

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4472

ANSWERED ON:22.04.2010

USE OF LPG BY BPL FAMILIES

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to encourage BPL families to progressively use LPG in place of kerosene and other conventional methods;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the Government proposes to implement the proposal;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to waive off the Rs. 1,400/- security deposit and the regulator cost for BPL consumers;
- (d) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Government in this regard including proposal, if any, for providing LPG dealership in rural areas?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): As per the "Vision 2015" adopted in 2009 for LPG sector, a target has been given to the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to raise the over-all LPG population coverage to 75% 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, OMCs are assessing/identifying locations in a phased manner under "Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitrak 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 Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) scheme has since been approved by the Government and it has been decided to utilize 15% of CSR funds of six major Oil PSUs namely Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), GAIL(India) Limited and Oil India Limited (OIL) for extending one time financial assistance of Rs. 1400/- to cover the security deposit for one LPG cylinder and one Pressure Regulator to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families applying for new LPG connection at RGGLVY distributors.