851. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the State Governments with whom agreements have been signed by gas companies for gas-pumps;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.