

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3046

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2010

LPG CONNECTIONS

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

- (a) whether the Government plans to provide LPG connections to tribals and offering them small dealerships to make them stakeholders in the development process;
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has requested the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to provide data and help to identify tribal areas where this scheme could be launched;
- (c) if so, the response of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs thereon; and
- (d) the time by which the aforesaid plan is likely to be implemented?

Answer

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

(a): In order to increase rural penetration and to cover remote as well as low potential areas including Tribal areas, a new scheme namely Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitruk Yojana (RGGLVY) for establishing small size LPG distribution agencies for the locations having potential of 600 or more refill sales per month has been launched on 16.10.2009. As per scheme, only resident of particular location can apply for distributorship in that location. In respect of locations advertised in tribal belts, Tribals, being the resident of those areas can apply for distributorship. As per the extant guidelines, 25% LPG distributorship are reserved for the persons under SC/ST category. Further, in North-Eastern States of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Mizoram, reservation for ST categories are as under:-

Arunachal Pradesh 70%

Meghalaya 80%

Nagaland 80%

Mizoram 90%

(b) & (c): Locations in tribal belts are assessed by the OMCs and if found viable, the same are taken up for opening of distributorship. Ministry of Tribal Affairs has not been consulted in this regard.

(d): The setting up of LPG distributors under RGGLVY will now be a continuous process till all parts of the country including tribal areas are covered by LPG network.