

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:231
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2012
SURVEY FOR LPG/PNG COVERAGE
Dhurve Jyoti

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

- (a) whether any survey/studies have been undertaken to estimate the potential Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)/Piped Natural Gas (PNG) coverage ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of actual users of LPG/PNG in the country, State / UT-wise ;
- (c) whether a number of households are having multiple LPG/PNG connections ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of households with multiple connections, company-wise and State/UT-wise ; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the multiple connections are got surrendered ?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 231 BY SHRIMATI JYOTI DHURVE TO BE ANSWERED ON 29TH MARCH, 2012 REGARDING SURVEY FOR LPG/PNG COVERAGE.

(a) : The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) authorizes City Gas Distribution (CGD) networks to lay, build, operate or expand natural gas pipelines through a competitive bidding process. PNGRB has envisaged a roll out plan of CGD networks development in more than 300 possible geographical areas on the basis of Expression of Interest (EoI) and on suo moto basis, based on the connectivity with the existing and upcoming natural gas pipelines in India. At present, CGD companies are supplying Piped Natural Gas (PNG) in 51 Geographical Areas of the country covering the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Delhi, Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Tripura.

The Vision 2015 adopted by this Ministry envisages raising the country's LPG population coverage from 50% to 75%, by releasing 5.5 crore new LPG connections between 2009 and 2015 especially in rural areas and under-covered areas. Accordingly, new LPG distributorships are planned by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), considering the availability of PNG in the Proposed PNG pipeline route.

As far as extension of PNG facilities to different towns and cities in the country is concerned, the implementation timeframe is subject to interalia, availability of natural gas through a gas transmission pipeline, technical and commercial feasibility and availability of clearances from various authorities, etc.

(b) : As on 01.02.2012, OMCs are serving 1353.97 lakh LPG customers in the country and CGD companies have released 18,49,458 PNG connections in ten States of the country, as on 01.03.2012. The State-wise details are at Annex-I and Annex-II.

(c) & (d) : 8,36,134 households have been identified by the Public Sector OMCs namely IOCL, BPCL and HPCL as having multiple LPG/PNG connections. The company-wise/State-wise details are at Annex-III.

(e) : Public Sector OMCs are carrying out an exercise of identifying the consumers address/household for blocking the LPG connections of PNG users and appealing to them to surrender their LPG connections to keep it in 'Safe Custody' of the LPG distributor. The Ministry has been conducting regular meetings of the CGD companies and OMCs to collect the data of PNG connections released and to improve coordination between the CGD companies and the OMCs.

In addition to this, a number of Information Education Communication (IEC) activities have been undertaken by OMCs and CGD companies which include creating awareness through print, electronic and web media, distribution of leaflets, etc.