

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4413
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2008
OPENING OF LPG AGENCIES
Narhire Smt. Kalpana Ramesh

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

- (a) the number of LPG agencies in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the norms fixed by the Government for allotment of LPG agency;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to facilitate the people in those regions/districts where no LPG agency exists;
- (d) whether any action plan has been prepared by the Government to open LPG agencies in such areas:
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor in view the hardships being faced by the people of these areas;and
- (f) if so, the details of such action plan?

Answer

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

- (a): As on 01.04.2008, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) were operating 9365 LPG distributorships in the country. The State-wise details of LPG distributorships is annexed.
- (b) to (f): 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 Plan for covering semi-urban and rural areas. OMCs have finalized 1340 locations in the country for setting up of new LPG distributorships mainly in rural and urban-rural (semi-urban) locations. The advertisements for the same have been released. The setting up of LPG distributorships is a continuous process and involves identifying of suitable locations, arranging land for setting up of godowns, obtaining statutory clearances, etc.