

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:356
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2008
EXPANSION PLAN OF DOMESTIC LPG IN KARNATAKA
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the only 50 per cent of population in Karnataka has been covered by domestic LPG;
- (b) if so, the efforts public sector oil marketing companies are making to increase the percentage of population covered in Karnataka from 57 per cent to 100 per cent; and
- (c) the impact of the Government's advice to public sector oil marketing companies to concentrate their expansion plan in the semi-urban and rural areas?

Answer

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

(a): Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that they have 55.24 lakhs domestic LPG customers in the State of Karnataka as on 1.1.2008, covering nearly 53.10% of the population based on the 2001 census.

(b) & (c): Government have given freedom to OMCs to set up LPG distributorships in accordance with their commercial assessment and locations are identified by them on the basis of available refill sale potential for sustaining an independent distributorship. However, Government have advised OMCs to draw up Marketing Plans for covering semi-urban and rural areas. OMCs have finalized 62 locations in the State of Karnataka for setting up LPG distributorships mainly in rural and urban-rural (semi-urban) locations. The advertisement for the same was released on 2nd November, 2007 and the last date of receipt of applications was 5th December, 2007.

The setting up of LPG distributorships is a continuous process and involves identifying of a suitable location, arranging land for setting up of godown and other statutory clearances, etc.