if so, the average processing cost in the public sector companies separately; and

the said estimated processing cost in the private companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Oil refining being a continuous process industry with multi product, output, product-wise cost of production is not worked out. The overall cost of production varies from company to company. With the dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM), the production costs of the oil companies are not compensated by the Government. However, in a free market scenario the companies would be compelled to minimise the production cost.

Prices of petroleum products

†4748. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

whether consumer sale prices for diesel, petrol, naphtha, fuel oil, kerosene, LPG, etc. have been increased and decreased several times in the country between 1st April, 2002 to 16th April, 2003;

if so, the dates on which these prices were increased and decreased alongwith the prices of each of the said items fixed at that time; and

the price of the crude oil assessed in the international market for the fixation of the consumer sale prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The details of revisions in the selling prices of petrol, diesel, PDS kerosene and domestic LPG at Delhi from 1 st April, 2002 to 16th April, 2003 are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) With the dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) in the petroleum sector, the pricing of all petroleum products except for PDS kerosene and domestic LPG which are subsidized products, has been decontrolled. The oil companies are now fixing the prices of petroleum products after taking into consideration *inter alia* the prevalent prices of petroleum products in the international oil market.

[†]Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

RAJYA SABHA

Statement
Revisions in the retail selling prices of Petrol, Diesel, PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG at Delhi between 1st April, 2002 to 16th April, 2003 was as under:

As on	Petrol	Diesel	PDS Kerosene	Domestic LPG
	Rs/Ltr	Rs/Ltr.	Rs/Ltr.	Rs./Cylinder
1.4.2002	26.54	16.59	8.98	240.45
16.4.2002	-	-	-	-
1.5.2002	-	-	-	-
1.6.20002	-	-	-	-
4.6.2002	28.94	17.99	-	-
16.62002	29.18	18.23	-	-
1.7.2002	-	-	-	-
1.8.2002	-	-	-	-
16.8.2002	29.00	18.05	-	-
1.9.2002	29.20	18.34	-	-
16.9.2002	29.66	18.68	-	-
1.10.2002	29.91	18.91	-	-
1610.2002	-	-	-	-
17.10.2002	30.24	19.23	-	-
1.11.2002	30.26	19.25	-	241.20*
1611.2002	29.57	18.57	-	-
1.12.2002	28.91	18.06	-	-
16.12.2002	-	-	-	-
1.1.2003	-	-	-	-
3.1.2003	29.33	19.07	-	-
16.1.2003	30.33	19.47	-	-
1.2.2003	30.71	19.84	-	-
162.2003	-	-	-	-
1.3.2003	32.10	21.21	-	-
16.3.2003	33.49	22.12	-	-
1.4.2003	-	-	-	-
164.2003	32.49	21.12	-	-

^{*}Revision due to increase in LPG Distributor's Commission.