

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:104

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2012

COOKING GAS TO RURAL HOUSEHOLDS

Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash;Patel Shri R.K. Singh

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

- (a) the percentage of rural households in the country using LPG cylinders at present and the details of the scheme formulated by the Government to provide cooking gas to all rural households indicating the number of new connections issued. LPG agencies set up and those proposed to be set up during the next three years under the scheme, State/ UT-wise;
- (b) the details of the mechanism being considered by the Government for providing direct subsidy to the consumers on LPG cylinders;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to introduce a new provision prescribing for each LPG connection holder to have a mandatory bank account for claiming the annual subsidy;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the likely time frame by which the said provision is likely to come into force?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SMT PANABAANKA LAKSHMI)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 104 BY SHRI R.K. SINGH PATEL AND SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE TO BE ANSWERED ON 30TH NOVEMBER, 2012 REGARDING COOKING GAS TO RURAL HOUSEHOLDS.

(a): As on 01.11.2012, the three public sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) are having 419.22 lakh Rural domestic LPG customers in the country which is approximately 25.2% of the total rural households in the country.

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, specially in rural areas. For this purpose special scheme namely, "Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitaran Yojana" (RGGLV) 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 covering 5261 locations, out of which 1591 distributors have been commissioned. As on 01.11.2012, OMCs have enrolled 21.31 Lakh domestic LPG customers through these RGGLV distributorships in the country. During the next 3 years OMCs are expecting to set-up additional 3760 RGGLVs. The State/UT-wise details of the RGGLVs set up and those proposed to be set up during the next three years under the RGGLV by OMCs are given at annexure.

(b) to (e): The direct transfer of cash subsidy into the account of the beneficiary reduces the incentive of diversion of subsidized LPG cylinder for non-domestic purposes due to price differential.

Accordingly, a scheme for Direct Transfer of Subsidy to LPG consumers in their Bank Account, based on delivery of LPG cylinders, is under consideration of Government.

In this regard a Pilot Project for transfer of cash subsidy on LPG cylinder directly to the bank account of the customer has already been launched in Mysore using Adhar number and a token transfer of money for 10 customers has also been made to test the cash transfer mechanism.