

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4615
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2014
LPG BOTTLING PLANTS
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Oil Marketing Companies including Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) have proposed to include their LPG bottling plants particularly IOC plants under the Essential Services Maintenance Act in view of frequent strikes by certain workers engaged in bottling plants and transportation of supply;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the efforts made by the Government for smooth transportation and supply of LPG to States ?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have informed that there is no proposal to include their LPG bottling plants under the Essential Services Maintenance Act (ESMA) in the Country excluding in the State of Kerala. As reported by OMCs, in view of the frequent strikes by certain workers in Bottling Plants, IOC as the State Level co-coordinator (SLC) of Kerala, has taken up with the Government of Kerala for inclusion of bottling plants & transportation and supply of LPG under Kerala Essential Services Maintenance Act (KESMA).

Government of Kerala has declared the services of transportation and supply of LPG cylinders as essential services under the Kerala Essential Services Maintenance Act (KESMA).

(c): In case of any strikes/disputes involving labours in bottling plants, OMCs take up the matter with local administration and Central Labour Authorities to take necessary action.

Moreover, to ensure smooth supplies to the effected markets, supplies are arranged from the nearest bottling plants in the State or neighbouring State.