

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:542
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012
MODERN SOURCE OF FUEL
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of total population of the country which still do not have access to modern source to cooking fuel;
- (b) the number of persons who have died due to use of conventional cooking fuels like wood, cowdung or charcoal during the year 2011; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to promote use of modern source of cooking fuel throughout the country ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

- (a) : As on 01.02.2012, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are serving 13.54 crore LPG customers in the country, covering 59.5% population of the country.
- (b) : Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and OMCs does not maintain data on death of persons due to conventional cooking fuels like wood, cowdung or charcoal.
- (c) : The Government has formulated the "Vision-2015" for LPG sector to raise the country's LPG population coverage to 75% by releasing 5.5 crore new LPG connections between 2009 and 2015, especially in rural areas and under-covered areas, for which a scheme namely, "Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitaran Yojana" (RGGLVY) for establishing small-size LPG distribution agencies was launched on 16.10.2009. Advertisements inviting applications for distributorships under the scheme have been released by OMCs in 27 States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhatisgarh, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and Puducherry covering 4762 locations. Letters of Intent (LoI) have been issued for 1721 locations out of which 960 distributors have been commissioned.