

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:264

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2006

SHORTAGE OF LPG

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

- (a) whether despite all out efforts of the Government, various parts of the country are still facing the shortage of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and the shortage is likely to continue in the coming years;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has received complaints from various State Governments regarding LPG crisis in their States;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Union Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has formulated any plan to set up new refineries in order to increase the production of LPG;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;and
- (f) the quantum of increase likely to accrue in the production of LPG after the setting up of new refineries?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) & (b): At present, there is no overall shortage of LPG in the country and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) through indigenous production and imports in accordance with the genuine demand of customers registered with the LPG distributors. However, OMCs have reported a backlog of 2-8 days in some Southern States like Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Kamataka and Tamil Nadu due to unplanned shutdown of refineries, transporters strike, bad road conditions and riots in Mangalore. No complaint has been received from State Governments about any LPG crisis.

(c): Government has advised OMCs to liquidate the backlog in these States by operating the bottling plants on holidays and during extended hours.

(d) to (f): In addition to capacity expansion of the existing refineries, three new grass- root refineries are being set up during 11th Plan at Bina, Bathinda and Paradip by Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) respectively, which would add 30 Million Metric Tonnes per annum (MMTPA) of refining capacity. The production of LPG at the end of the 11th Plan is estimated to increase to 12.763 MMT from 7.717 MMT at the end of financial year 2005-06.