

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4438
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2005
OPENING OF GAS AGENCIES
Mehta Shri Bhubneshwar Prasad

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

- (a) whether the Government has received requests/representations for opening of Gas Agencies in Jharkhand and Bihar ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government thereon ?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) to (c) : Representations received for the opening of LPG distributorships in the country, including Jharkhand and Bihar, are forwarded to Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for their consideration. OMCs have the freedom to set up LPG distributorships at viable locations based on their commercial considerations. As a matter of policy, Government have also advised OMCs to concentrate their future expansion plans in semi-urban and rural areas. The details of places where gas agencies are likely to be opened in the near future in Jharkhand and Bihar are available with Director (Marketing) of OMCs.