

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1963  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2012  
LPG OUTLETS TO SC/ST  
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**Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether in the process of planning and mapping of sites for setting up of LPG retail outlets, the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) discriminate against SC/ST categories by reserving sites which do not give more revenue for them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether many retail outlets for LPG operated by SCs/STs are not performing well as per the expectation of the OMCs and thus run the risk of being terminated or non-renewal of their licenses ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof ;
- (e) whether the OMCs plan to provide intensive training to SC/ST license holders to run the outlet efficiently and profitably ; and
- (f) if so, the steps being taken in this regard ?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) : There is no discrimination against SC/ST categories while planning and mapping locations for setting up of LPG distributorships.

All potential locations are identified based on the economic viability and the refill sale potential and includes several factors such as population, population growth rate, economic prosperity of the location and distance from the nearby existing distributor. All locations found feasible for setting up of LPG distributorships are listed State-wise on Industry level and categorization is then carried out based on the 100 point roster.

(c) & (d) : No such specific case has been reported by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs).

(e) & (f) : Continuous training and counseling of distributors, including SC/ST distributors, who are not performing as per the required standards, are undertaken by OMCs.