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Title: Need to appoint a Statutory Regulator for pricing of domestically produced natural gas .

SHRI D. VITTAL RAO (MAHABUBNAGAR): I would like to draw the attention of the house that recently GAIL has informed that ONGC will charge market prices at US\$ 4.6 per MMBTU. Recently, there has also been a hike in natural gas price from US\$ 4.5 MMBTU from Rawa fields. Due to the price increase, GAIL has stopped supply of gas from Rawa fields. This has resulted in substantial implication on price of power in Andhra Pradesh and an unjustifiable increase in power section tariffs. Such increase adversely impacted upon the overall economy of the country and benefited only producer and distributor having monopoly.

I, therefore, request the Government to appoint a Statutory Regulator for pricing of domestically produced natural gas and not to effect any increase in the current gas price of US\$ 3.3 per MMTBU.

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\* Treated as laid on the Table