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

(a) whether the Government has recently released any official data for the year 2021 regarding production of crude oil in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether production of crude oil has shown a continuous decline during the last one year and ONGC has produced 4.18 per cent less oil during the last one year and if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is true that contrary to the production of petroleum, the production of natural gas has increased during the last one year and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has started gas production from newer fields in KG-D6 block and if so, the details thereof;

(e) the manner in which reduced production of petroleum and increased production of natural gas is going to affect the common man in the country; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to reduce the dependency of import of crude oil?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (e) Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell (PPAC) regularly releases data on production of crude oil and natural gas. Details of crude oil and natural gas production during 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 (April-December) are as under:
The decline in production of crude oil was due to natural decline and increase in water cut in wells of matured fields. Covid-19 lockdown restrictions and local/global supply chain disruptions also affected field operations. Production of gas from newer fields of KG-DWN-98/3 has also been started since December 2020. During 2020-21, it has produced 680.76 Million Metric Standard Cubic Meters (MMSCM) of natural gas. Increased production of gas inter alia helps expansion of City Gas Distribution network coverage thereby making available clean fuel to households, industrial & commercial units and vehicles.

(f) To spur domestic production and attract new entrants, a large number of policy initiatives have been taken such as awarding new exploration acreage, expediting production from new discoveries; focus on production maximization instead of revenue maximization and generation of geo scientific data. The Government has also taken various steps towards blending of ethanol which includes allowing use of sugarcane, damaged food grains and maize for conversion to ethanol. Thrust is being given to advanced biofuels such as Second Generation (2G) Ethanol, Bio CNG/ Compressed Bio Gas (CBG), Used Cooking Oil (UCO) based biodiesel etc which can be sourced from wastes such as crop residues, biomass, industrial waste, sewage water etc.