

OFFICE OF THE LEADER OF OPPOSITION

Gujarat Vidhansabha, Gandhinagar.

Press Note

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Gujarat has got more during UPA rule than BJP led NDA

Leader of Opposition in the State Assembly, Shaktisinh Gohil has charged Gujarat government with misleading people about central finances to Gujarat by Congress led UPA rule. Speaking on Government resolution under Rule 120, Gohil said that Gujarat Chief Minister was raising false bogey of injustice to Gujarat for his short term gains. Government is exploiting people in all ways.

He also pointed out that instead of expressing gratitude to centre for its benevolent policies and approach, Gujarat was making commercial gain by selling cheap gas at a premium to the industry in Gujarat. He said that centre provided Gujarat gas at the rate of Rs 11 which it sold to the industry at Rs 23. Even after reduction in the rate of gas, Gujarat government is selling gas to the industry and transport at the rate of Rs 15.90.

He said that while criticizing the central government on all kind of flimsy grounds, Chief Minister forgets that for almost one year Gujarat is getting gas courtesy central government. He pointed out that the contract to provide gas to the state owned Gujarat State Petroleum Corporation ended in April 2008, but it is still getting gas.

Referring to the controversial issue of crude oil royalty, Gohil said that the central government had given much more royalty to Gujarat than the NDA government. On average Gujarat got Rs 1490 crore per year during the UPA government as compared to Rs 614 crore during NDA rule.

In such a situation, Gujarat government's insistence for pre discounted prices of crude for calculating royalty was wrong. Many other states are taking post discounted price based royalty. Pre and post discounted prices are not going to make any substantial different in the current crude oil market scenario, he said. Consequently, there is no question of loss to Gujarat in royalty.

Gujarat has been allocated huge quantity of gas from Panna, Mukta, Tapi gas field by the centre. It is on the basis of APM at the rate of Rs 32,000 SCM. However, selling the gas at higher price, the Gujarat government is exploiting Gujaratis, Gohil remarked.

To,
The Editor,

Hon'ble Leader of the Opposition has requested to publish above Pressnote in your esteemed newspaper.

(J. J. Rasania)
Personal Assistant