GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2286 ANSWERED ON:03.08.2015 Give up Campaign of LPG Subsidy Abmed Shri Sultan Antony Shri Anto

Ahmed Shri Sultan ;Antony Shri Anto ;Charitra Shri Ram;Chavda Shri Vinod;Dwivedi Shri Harish;Kalvakuntla Smt. Kavitha;Kambhampati Dr. Hari Babu;Mahendran Shri C.;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Patel Smt. Jayshreeben ;Raghavan Shri M. K.;Rajesh Shri M. B.;Roy Prof. Saugata;Senthilnathan Shri PR.;Singh Shri Rakesh;Venkatesh Babu Shri T.G.

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

(a) whether the Government has launched a voluntary initiative to persuade the LPG consumers/well-off section of society/Above Poverty Line people in the country to surrender/opt out their LPG subsidy;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the number of consumers who have surrendered/renounced their subsidy, State/ UT-wise along with the target fixed and achievements made so far;

(c) whether the savings on subsidy under the voluntary initiative will be used to provide subsidized cylinders to the poor in rural areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof including the quantum of subsidy saved by the Government and the number of new connections released in rural areas across the country as on date State/UT-wise; and

(e) the efforts being made by the Government to encourage rich and affluent people from buying subsidized LPG cylinders for cooking?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Government has launched an initiative to encourage domestic LPG consumers, who can afford to pay the market price for LPG, to voluntarily surrender their LPG subsidy. This will enable the Government to utilize the limited resources to reach out to the economically backward classes. State/UT-wise details of consumers who have surrendered/renounced their subsidy is at Annexure-I

(c) & (d) Every LPG consumer, who surrenders LPG subsidy, is linked to a BPL household who gets LPG connection in turn.

As on 28.07.2015, total 13,86,885 consumers have voluntarily given up/surrendered subsidy on LPG. Assuming that each of these customer consumes an average of 8 cylinders per annum and at the average subsidy rate of Rs. 200/- per cylinder, the saving amounts to Rs. 2,21,90,16,000/- approx.

State/UT-wise details of new domestic LPG connections released in the country including rural areas during 2014-15 and from April – June 2015 is at Annexure-II

(e) Government has appealed to all the LPG consumers, who can afford to pay the market price for LPG, to voluntarily surrender their LPG subsidy. The following measures have been taken by OMCs to motivate the well off/rich and affluent people to give subsidy voluntarily :-

(i) Publicity campaigns through various media like Print, TV, Radio, Posters, Banners, Hoardings etc.

(ii) Publicity through camps/road shows/rallies/door to door campaign at district level.

(iii) Campaigns at selected Retail Outlets to facilitate the customer for voluntary surrendering their LPG subsidy.

(iv) Convenient modes viz. IVRS, SMS, Web and Manual form made available for posting "Give It Up" request.

(v) Appreciation letters to LPG customers giving up their LPG subsidy and display of their name in scroll of Honour in www.mylpg.in, if desired.

(vi) SMS to above customers informing them the name of the BPL beneficiary issued LPG connection against LPG subsidy given up by them.

(vii) Display of the list showing the name of giving up customer and the linked BPL beneficiary in www.mylpg.in.

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