

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:890  
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2007  
OPENING OF LPG AGENCIES IN JHARKHAND  
Ram Shri Ghuran

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any requests for opening new LPG gas agencies in Jharkhand district-wise particularly in districts of Palamu and Gadhwā;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to meet the shortage of LPG; and
- (d) if so, the time by which the shortage is likely to be met?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) & (b): Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that location Daltonganj in Palamu District has already been rostered under Industry Marketing Plan 2004-07 for opening of an independent LPG distributorship which has since been advertised on 18.10.2007. However, location Gadhwā in the State of Jharkhand does not appear in the Industry Marketing Plan 2004-07 as the location was found not to be economically viable for opening/setting up of an independent LPG distributorship at this juncture.

OMCs have also finalized a common industry marketing plan covering 13 locations in the State of Jharkhand for setting up of LPG distributorships.

(c) & (d): There is no overall shortage of LPG in the country, including in the State of Jharkhand, and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) through indigenous production and imports in accordance with the requirement of customers registered with the LPG distributors. However, OMCs had reported occasional backlog in certain States/Union Territories including the State of Jharkhand due to natural calamities like floods, road breaches, collapse of bridge and stoppage of work by various sections of the employees, strike by transporters and contract labourers, hartals etc. The Government has advised OMCs to liquidate the backlog in the States/UTs by operating the bottling plants on holidays, extended hours of working and also by ensuring adequate supply of cylinders.