

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3362

ANSWERED ON:15.04.2010

LPG TO RURAL HOUSEHOLDS

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

- (a) the details of LPG coverage, at National Level, State-wise;
- (b) the State where LPG coverage is lower than the national average;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to provide convenient and hygienic cooking fuel to the States so as to bring them at par with the National average;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to provide convenient and hygienic cooking fuel to the rural households especially to BPL families on a priority ; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) & (b): Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that as on 01-02-2010, they are serving about 1141.5 lakh LPG customers through their 9557 LPG distributors in the country, covering approximately 59 % of the households. The State-wise details are available with the Director (Marketing) of OMCs concerned.

(c) to (e): The "Vision 2015" adopted for LPG sector inter-alia focuses on raising the population coverage of LPG with the focus on rural areas and areas where LPG coverage is low. The Vision-2015 envisages to achieve atleast 75% population coverage in the country by releasing 5.5. crore new LPG connections by 2015 especially in rural areas and undercovered areas. To ensure that growth of LPG usage is evenly spread, Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are assessing/identifying locations in a phased manner under Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitruk Yojana (RGGLVY).

RGGLVY scheme which primarily aims at providing LPG to the rural house-holds, including BPL families has been launched on 16-10-2009 and subsequently advertisements inviting applications for distributors under the scheme have been released in 8 States where the reach of LPG is very low namely, Bihar, Chhatisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal covering 1266 locations in the 1st phase of implementation of this scheme and 763 locations in the States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Puducherry and Tamil Nadu in the 2nd phase. The selection of the same is in progress as per policy.

The setting up of LPG distributors under this scheme will now be a continuous process till all parts of the country deficient in LPG are covered by LPG network.