

(b) if not, the stations at which they are not being marketed;

(c) the number of companies manufacturing these stoves; and

(d) is there any request from any LPG distributors association to manufacture/or sell Nutan stoves; and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Due to limited availability, these stoves are marketed in whole of Delhi, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Haryana, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and parts of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal only.

(c) Presently only two companies are manufacturing these stoves. In order to maximise production to meet the demand in the country, National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC), New Delhi, is setting up a number of units in different locations of the country for production of stoves in the small scale sector as per the Government policy.

(d) Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) is not aware of any such request but the LPG distributors are, however, authorised to sell Nutan stoves in approved markets.

Ceiling on the Sale of LPG Refills

4281. SHRI V. N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any ceiling on the sale of LPG Refills by the LPG distributors and if so, the limit fixed for different cities and towns and the basis on which the same is fixed;

(b) number of distributors who have reached the ceiling limit and when the others are going to be brought to the ceiling level; and

(c) whether there is any representation about the revision of ceiling limit from the LPG distributors Federation and if so, the action taken on the same?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Taking into account the different working conditions and the cost of operations in different areas, the ceiling as to the maximum number of refills of cylinders that a distributor would be allowed to handle per month has been fixed as given below:

Market	Number of refills per month
Bombay	6,000
Delhi	4,000
Other cities with population over 10 lakhs	3,500
Cities with population between 2 lakhs and 10 lakhs	3,000
Other places	2,500

Co-operative Societies have been exempted from these ceilings.

(b) The number of LPG distributors/sub-distributors who have reached the above ceiling limit is reported to be 120. It would be possible to release additional new connections to the remaining distributors so as to bring them up to the ceiling level only after product availability position improves.

(c) Yes, Sir. It is under consideration.

Rationalisation of Areas of LPG Distributors

4282. SHRI V. N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any move by Government to rationalise the areas of

LPG distributors for an economical and efficient distribution system;

(b) is there any representation to the Oil companies by the LPG distributors in this respect;

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Oil companies; and

(d) whether the IOC has allowed any distributor to operate in undefined areas to enroll customers in unrelated areas far from their show rooms?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Rationalisation of areas of LPG distributors is a continuous process. Based on appointment of new distributors, adjustment of areas is undertaken, if considered necessary, so as to ensure economic and efficient functioning of the distributorships.

(b) and (c). Representations are received and duly considered by oil companies for taking remedial action.

(d) Areas of operation of LPG distributors is defined in their appointment letter. However, in exceptional cases due to lack of potential in their original marketing areas, their area of operation is extended.

Allotment of cooking gas Agencies to cooperative societies in U.P. and Bihar

4283. SHRI RAM SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the particular agencies/cooperative Societies who were allotted Cooking Gas agencies in U.P., Bihar during the last three years;

(b) the criteria followed in sanctioning the cooking gas agencies to them; and

(c) the number of applications which were rejected for the allotment of cooking gas agencies giving the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Names of the particular agencies/co-operative societies who were allotted cooking gas agencies in U.P. and Bihar during the last three years are under:-

Uttar Pradesh

1. U.P. Upphokta Sahakari Sangh Limited.
2. RDSO Consumers Co-operative Societies Limited.

Bihar: None.

(b) According to the policy then in force, 25 per cent of all the agencies were reserved for persons belonging to SC/ST and 2 per cent for physically handicapped. The remaining 73 per cent of the agencies were being awarded on commercial considerations, preference being given to genuine and efficient Consumers Co-operative Societies, Agro-Industries Corporation etc. All appointments are made after inviting applications by issuing advertisements in the newspapers in circulation in the area concerned and selection of candidates has to be made by a duly constituted Selection Committee set up for the purpose by respective oil companies. However, Government undertakings may be awarded agencies without advertisement procedure, if such agencies are run departmentally by them.

(c) A large number of persons apply in respect of such agencies and complete records of such applications are not readily available. After selection of the agent is completed from among the applicants, the remaining applications are deemed rejected.

उत्तर प्रदेश में पम्प नहरों द्वारा सिंचाई के बारे में केन्द्रीय बल द्वारा नियंत्रण

4284. श्री जैनुल दशर : क्या सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उत्तर प्रदेश में पम्प नहरों द्वारा सिंचाई की विभिन्न परियोजनाओं में से प्रत्येक के लिए पृथक-पृथक कितनी राशि दी गई है ;