

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1332
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9th February 2023

Development of Gas and Petroleum Sector

† 1332. **SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA:**

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to prepare a long term plan for the development of the gas and petroleum sector of the country to reduce the import bill;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the amount of the import bill which is likely to be reduced due to the said long term plan; and
- (d) the other steps taken by the Government to reduce the import bill?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रामेश्वर तेली)

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)**

- (a) (b) Government has taken various long term policy initiatives to reduce the import bills which inter-alia include:
- i. Policy for Relaxations, Extensions and Clarifications under Production Sharing Contract (PSC) regime for early monetization of hydrocarbon discoveries, 2014.
 - ii. Discovered Small Field Policy, 2015.
 - iii. Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy, 2016.
 - iv. Policy for Extension of Production Sharing Contracts, 2016 and 2017.
 - v. Policy for early monetization of Coal Bed Methane 2017
 - vi. Setting up of National Data Repository, 2017.
 - vii. Appraisal of Un-appraised areas in Sedimentary Basins under National Seismic Programme, 2017
 - viii. Re-assessment of Hydrocarbon Resources 2017
 - ix. Policy framework to streamline the working of Production Sharing Contracts in Pre- NELP and NELP Blocks, 2018.
 - x. Policy to Promote and Incentivize Enhanced Recovery Methods for Oil and Gas, 2018.
 - xi. Policy framework for Exploration and exploitation of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) from areas under Coal Mining Lease allotted to Coal India Limited (CIL) and its subsidiaries 2018.
 - xii. Policy Framework for Exploration and Exploitation of Unconventional Hydrocarbons under Existing Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Contracts and Nomination Fields, 2018.

- xiii. Reforms in Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy for enhancing domestic exploration and production of oil and gas 2019.
- xiv. Natural Gas Marketing Reforms 2020.
- xv. Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiative was launched on 1st October 2018 wherein Oil and Gas Marketing Companies (OGMCs) invite Expression of Interest (EOI) to procure Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) from potential entrepreneurs. Till 31st December, 2022, 40 CBG plants with a total production capacity of around 225 tonnes per day have been commissioned. Further, Oil & Gas Marketing Companies participating in SATAT have issued around 3826 Letters of Intent to entrepreneurs for procurement of CBG. Sale of CBG has been initiated from 97 Retail Outlets and supply of CBG has been started in 12 Geographical Areas of City Gas Distribution (CGD) Network under CBG-CGD synchronization scheme.
- xvi. After 11A bidding round, PNGRB has authorised 295 geographical areas for development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) network spread over 630 districts across the Country which covers 98% population and 88% of geographical areas. As on 30.11.2022, over 102.03 Lakh Piped Natural Gas (PNG) connections have been given and 4918 CNG stations installed across the Country.

(c) The actual savings of foreign currency depends on various external factors like crude prices and prevailing foreign exchange (forex) rates etc. However, Ethanol blending in Petrol during the Ethanol Supply Year (ESY) 2021-22 (December 2021-November 2022) is estimated to have had an impact of over Rs. 22,500 crore on the import bill of crude oil and petroleum products.

(d) Towards reducing import bill, Government has set a target of achieving 500 GW installed capacity from non-fossil fuel based capacity (Hydro, Nuclear, Solar PV, Wind, Biomass etc.) by 2030. Further, Government has launched National Biofuel Policy, 2018, to boost availability of biofuels in country and use of alternative clean fuels like ethanol, bio-diesel and bio-CNG through Ethanol Blending, Bio-diesel blending and Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation. Programme for Compressed Bio-Gas are being implemented across the country involving various stakeholders initiative respectively with the objectives of reducing import dependence, promote clean fuel and provide boost to agriculture. As per Ministry of Power, significant addition to Thermal, Large Hydro and Nuclear Energy capacity is also underway.
