

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:381

ANSWERED ON:23.11.2006

INTRODUCTION OF SMART CARDS FOR LPG/KEROSENE CONSUMERS

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

pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 514 on July 27, 2006 regarding `Smart Card to Cooking Gas/Kerosene Consumers` and to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken final decision regarding introduction of Smart Card to LPG and kerosene consumers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the time by which final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): With the objective of ensuring that the benefit of the subsidy reaches the targeted consumers in an efficient and cost-effective manner and to prevent any leakages, this Ministry is considering introduction of Smart Card System for distribution of PDS kerosene. The scheme is proposed to be introduced initially on an experimental basis in three districts - Latur in Maharashtra, Nalanda in Bihar and Nainital in Uttaranchal w.e.f. 1.1.2007. In the Pilot project, subsidized kerosene through Smart Card is proposed to be available to BPL families while all other ration card holders would be given non-subsidized kerosene. An independent agency will be engaged to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the Pilot. Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) would ensure adequate availability of PDS as well as non-subsidized kerosene during the entire period of implementation of the Pilot.