

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:470
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2009
MANUFACTURE OF TRANSPARENT LPG CYLINDERS
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra

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

- (a) : whether a final view has been taken by the Oil Manufacturing Companies for introduction of composite (translucent fibreglass) cylinders for marketing domestic Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG);
- (b) : if so, the details thereof;
- (c) : the unit cost of the proposed fibreglass LPG cylinder as compared to the cost of the LPG cylinder being used at present; and
- (d) : the benefits likely to accrue to the Government and the public at large after introduction of fibreglass LPG cylinders in the country ?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 470 BY SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH AUGUST, 2009 REGARDING MANUFACTURE OF TRANSPARENT LPG CYLINDERS.

(a) & (b) : Government has conveyed "in principle" approval to the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for expanding the product line by way of introduction of composite (translucent fibreglass) cylinders for marketing domestic LPG, subject to there being no subsidy element in the LPG to be marketed through these composite cylinders. The composite cylinders will show the level of LPG present in the cylinder. These cylinders are being introduced (in selected markets) as a separate package and not as replacement of existing cylinders.

OMCs have reported that necessary approval of Chief Controller of Explosives (CCOE) has been obtained for use of composite cylinders for LPG. OMCs have invited Global tender for procuring 1 lakh cylinders and it is expected that the same will be introduced in the select markets for test-marketing during the second quarter of 2010.

(c) : Estimated unit cost of composite cylinders is expected to be between Rs. 3000/- to Rs. 3200/- as against around Rs. 1050/- per cylinder for the 14.2 kg steel cylinder presently in use.

(d) : The benefits likely to accrue from the composite cylinders are as under:-

The composite cylinders being translucent level of LPG present would be visible in these cylinders, thereby improving customer's satisfaction about quantity of LPG being there in cylinders.

The composite cylinders being lightweight compared to the existing cylinders would be easy to handle. The tare weight of composite cylinders is about 1/3rd of the existing steel cylinders.

Composite cylinders would be non-corrosive and as such the failure due to corrosion gets avoided, thereby improving safety.

Composite cylinders are proposed to be marketed at non-subsidized price. This will bring down the subsidy burden on the Government to that extent.

The composite cylinders will be aesthetic and superior in looks with improved features