

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3849
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2010
ALLOTMENT OF GAS AGENCIES/RETAIL OUTLETS
Singh Shri Bhola

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

- (a) whether the Government has been allotting gas agencies and retail outlets surreptitiously without giving advertisement in newspapers ;
- (b) if so, the details of the retail outlets and gas agencies allotted by the Government during the last three years, State-wise, district-wise ;
- (c) the dates on which the Government published advertisements for the allotment of some retail outlets and gas agencies along with the names of newspapers ; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to cancel the gas agencies and retail outlets allotted without giving any advertisement and the action taken against the officers responsible for the same ?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) : Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have freedom to choose locations for opening of distributorship/dealerships, subject to the locations being found commercially viable after feasibility study thereof by the companies. Selection of distributors/dealers for the chosen location is also made by OMCs in accordance with guidelines laid down by them for the purpose, which inter-alia involves advertisements in leading newspapers inviting applications for the same.

During the last three years, OMCs have not allotted any LPG distributorship/Retail Outlet without giving advertisement in newspapers except under a special scheme, namely, Mumbai Martyrs Scheme for Government security personnel killed in Mumbai Terrorists Attack during 26-28.11.2008.