

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:873

ANSWERED ON:26.02.2009

FREEZE ON NEW DOMESTIC DOUBLE LPG CYLINDER CONNECTIONS

Ravindran Shri Pannian

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

- (a) whether there is a freeze on new domestic double LPG connections;
- (b) if so, the reasons for imposing the freeze ;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to liquidate the waiting list for connections;
- (d) the time by which the companies will be able to put an end to the freeze completely; and
- (e) the total number of consumers in the waiting list for second cylinders?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) : Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have not stopped release of new LPG connections. New LPG connections are made available as soon as possible and in any case, within a period of sixty days. At present, new LPG connections are available for genuine domestic customers and as on 01.01.2009, there are 1050 lakh LPG customers in the country. OMCs have reported that they have released 36.80 lakh new LPG connections and 7.50 lakh Double Bottle Connection (DBC) in the country during the period April-December, 2008. However, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) has reported waiting list of 1,31,471 for release of new LPG connections and 13,89,319 for DBC in certain States in the country. The waiting list for new connections is expected to be cleared by the end of March, 2009 and for DBCs in 2009-10. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have reported nil waiting list for both new connections and DBCs.