

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:292
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2009
BIO METRIC SMART CARDS SCHEME
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar;Sinh Dr. Sanjay

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken a decision to introduce a scheme to provide kerosene to Below Poverty Line (BPL) people through bio-metric smart cards in some States;
- (b) if so, whether the consent of all the State Governments has been taken to start the proposed scheme;
- (c) whether some States have opposed this scheme;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the States in which the scheme is proposed to be launched in the first phase and the time schedule fixed in this regard; and
- (f) the time by which it is likely to be implemented in all the States?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (f) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (F) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 292 ASKED BY SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY AND DR. SANJAY SINH TO BE ANSWERED ON 23-07-2009 REGARDING BIO-METRIC SMART CARDS SCHEME:

(a) to (d): With the objective of ensuring that the benefit of the subsidy reaches the targeted consumers and to check leakage in supply of PDS kerosene and Domestic Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), this Ministry has taken in principle decision to issue bio-metric Smart Cards to all users of PDS kerosene and Domestic LPG customers beginning with some large cities. State Governments/Union Territories have been requested to join hand with the Central Government for successful implementation of this scheme throughout the country. As of date, none of the States have opposed the Smart Card Scheme for giving smart cards to all users of PDS kerosene and LPG consumers.

(e) & (f): The pilot project on Smart Card has initially been proposed to be launched in Pune in Maharashtra, Bangluru in Karnataka and Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh. Modalities for launch of the scheme are being worked out by the Oil Marketing Companies. Depending upon the success of the pilot project, the scheme will be extended out to other parts of the country.