

Exclusion of Private oil Companies from Oil Subsidy

1494. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering exclusion of privately owned Oil Companies like Reliance Petroleum for subsidizing supplies of LPG and Kerosene meant for weaker sections of the society;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would come forward to make it mandatory for the oil industry, including private sector, to "share its burden of supporting the weaker sections?"

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) As per the Government decision on dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) in the petroleum sector, the Government subsidy on PDS kerosene and Domestic LPG is on flat rate basis and after accounting for the same, the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) could vary the retail selling prices in line with the variations in the international prices of these products.

PDS kerosene and Domestic LPG are domestic fuels of mass consumption. Passing of higher international prices of these products in the domestic selling prices would have hurt the consumers. The matter was therefore re-examined and it was decided in the consumer interest that the OMCs will not increase the selling prices of these products during 2003-04 and the resultant under-recoveries of OMCs would be absorbed/ shared amongst the oil companies.

As it is the Government decision to freeze the prices of PDS Kerosene and domestic LPG upto 31.3.2004, as such in a deregulated scenario, the burden on this account has to be shared/absorbed amongst the Government companies and the private companies are not being asked to share such burden.

Employees killed in ONGC Helicopter crash

1495. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question

No. 18 given in the Rajya Sana on the 2nd December, 2003 and state:

(a) whether an ONGC Helicopter crashed in the month of August this year into the Arabian Sea; and

(b) if so, the details of ONGC employees killed in the mishap and compensation paid to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir. A MI-172 helicopter chartered by Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) from MESCO Airlines had crashed into Arabian Sea on 11th August, 2003.

(b) The details of ONGC employees killed in the mishap and compensation paid to dependents of the deceased are given in the Statement enclosed. (*See below*)

Statement

Details of ONGC employees killed in Helicopter crash

Payment made to the nominees of the Dependent of Deceased of ONGC who died in Crash of Helicopter on 11.08.2003.

SI. No.	Name of deceased employees	Total Compensation payment made (IN RUPEES)
01	Akshay Mathias SE(D)	50,29,066
02	T.K. Sarkar SE(E)	53,60,352
03	A.K. Das Dy. SE(M)	45,32,367
04	B. Sahay Dy. SE(E)	46,56,995
05	Ajoy Sinha Dy SE(M)	44,67,536
06	V.K. Dabholkar JT(M)	31,95,981
07	K.H. Pailarkar R/A-I	31,07,033
08	S.R. Roy SC	48,37,300
09	CM. Naithani DSE(C)	55,54,499
10	R.R Biswas SE(D)	50,91,299
11	D.V. Sawant JT(M)	30,13,907

Sl. No.	Name of deceased employees	Total Compensation payment made (IN RUPEES)
12	A.K. Singh SE(D)	48,06,868
13	A.J. Mhatre AGI-(MM)	32,22,956
14	H.B. Pokale R/A-II	30,87,412
15	S.H. Dangle Topman	32,27,322
16	S.D. Kodag DGM(M)	61,56,913
17	R.M. Murthy AEE(D)	36,49,742
18	D.J. Jani Dy SE(M)	48,80,766
19	S.K. Dey	20,02,810
20	J.J. Vorkey	45,20,881

Natural Gas in Tripura

1496. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of natural gas in the gas reserves of the country as on 1st April, 2003;

(b) the quantity of natural gas in the gas reserves of the State of Tripura as on 1st April, 2003;

(c) the quantity of natural gas that may be released in Tripura every year and the quantity being actually released;

(d) the details of the project Government desire to set up in Tripura during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(e) the projects basing natural gas to set up by the State of Tripura?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b)