

PETROLEUM

Summary of Questions Asked

Various issues like smooth supply of CNG, Mahanagar Gas, LPG, development of new Petrol Pump highlighted.

- 1) **Mahanagar Gas :-** Putting North East Mumbai on the Map of Mahanagar Gas. Getting supply of Mahanagar Gas to Mulund (West), Mulund (East). Implementation of the supply by pipelines to residential areas of Bhandup, Kanjur Marg, Vikhroli and to cover whole North East Mumbai is in progress. The whole North East Mumbai will be covered by the end of 2004. Direct benefit to more than 7 lakhs people.
- 2) **Mahanagar Gas in Mumbai :-** Raising issues through Parliament Questions. A project to provide 626000 connections (houses) to supply gas by pipeline covering whole of Mumbai costing Rs.1064.66 crores expected to be completed by 2008.
- 3) **Petrol Pump at Mulund East :-** At last Mulund East people will have Petrol Pump near Highway junction. Pump is sanctioned, will start functioning in the year 2003.
- 4) **CNG Supply :-** Follow up to have 45 new CNG outlets by the end of June, 2003 covering 50,000 vehicles. Getting sanction, more CNG supply for taxis, tempos, and trucks of Mumbai.
- 5) **Supply to RCF :-** Consistent follow up to increase gas supply from ONGC – GAIL to RCF, Chembur.



NON-CONVENTION ENERGY SOURCES

LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 1168

ANSWERED ON 01.03.2001

SUPPLY OF GAS TO RCF BY GAIL/ONGC

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

- (a) Whether ONGC/GAIL have reduced the gas supply to RCF in Mumbai whereas the gas supplied to the private industry has not been curtailed in the similar proportion to the Government PSUs;
- (b) if so, the reasons for short supply and the manner by which the Government has planned to cover it;
- (c) whether the Government propose to give more weightage to RCF while considering the quota to the Government PSUs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

- (a) & (b): In view of the overall shortfall in the availability of natural gas from the Mumbai High fields, the gas supplies to all the consumers ex-Uran have been curtailed by making pro-rata cuts as compared to their allocations, after giving priority to feedstock consumers like Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF).
- (c) Apart from priority to feedstock consumers, no additional weightage is proposed to be given to the Public Sector Undertakings as compared to other consumers.
- (d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3584

ANSWERED ON 12.12.2002

OIL PSU(S) NEAR MAHUL, MUMBAI

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

- (a) whether the Oil PSUs of Chembur, Mumbai have considered alternative outlet for their refineries near Chembur;
- (b) if so, whether the BPCL, HPCL and Union Government have studied the proposal of Maharashtra Government to jointly develop Anik-Panjrapore Road as an alternative road; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and further reaction thereto?

ANSWER

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) & (c) Detailed proposal from Government of Maharashtra for construction of Anik - Panjra Pole bypass road is yet to be received by Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL).

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3714

ANSWERED ON 12.12.2002

SUPPLY OF GAS TO RCF BY GAIL AND ONGC

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

- (a) whether RCF, Mumbai Unit has been incurring losses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether GAIL and ONGC are not providing gas in sufficient quantum to RCF, Mumbai;
- (d) if so, whether, the Government have taken any steps to improve gas supply to RCF, Mumbai; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

- (a)&(b) Yes, Sir. RCF has reportedly incurred loss of Rs.133.47 crores (provisional) during the first six months of the current financial year i.e. April to September, 2002.
- (c) The present allocation of natural gas ex-Uran is 16.6 Million Standard Cubic Meter Per Day (MMSCMD) against the availability of around 9.0 MMSCMD, therefore, pro-rata cuts are effected on all consumers including RCF.
- (d)&(e) Additional supply to RCF, Mumbai can be augmented when re-gassified Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) would be available from Dahej LNG terminal from the year 2004-05.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3683

ANSWERED ON 16.08.2001

PRODUCTION AND IMPORT OF TAR

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

- (a) the production capacity and requirement of Tar in the country;
- (b) whether Tar is being imported;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Tar imported from Iran is cheaper one;
- (e) if so, whether there is any treaty entered with Iran for import of Tar; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

- (a) The production/Demand of Bitumen during 2000-01 and estimates during 2001-02 are as under:-

(Figures in TMT)

Production	Demand	
2000-01(ACT)	2,721	2,714
2001-02(EST)	2,729	2,726

- (b) to (f) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 792

ANSWERED ON 27.07.2000

SUPPLY OF GAS BY GAIL AND ONGC

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

- (a) whether Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) are suffering from shortage in gas supply;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether regular customers including PSUs like RCF, HPCL, BPCL have complained regarding irregular supply by GAIL and ONGC;
- (d) if so, the details of the demand and present production;
- (e) whether the Government have started importing gas in order to regulate the supply;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether the Government have considered the matter of gas supply by MNCs like ENRON; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

- (a) to (d) As against the contracted quantity of natural gas ex-Uran, Maharashtra, of over 15 Million Standard Cubic Metre Per Day (MMSCMD), the present availability for supply is in the range of 9.5 to 10.5 MMSCMD only. Over the years, the crude oil production from the Mumbai High and the satellite fields has been declining and consequently the production of associated gas has also declined. In the circumstances, gas consumers like RCF, HPCL, BPCL etc., who are drawing gas ex-Uran, have made representations against the gas supplies being less than their allocations.
- (e) to (h) There is no restriction on import of Natural Gas and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). Several projects are on the anvil in this regard including LNG import project of Enron at Dabhol. The LNG importers have the right to directly market the re-gassified LNG.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 1138

ANSWERED ON 07.03.2002

ACQUIRING OF IBP BY IOCL

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

- (a) Whether his Ministry has studied the offer of IOCL to acquire IBP;
- (b) if so, the details thereof with reasons behind paying such a high price;
- (c) Whether IOCL has studied the changed shareholding pattern during January 1, 2002 to February 7, 2002 in IBP to mobilize maximum profit by major manipulators, investors due to the open offer;
- (d) If so, the details thereof;
- (e) Whether there are chances of competitor bidder's simultaneously gathering IBP shares from the market in the name of front companies has been studied;
- (f) If so, whether data will be collected from SEBI, NSDL, IBP, BSE, NSE to check the misuse of open offer clause;
- (g) If so, whether IOCL propose to take care that maximum benefit of open offer be given to small investors; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

- (a) to (d) The offer of IOCL was based on commercial considerations taking into account the need to strengthen IOCL's future competitiveness, among other relevant factors. It was not possible to foresee at the time of bidding any possible changes in future in shareholding pattern, or possible manipulations, because of the open offer to be made by IOCL.
- (e) & (f) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) looks into the cases of misuse of open offer clause under its regulations.
- (g) Open offer by IOCL is required to be in accordance with the SEBI regulations and guidelines and without discretion or favour to a particular class of investors which may be in violation of the regulations.
- (h) Does not arise.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 4357

ANSWERED ON 24.04.2000

REQUIREMENT OF MUMBAI HIGH GAS TO MUMBAI REFINERY

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

- (a) the requirement of Mumbai High gas to Mumbai Refinery;
- (b) the actual allocation of Mumbai High gas being made to the refinery;
- (c) the reasons for not allocating the required gas to refinery;
- (d) whether the Government of Maharashtra has requested to the Union Government to allocate adequate supply of gas to Mumbai Refinery as per their requirement; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reponse of the Union Government thereto?

ANSWER

- (a) & (b) As against their present requirement of natural gas of 0.5 million standard cubic metres per day (MMSCMD), the allocation made to the refinery of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Mumbai is 0.05 MMSCMD.
- (c) The availability of natural gas ex-Uran is far lower than the existing allocations to various consumers in the region.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2774

ANSWERED ON 06.12.2001

SALE OF GASOHOL PETROL

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

- (a) whether the Government have decided to sell gasohol petrol all over the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Bureau of Indian Standard has approved the gasohol petrol; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which it is different from the petrol?

ANSWER

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) Government have decided to supply Gasohol, which is petrol doped with ethanol upto 5% in the country in two phases, for which modalities are at formulation stage.
- (c) Blending of alcohol upto 5% is already within BIS specification no. BIS 2796-2000.
- (d) Blends containing 5% ethanol is regarded as petrol only and these blends are rich in oxygen and help in reducing carbon monoxide emissions.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 1738

ANSWERED ON 28.11.2002

OPENING OF RETAIL OUTLETS AT MUMBAI

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to open retail outlet dealership at Mulund (East), Mumbai;
- (b) whether the Government have given any instructions to the oil industry to examine the feasibility of opening of retail outlet dealership at the above location;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any feasibility report has been submitted by the oil industry to the Ministry in regard to the above proposal;
- (e) if so, the outcome thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

(a) to (f): The Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. has a proposal for setting up a retail outlet dealership at Mulund (East), Mumbai. The Letter of Intent(LOI) for this dealership was issued in April, 2002. The LOI was subsequently withdrawn in accordance with the decision of the Government to cancel allotments of dealerships/ distributorships made since 1.1.2000 on the recommendations of the Dealer Selection Board (DSBs).

In addition to the above, the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. has a proposal for setting up a retail outlet dealership at the location 'Eastern Express Highway' in Mumbai district covering the area between Sion and Mulund (East). Though this location was advertised in April, 2000, the selection of the dealer could not take place as the DSBs were dissolved by the Government on 9.5.2002.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2965

ANSWERED ON 07.12.2000

LPG GAS SUPPLY BY MAHANAGAR GAS IN MUMBAI

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

- (a) whether the plan to supply LPG gas by Mahanagar Gas for the whole of Mumbai has been finalised;
- (b) if so, whether Mahanagar Gas has started providing gas through pipelines in the suburbs of Mumbai;
- (c) if so, the target date for covering the whole Mumbai and the progress made so far in this direction;
- (d) whether the pipeline gas is cheaper than cylinder gas; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

(a) to (c) Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) is currently supplying piped natural gas to 35,000 domestic, 20 industrial and 266 commercial establishments in different areas of Greater Mumbai. MGL has plans to expand, by next year, the existing natural gas pipeline network covering the areas of Chembur, Ghatkopar, Malad, Kandivili and Andheri(West). The project for providing 6,26,000 connections for supply of piped natural gas in the entire city of Mumbai at an estimated cost of Rs.1064.66 crore is expected to be completed by 2008-09.

(d) & (e) Currently, the piped natural gas is cheaper than the Liquified Petroleum Gas(LPG) supplied in bottles. The difference in prices varies from location to location and from time to time.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 4989

ANSWERED ON 19.04.2001

LNG TERMINAL AT CHEMBUR-TROMBAY IN MAHARASHTRA

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

- (a) whether an LNG terminal at Chembur-Trombay in Maharashtra is being set up with joint venture between Tata Group and Gas Authority of India Limited;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the total cost of the project;
- (c) whether the local residents of Chembur and Trombay are agitating since long against the setting up of this plant in that area;
- (d) if so, the reasons for their resentment;
- (e) whether such type of plants prove hazardous in densely populated areas;
- (f) whether the Government propose to shift this plant to some other place keeping in view the safety of the residents of Chembur and Trombay; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

- (a) Yes, Sir. M/s Total Gas and Power India, a subsidiary of M/s Totalfina Elf of France is the third joint venture partner.
- (b) The project involves setting up the liquefied natural gas(LNG) terminal of 3 million tonnes per annum capacity at an estimated cost of Rs.2,500 crores and is targeted for completion during the later part of 2005. There are plans to double the capacity in the future.
- (c)& (d) The public hearing for the project was completed in November 2000 and only thereafter the State Government has recommended for environmental clearance.
- (e) The proposed LNG terminal is designed with adequate safety measures and there are similar kinds of plants located in other densely populated cities in the world.
- (a) & (g) No, Sir As the safety requirements have been taken into account, there is no need for shifting the proposed LNG terminal.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3996

ANSWERED ON 17.08.2000

INVESTMENTS BY FIIS IN HPCL BPCL IOC AND IBP

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

- (a) whether Government have studied the increasing investment of Foreign Institutional Investors and also Mauritius based Foreign Institutional Investors in four major oil sector PSUs viz. HPCL, BPCL, IOC, IBP;
- (b) if so, whether the Indian Financial Institutions like UTI, IDBI have sold major chunk of oil sector PSUs during the last two years;
- (c) if so, whether the equity from the share holders register this equity directly or indirectly has gone in the hands of Foreign Institutional Investors;
- (d) if so, whether it may affect the disinvestment process of PSUs mentioned above; and
- (e) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

- (a),(b)& (c) : Buying and selling of shares by FIIs (within the law and regulations of the land) is a normal and day to day activity and the level of investments by them is constantly changing. Hence, it is not feasible to study the increase and decrease in level of their holdings (both direct and indirect) which are within the permissible limits as per law and regulations of the land.
- (d) Disinvestment in oil PSUs is based on the Government Policy on disinvestment, whereas, percentage of shares held by a particular investors or a group of investors in a particular company is governed under the guidelines/regulations of RBI/SEBI.
- (e) The level and percentage of holding of shares by an entity is governed by RBI/SEBI regulations and law of the land.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2863

ANSWERED ON 15.03.2001

IMPORT OF LPG AND KEROSENE

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

- (a) whether the Government are going in for the increased import of LPG and Kerosene;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Indian Oil Corporation Limited has floated a tender for buying Kerosene;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether there is shortage of Kerosene in the country particularly in the rural areas; and
- (f) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to meet the demand?

ANSWER

- (a) & (b): The LPG imports during 2001-02 are expected to be higher than the present level due to increase in domestic demand being more than the increase in domestic availability. Imports of kerosene next year are expected to be less than the present level.
- (c) & (d): Indian Oil Corporation Limited has floated a tender for import of kerosene oil during March 2001.
- (e) & (f): Government has not received any report this year on the shortage of kerosene oil in the country.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2937

ANSWERED ON 21.03.2002

JOINT VENTURE BY GAIL AND HPCL

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

- (a) whether the Government have given consent to form a joint venture of GAIL and HPCL;
- (b) if so, the objectives of this joint venture;
- (c) whether this joint venture company is going to make available LPG in the city of Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the participation of the Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard and whether the Government is asking the company to have private participation; and
- (f) if so, the policy of the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

- (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, Gas Authority of India Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 19.02.2002 for preparation of a detailed techno-economic feasibility report to finalize formation of a Joint Venture Company for distribution of eco-friendly fuels like natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas and compressed natural gas in the cities of Andhra Pradesh for domestic, commercial and transport sectors.
- (d) to (f) Does not arise in view of (a) to (c) above.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 2716

ANSWERED ON 06.12.2001

GAS THROUGH PIPELINE IN MUMBAI

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

- (a) whether Mahanagar Gas is not able to fulfill its commitment to provide gas via pipeline in Mumbai;
- (b) whether Mahanagar Gas were to start supply of gas in Eastern Suburb, particularly Mulund (East) and Mulund (West) before Diwali this year;
- (c) if so, the reasons for its delay;
- (d) if so, whether the pipeline has been laid in the eastern suburbs of Bhandup, Vikhroli, Kanjurmarg;
- (e) if so, the programme and time schedule for supply of gas in these areas; and
- (f) if not, the reasons of such long delay?

ANSWER

- (a) No, Sir. Since its inception in May, 1995, Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) - a Joint Venture Company of Gas Authority of India Limited, British Gas Plc. and Government of Maharashtra has connected 74,522 domestic consumers for supply of piped natural gas out of the 3.15 lakh (approximately) potential domestic consumers covering Chembur, Deonar, Goandi, Chunabhatti, Kurla(East), Pant Nagar, Kala Nagar, Bandra (East & West), Andheri (East & West), Ghatkopar (West), Juhu, Varsova, Vile Parle (East & West), Goregaon, Malad, Kandivali, Mulund (West) and Vikhroli (East) in Mumbai.
- (b) MGL is already supplying piped natural gas to domestic consumers in various parts of Eastern Suburbs including Mulund (West), where 3,800 domestic consumers have so far been connected. MGL has plans to expand the existing piped gas network to Mulund (East) during the current construction season.
- (c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.
- (d) to (f) MGL has since laid the gas pipeline in the Eastern Part of Kanjurmarg (near Crompton Greaves Plant and Jolly Board Plant) and Vikhroli (Godrej Plant). MGL is in the process of carrying out feasibility study on expansion of piped gas supply in Bhandup (East), Kanjurmarg and Vikhroli including Kannamwar Nagar and Tegore Nagar. The job for domestic connection in these areas is expected to be taken up during October 02, 2002 onwards after the technical feasibility is completed.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 1656

ANSWERED ON 28.11.2002

GAS PIPELINES FOR MULUND (E)

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

- (a) whether laying down the gas pipelines work for Mulund has since been completed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of connections provided from this gas pipeline and money collected;
- (d) the time by which the entire Mulund(E) is likely to be covered by pipelines;
- (e) whether any representations have been received on the functioning of pipeline project; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

(a) to (f): Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL), a joint venture company of Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL), British Gas, UK and Government of Maharashtra are executing the project for supplying of compressed natural gas (CNG) and piped natural gas (PNG) in different parts of Mumbai including Mulund. MGL has already laid down 83 Kms. of medium and low-pressure pipeline providing PNG facility in Mulund area. Out of 83 Kms., 56 Kms. have been laid in Mulund (West) and 27 Kms. in Mulund (East). The entire pipeline laying work in Mulund area would be completed in two years time.

So far, MGL has connected over 11700 domestic consumers with PNG facility. MGL is recovering connection charges of Rs.5000 in case of bulk registration scheme (BRS) and Rs.6500 in case of individual registration scheme (IRS). These charges are recovered in three easy installments in a phased manner.

Appropriate actions are taken on representations received from time to time regarding Mahanagar Gas Project.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 547

ANSWERED ON 21.11.2002

DEMAND OF CNG IN MUMBAI

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

- (a) whether the Government have taken any action to make available enough CNG in Mumbai;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Mahanagar Gas Ltd. is not able to provide enough CNG to stations;
- (d) whether taxi or auto-rickshaw drivers have to wait in a queue;
- (e) if so, the steps taken to meet the situation;
- (f) whether High Court has given deadline for the same; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

(a) to (e) Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) a Joint Venture Company of Gas Authority of India Limited, British Gas and Government of Maharashtra has been incorporated to supply CNG in Mumbai. Presently, MGL has compression capacity of 3,18,000 Kg/day and have 37 outlets and 144 dispensing points. MGL is meeting the CNG requirement of about 53,000 vehicles. The average sale of CNG is about 2,25,000 Kg/day. In order to meet the increasing demand of CNG in Mumbai, MGL has planned to increase the compression capacity to 6,00,000 Kg/day, CNG stations to 63 and dispensing points to 270 by June, 2003.

There has been some waiting time for vehicles during peak hours, which mainly is on account of space constraints and some time due to reduction of pressure of gas. With the increase in compression capacity and number of CNG stations, the waiting time would be reduced.

(f) & (g) Yes, Sir. High Court of Mumbai have set the deadline for phasing out/ conversion of the vehicles to clean fuel i.e., CNG/LPG from March 2002 to January, 2004 for different vehicles depending on the age and type of the vehicle.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 905

ANSWERED ON 23.11.2000

CONSUMPTION AND REQUIREMENT OF LPG

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

- (a) the Annual consumption of petrol, diesel and LPG in the country during the last two years, year-wise;
- (b) whether the Government have assessed the anticipated additional requirement of LPG for domestic use and commercial use in the country during the next three years, year-wise;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the indigenous production of petrol, diesel and LPG is sufficient to meet the growing demand in the country; and
- (e) if not, the quantity imported of the same including crude oil during the last two years and the quantity proposed to be imported during the next 2-3 years?

ANSWER

- (a) The annual consumption of Petrol, Diesel and LPG in the country including imports/sales by private parties during the last two years is as given below:

(Figs. In TMT)

	1998-99	1999-2000
Petrol	5507	5909
Diesel	37217	39295
LPG	5352	6422

- (b)&(c): PSU oil companies have entrusted a demand study/survey on an all India basis to an agency with specific terms of reference to assess the LPG demand in the country for each year from 2000-01 to 2009-10 for different sectors including Automotive Sector.
- (d) During the current year (2000-01), the indigenous production of Petrol and Diesel is sufficient to meet the demand in the country. Indigenous production of LPG is not sufficient to meet the demand in the country and the gap between supply-demand is being met by imports.
- (e) The actual imports of crude oil, Petrol, Diesel and LPG including imports of Private Sector for the last two years 1998-99, 1999-2000 are given as under:

(Figs. In TMT)

	1998-99	1999-2000
Crude Oil	39808	57805
Petrol	251	-
Diesel	10231	5006
LPG	1722	1587

Quantity proposed to be imported during the next 2-3 years has not been assessed.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 4634

ANSWERED ON 23.08.2001

**CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
NEAR OIL PSUS IN MUMBAI**

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

- (a) Whether the Government are aware of new construction and development coming up near Oil PSUs at Mahul Mumbai;
- (b) if so, whether the local residents, MP and also Oil PSUs have drawn attention of his Ministry towards security threat in this area;
- (c) if so, whether his Ministry has taken serious note of the same;
- (d) if so, whether BPCL, HPCL, IOC have written to his Ministry and to the Ministry of Home Affairs in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the observations made by them and the action taken thereon?

ANSWER

- a) to c) : Yes, Sir. Representations have been received relating to security hazards caused due to traffic congestion on the roads leading to the two refineries of HPCL and BPCL at Mumbai and alleged unauthorised constructions in their vicinity.
- d) & e) : The matter has been taken up by the effected PSUs, BPCL & HPCL with the concerned Central & State Government authorities/agencies.

The Government of Maharashtra has been requested to initiate the following actions:-

- (i) Removal of congestion of traffic along the roads approaching HPCL and BPCL refineries at Mumbai including other installations such as Tata Electric, IDBL, BARC etc., and regulating, construction of residential colonies in the vicinity of these undertakings;
- (ii) Early completion of acquisition proceedings of land for BPCL contiguous to the Refinery to help elimination of the potential security threat to the Refinery; and
- (iii) Advise the Collector, Mumbai Suburban District, to remove the container storage activity of M/s. Bombay Industrial Corporation in the vicinity of HPCL Refinery.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 6538

ANSWERED ON 09.05.2002

CNG STATIONS IN MAHARASHTRA

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

- (a) whether the Government have taken any steps to minimize the waiting at CNG filling stations in Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai due to shortage of outlet;
- (b) if so, whether the Bandra Kurla Complex and other area both in Central and suburban Mumbai have been surveyed and requirement evaluation conducted;
- (c) if so, the number of filling stations and locations on which it is proposed to set up;
- (d) the target fixed for its completion; and
- (e) the catering capacity of each filling station?

ANSWER

- (a) Mahanagar Gas Limited has doubled the compression capacity at the outlet.
- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) & (d) MGL is setting up a total of 45 CNG outlets progressively by June 2003 of, which about 21 would be in city and balance would be in suburbs.
- (e) Each CNG outlets caters to about 1000 vehicles of different categories.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 4483

ANSWERED ON 24.04.2000

CLOSURE DIVISION OF BALMER LAWRIE COMPANY LTD.

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

- (a) whether Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited has decided to close down the Oleochemicals and Specialities Division at Taloja ;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor ;
- (c) whether the company has incurred a huge losses during the last few years ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ;
- (e) whether the Government/Board of the company have received any requests for reviewing the earlier decisions of closing down the company ; and
- (f) if so, the reaction of the Government/Board of the company thereto ?

ANSWER

- (a) to (d) : The plant of Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited at Taloja has become unviable.
- (e)&(f) : A suggestion was received by company on behalf of affected workers to continue their jobs or transfer to any other division or for enhancement of their closure compensation etc. The company has agreed to increase the closure compensation.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 4812

ANSWERED ON 19.12.2002

AWARDING OF NELP-III BLOCKS

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

- (a) the status of NELP-I and NELP-II;
- (b) the reasons ONGC has not achieved result till now from NELP-I&II;
- (c) the beneficiaries of NELP-III, II and I; and
- (d) the plan of the department to tackle oil resource and requirement?

ANSWER

- (a) Government of India has signed Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) with various companies/ consortia for 24 blocks under NELP-I and for 23 blocks under NELP-II. Exploration work in these blocks is in progress in terms of the PSCs.
- (b) Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) is carrying out exploration activities in the blocks awarded to it as per work commitment in PSCs. Results of the exploration activities will be known only after the exploratory drilling is taken up by ONGC based on geo-scientific survey results.
- (c) Following companies, either solely or as consortium member, have been awarded exploration blocks under NELP-I, II and III :-
 - Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.
 - Oil India Ltd.
 - Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.
 - Gas Authority of India Ltd.
 - Reliance Industries Ltd.
 - Hardy Exploration & Production (India) Inc.
 - Niko Resources Ltd.
 - Gujarat State Petroleum Company Ltd.
 - Joshi Technologies Inc.
 - Cairn Energy India (Pty) Ltd.
 - OAO Gazprom
 - Hindustan Oil Exploration Company Ltd.
 - Mosbacher India LLC

- Energy Equity (India) Pty. Ltd.
 - Geo Global Resources Inc.
 - Jubilant Enpro (India) Ltd.
- (d) Government has made sustained efforts to accelerate and expand the exploration of oil and gas in the country. Government has signed 47 PSCs with various companies/consortia in NELP-I and NELP-II. Further, 23 blocks have been awarded under NELP-III. The process of identifying and offering areas to explore oil and gas is an ongoing process with a view to increase exploration. Steps have also been taken to increase production of oil by applying Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR) and Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) schemes. In order to supplement the domestic efforts, steps have also been taken to secure equity oil and gas from abroad.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 3493

ANSWERED ON 12.12.2002

BRITISH GAS AND GAIL STAKE IN MAHANAGAR GAS

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

- (a) whether British Gas and GAIL are considering to reduce their stake to 35% in Mahanagar Gas;
- (b) if so, the present shareholding pattern in Mahanagar Gas; and
- (c) the total investments by the Government in Mahanagar Gas and further reaction of the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

- (a) Eventually the percentage of shares of both GAIL (India) Limited and British Gas is to reach 35%.
- (b)&(c) M/s Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) is a Joint Venture Company promoted by GAIL (India) Limited, British Gas and Government of Maharashtra. There has been no direct investment by Government in MGL. The present share holding pattern of M/s Mahanagar Gas Limited is given below:

GAIL	:	49.75% (Equity Rs.44.45 Cr.)
British Gas	:	49.75% (Equity Rs.44.45 Cr.)
Government of Maharashtra	:	0.5% (Equity Rs.0.4416 Cr.)

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 666

ANSWERED ON 21.11.2002

DEVELOPMENT OF SOLAR AIR CONDITION SYSTEM

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government have taken note of a new research, development of solar air condition system;
- (b) if so, the details, thereof;
- (c) whether the system has been developed in foreign countries;
- (d) the details of the efforts being taken to develop the same; and
- (e) the details of the government policy in this regard?

ANSWER

(a) (b) & (c): Research & development has been pursued for many years in several countries to develop reliable and cost effective solar cooling systems for airconditioning and refrigeration. The systems developed so far include:

- Vapour absorption/adsorption refrigeration systems based on solar thermal energy
- Vapour compression refrigeration systems based on solar electricity
- Solar assisted desiccant cooling.

In the country, work is currently being pursued in IIT Bombay, IIT Madras and Tata Energy Research Institute both on absorption and adsorption based systems mainly for refrigeration purposes.

Several prototype systems based on the above principles have been made and demonstrated both in the country and elsewhere. Though the technical feasibility of solar cooling systems could be established, their reliability, economics and commercial viability are still to be improved.

- (d) Several R&D projects have been funded by the Ministry to various R&D organizations for basic studies in the area and also for development of solar refrigeration and airconditioning systems. Some demonstration projects based on different principles have been installed for field performance evaluation.
- (e) Solar refrigeration and airconditioning has been identified as one of the thrust areas under the Research & Development programme of the Ministry. Provision has been made for 50% cost sharing by the government for demonstration projects in the area for trying out various concepts under actual field conditions. Efforts are also being made under the Solar Buildings programme of the Ministry to introduce solar assisted building design principles for reducing cooling and heating loads of buildings.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 637

ANSWERED ON 21.11.2002

SOLAR WATER HEATER IN MAHARASHTRA

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the scheme of the Government regarding solar water heater has received good response in Maharashtra;
- (b) the number of solar water heater have been installed in Maharashtra during each of the last three years;
- (c) the manner in which the Government motivated and help the users; and
- (d) the details of the benefits and the steps taken to increase the use?

ANSWER

- (a) Yes, Sir. The soft loan scheme for financing solar water heaters being implemented through the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and some banks has received good response in Maharashtra.
- (b) Solar water heating systems employ devices known as solar collectors, which absorb solar radiation and transfer the heat to the water flowing through the collectors. A typical collector has an area of 2 sq.m. The number of collectors used in a system depends on the quantity of hot water required per day. Most domestic systems employ one or two collectors, while systems used in commercial and industrial establishments may employ 50-100 collectors or more. The total solar thermal collector area and the equivalent number of water heaters (using an average of 4 sq.m. per system) installed in Maharashtra during the last three years are estimated as follows:

Year	Total Solar Collector Area (Sq.m.)	Equivalent number of solar water heaters
1999-2000	8000	2000
2000-2001	13000	3250
2001-2002	14000	3500

- (c) Solar water heaters were first promoted by the government through a demonstration scheme and later on by providing direct subsidy to the users for about a decade. Since the technology became technically and commercially viable, the capital subsidy was discontinued and replaced by interest subsidy provided by government. Currently loans at reduced interest rates are being provided to users through seven designated banks and IREDA. To motivate and help the users, advertisements are issued and business meets / training programmes / exhibitions are often organized. Also to ensure deployment of reliable products, national standards for solar collectors have been formulated and use of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) certified products has been made mandatory for any project receiving government assistance.
- (d) It has been estimated that round the year use of a 100 litre capacity solar water heater can save around 1500 units of electricity and prevent emission of 1.5 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year.

Installation of such 1000 solar water heaters can also contribute to a peak load reduction of 1 MW.

To increase the use of solar water heaters in the country, the following steps have been taken:

- (i) A model amendment in building bye-laws making solar assisted water heating systems mandatory in certain categories of buildings has been formulated and the state governments / local bodies have been requested to incorporate the same in their building bye-laws. Provision has been made for financial assistance to the municipalities / municipal corporations / local bodies which incorporate the above modification in their building bye- laws to support training and awareness promotion activities.
- (ii) The bank scheme has been expanded to cover wider areas of the country to bring the benefits of the soft loans to more users.
- (iii) A few State Electricity Boards (SEBs) have announced rebates in electricity tariff for homes which have installed solar water heaters. Other SEBs have been requested to do the same.
- (iv) A special demonstration programme on cost sharing basis is being implemented in the North-Eastern states, Jammu & Kashmir and the Islands.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 5786

ANSWERED ON 30.08.2001

PRODUCTION OF ENERGY BY NCES IN MAHARASHTRA

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:-

- (a) the total amount of energy production by non-conventional method / sources in Maharashtra;
- (b) whether there is any new programme under consideration in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

- (a) The Ministry is implementing wide ranging programmes based on major non-conventional energy sources such as solar, wind, small hydro and biomass for production of non-conventional energy throughout the country including the State of Maharashtra. It is estimated that about 576.38 million units of energy have been produced in the State of Maharashtra from these major power generating programmes of non-conventional energy sources during 2000-01.
- (b) & (c): Apart from the regular decentralized and grid connected programmes of non-conventional energy, the wind energy generation programme is also being promoted in the State of Maharashtra in recent years. As a result, the wind generation capacity installed in the State of Maharashtra has gone up from 0.23 MW in 1997-98 to 110.60 MW in 2000-01.

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LOK SABHA

QUESTION NO 4159

ANSWERED ON 20.04.2000

WITHDRAWAL OF SUBSIDY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NCES

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the subsidy given by the Government for the development of non-conventional energy sources is revised or withdrawn;
- (b) whether the uniformity of sales tax has formally been accepted by all the State Governments and the subsidy provided by various States to these industries is withdrawn in its totality;
- (c) if so, whether the industry associations of non-conventional energy sources has approached the Government to give some alternative subsidy or requested the State Government to restore the subsidy; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

- (a) The financial subsidy provided by the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources for development of various programmes of non-conventional energy has not been withdrawn or revised during the current financial year.
- (b),(c)&(d): All the State Governments have not accepted the uniform sales tax formulation. There is no uniform subsidy provided by the States to non-conventional energy systems/devices. No proposal has been received from the Industry Associations of Non Conventional Energy Sources to provide alternate subsidy.

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