

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4958**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2018**

**IMPORT OF CRUDE OIL**

4958: SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to increase the oil mining and introduce alternates of crude oil to reduce its import and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government regulates the price of petroleum products produced from the imported crude oil and crude oil produced domestically in different tariffs and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the petroleum products produced from the domestic crude oil are exported to other countries and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS**  
**(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a) Government has taken several steps to enhance exploration & production of oil and gas and promote clean alternative fuels in order to reduce imports of crude oil. In order to increase domestic production, a number of policy initiatives have been taken which include inter-alia Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP) and Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP), Discovered Small Fields (DSF) Policy, gas pricing reforms with premium for difficult areas, grant of marketing freedom for gas produced from difficult areas, National Seismic Programme for unappraised areas, National Data Repository, easing out rigidities in the existing Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) and transparent and clear policy for grant of extension under the PSC regime. Government has also taken a number of initiatives to encourage the use of alternative fuels such as Ethanol and Bio Diesel and promote the conservation of petroleum products. Some of the important achievements/initiatives in these areas include inter-alia award of 30 hydrocarbon bearing contract areas under DSF Policy, launch of bids under OALP for 55 oil & gas blocks, approval of 40% capital grant under Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga to promote gas based economy, improvement in the supply of ethanol, direct sale of bio-diesel to all consumers for blending with High Speed Diesel and setting up of 2 G ethanol plants.

(b) The prices of petrol and diesel have been de-regulated with effect from 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2010 and 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2014 respectively, barring prices of PDS kerosene and subsidized domestic LPG. Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies decide on the prices of finished products in

line with the changes in the international markets. Prices of PDS kerosene and subsidized domestic LPG prices continue to be modulated by the Government, in order to insulate the common man from the impact of rise in international crude prices and the domestic inflationary conditions and the consumers continue to get these products at subsidized rates. The prices in the domestic market are uniform for these petroleum products, produced either from imported or domestic crude oil.

(c) Oil marketing companies - private and public - export petroleum products to various countries. 65.51 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) and 56.26 MMT of petroleum products were exported during 2016-17 and April'17 to January'18 respectively.

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