

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2773
ANSWERED ON:07.02.2014
SHORTAGE OF LPG CYLINDERS
Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre

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

- (a) the total number of LPG consumers in terms of number and percentage of the total population in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether there is acute shortage of LPG cylinders in the North-East States including Assam;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to increase the number of LPG distributorships in North-East States to meet the demand of LPG cylinders;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to provide LPG connections to seventy per cent of households in the country by 2015; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the other steps being taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

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

(a) : State/UT-wise number of domestic LPG consumers of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) in terms of number and percentage of the total population as well as households in the Country as on 01.01.2014 is at Annexure.

(b) & (c) : OMCs have reported that there is no acute shortage of LPG in the North Eastern States including Assam and they are meeting the genuine demand of the customers registered with their distributors. However, sporadic instances of generation of backlog occur in some markets, due to reasons beyond control like strikes/ bandhs/ agitations by contract labours/ transporters/ trade unions etc.

To meet the requirement of LPG, distributorships are being appointed by the OMCs. Appointment of distributorships is a continuous process and the locations for setting up LPG distributorships are identified based on available refill sale potential that can sustain economically viable operation of an LPG distributorship.

(d) & (e) : As per the Vision 2015, OMCs have to release 5.5 Crore LPG connections by 2015 to raise population coverage from 50% to 75%. Out of 5.5 Crore LPG connections to be released by 2015, OMCs have already released 5.98 Crore LPG connections till December 2013. To achieve the target given in Vision 2015, OMCs are appointing LPG distributors under the scheme Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitaran Yojana (RGGLVY) as well as Regular under Industry Marketing Plans.