

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:108

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2014

SUPPLY OF LPG

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

- (a) whether the Government has stipulated any time frame for providing LPG to every household;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the strategy formulated by the Government to achieve the desired targets;
- (c) the details of demand/ supply of LPG in the country along with the efforts made by the Government to fulfill the requirement and remove the shortage of LPG in the remote and rural areas of the country, State/UT-wise including Jharkhand and Tripura; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to cover more areas and ensure efficient customer service to consumers ?

Answer

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

(a), (b) & (d): As on 01.11.2014, OMCs are having 11167 Regular distributors and 3865 distributors under Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitaran Yojana (RGGLVY) covering 66.5% households in the entire country.

As per the Vision 2015, OMCs have to release 5.5 Crore LPG between 2009 and 2015 to raise population covered from 50% to 75%. OMCs have already released 6.69 Crore LPG connections till October 2014 and exceeded the target. OMCs continue to appoint LPG distributors under the RGGLVY and Regular Distributors (under Industry Marketing Plans) to expand LPG coverage.

Several steps have also been taken by OMCs to improve customers services. This includes a comprehensive LPG service portal www.mylpg.in where all LPG services can be obtained from the comfort of the home without visiting the distributorship. Mobile applications have also been developed for various LPG services. In an effort to enhance competition, the distributors are being rated from 1 star to 5 star based on their delivery performance. The customers are also being given the option of portability under which they can now change their distributorship/marketing company in case they so desire.

(c): For the calendar year 2014, the demand and availability of LPG in the country is as under :

Demand : 17.4 MMT
Indigenous availability : 9.8 MMT
Imports tied up : 7.6 MMT

OMCs have further reported that sometimes, supplies to the market are disrupted temporarily due to reasons beyond control like strikes/ bandhs/ agitations by contract labours/ transporters/ trade unions etc., which results in backlog in LPG supply to that market.

For clearing the backlog OMCs augment bulk LPG supplies, arrange additional imports, position bulk LPG at the plants through alternative routes and operate LPG bottling plants for extended hours.