

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1678
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2000
DISTRIBUTION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS IN SMALL TOWNS AND VILLAGES
ANANTRAO GUDHE

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

- (a): whether the Government have taken any fresh initiatives to formulate new strategies to cater to the interests of consumers in small towns and villages for distribution of LPG and other petroleum products;
- (b): if so, the details thereof alongwith the physical targets set and achieved during the last three years for Maharashtra, year-wise;
- (c): the action plan for the current year and next three years, productwise; and
- (d): the waiting list for LPG and demand supply projections for petroleum products for the next three years in Maharashtra?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a)to(c): As per the existing policy, the following criteria are adopted for setting up economically viable LPG distributorships in different parts of the country including small towns and villages:

- (i) All urban locations with a population of 10,000 and above by including potential of adjoining villages falling within the radius of 15 Kms.
- (ii) Urban locations having population of 5,000 and above taking into account the potential of adjoining villages falling within 15 Kms radius.
- (iii) Cluster of villages within 15 Kms radius of nucleus villages having a population of 10,000 and above.
- (iv) Villages within 15 Kms radius around towns having population of 1 lakh and above.

The criteria for setting up of Retail Outlet dealerships and SKO/LDO dealerships is based on distance volume norms.

Accordingly 2078 LPG distributorships have been included in the current Marketing Plan 1996-98. Of these, apart from locations included in urban areas 540 locations are earmarked for rural areas and 1429 locations are earmarked for urban -rural areas, which include 39 from rural and 82 from rural-urban areas of Maharashtra.

In the current RO Marketing Plan 1996-98, out of 927 locations included all over the country 84 locations have been included from Maharashtra, which include 11 retail outlets from the rural areas of the State.

As regard SKO-LDO, 155 SKO/LDO dealerships have been included in the Marketing Plan 1996-98. Out of these, 30 SKO/LDO dealerships have been earmarked for Maharashtra to be set up at 29 Taluka Headquarters and one at a District Headquarter of the State.

Selection of dealerships/ distributorships is a continuous process and no targets are fixed for commissioning of dealerships/distributorships.

(d): As on 1.12.1999 there was waiting list of 9326336 of LPG connections all over the country including 837248 in Maharashtra. Demand projections of MS/HSD, LPG and SKO for the years 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 for Western Region including Maharashtra is indicated below:

Product Demand Projection in TMT

1999-2000 2000-2001 2001-2002

MS 1931 2088 2252

HSD	11136	12039	12986
SKO	3592	3699	3810
LPG	2079	2304	2490

All efforts are made to meet the above demand.