

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3350

ANSWERED ON:24.03.2005

OPENING OF GAS AGENCIES

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

- (a) the norms laid down by the Government to allot gas agency and selection of location ;
- (b) the number of Gas Agencies opened in each State and Union Territory during each of the last three years till date, company-wise and location-wise ;
- (c) whether the government has fixed any target to open gas agencies during the remaining period to Tenth Five Year Plan ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State / Union Territory-wise ; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the targets ?

Answer

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

(a) : The Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) set up LPG distributorships in keeping with their commercial considerations. The criteria and the procedure for selection of LPG distributorships are published by OMCs from time to time in various Newspapers at the time of advertisement / selection.

(b) : The number of LPG distributorships opened by OMCs during the last three years and April, 2004-February, 2005 in country is given in Annexe.

The State-wise details of LPG distributorships are available with Director (Marketing) of the oil company concerned.

(c) to (e) : Government have given freedom to OMCs to set up LPG distributorships in accordance with their commercial considerations. The commissioning of LPG distributorships depends upon various factors such as identification of viable locations, release of advertisements, conducting interviews and the ability of the candidate to secure land for godown, showroom etc. In view of these factors, any specific target for commissioning of LPG distributorships during the Tenth-Five year Plan has not been fixed. However, Government have advised OMCs to draw up Marketing Plans for covering semi-urban and rural areas.

ANNEXE

DETAILS OF LPG DISTRIBUTORSHIPS SET UP BY OMCs IN COUNTRY DURING THE PERIOD APRIL, 2001-FEBRUARY, 2005.

Name of oil company 2001-02 2002-03 2003-04 April,2004
to
February, 2005

IOCL	462	240	234	252
HPCL	213	76	95	137
BPCL	313	105	94	135
IBP	29	10	9	15

TOTAL 1,017 431 432 539