

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2806
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2009
ALLOTMENT OF LPG AGENCY
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Thakor Shri Jagdish

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

- (a) the State-wise details of LPG agencies in the country as on date including Gujarat ;
- (b) the criteria prescribed by the Government for the allotment of LPG agency ;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to provide this facility in the areas where LPG agencies are not available ;
- (d) whether Government has prepared any action plan for opening more new LPG agencies in the country during 2009-10 ; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

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

(a) & (c) : As on 01.07.2009, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) were operating 9382 LPG distributors in the country including 544 in the State of Gujarat. The State-wise details are at Annexure.

OMCs have finalized a common industry marketing plan covering 1340 locations in the country including 41 in the State of Gujarat for setting up of new LPG distributorships, mainly in rural and urban-rural (semi-urban) locations. The advertisements for all the locations have been released and selection for the same is in progress as per policy.

In order to increase rural penetration and to cover remote as well as low potential areas, a new scheme is proposed to be implemented. Details of the scheme will be notified shortly.

(b) : Government have given freedom to OMCs to set up LPG distributors in accordance with their commercial assessment and locations are identified by them on the basis of available refill sale potential for sustaining an independent distributor. The criteria and the procedure for selection of LPG distributors are published by OMCs from time to time in various Newspapers at the time of advertisement/selection.

(d) & (e) : OMCs are in the process of identifying viable locations for setting up of new LPG distributorship in the country under the Industry Marketing Plan 2008-10 and the same is yet to be finalized.