

**New LPG connections in Jharkhand**

†1439. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG consumers in Jharkhand alongwith the State's capital Ranchi;

(b) whether there is any waiting list for new LPG connections in Jharkhand;

(c) if so, by when connections will be provided to the consumers who are in waiting list; and

(d) the present status of LPG supply in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) As on 01.10.2006, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are serving 9.70 lakh LPG customers in the State of Jharkhand, including 2.29 lakh LPG customers in Ranchi.

(b) and (c) New connections are available across the counter for the genuine domestic customers and there is no waiting list for release of new connections in the State of Jharkhand;

(d) At present, there is no overall shortage of LPG in the State of Jharkhand and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the OMCs in accordance with the genuine demand of customers registered with the LPG distributors.

**Transportation of gas from KG Basin**

1440. SHRI SUDARSHAN AKARAPU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total estimated natural gas reserves found in the Krishna-Godavari basin;

(b) the details of public sector and private sector companies which have explored/owned the gas reserves alongwith their quantity and share in the total gas reserves exploited so far;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether any public or private oil company has laid down gas pipeline network for transportation of gas from KG Basin to other parts of the country as also for consumption by domestic industry and retail consumers of Andhra Pradesh State in particular; and

(d) if so, the areas in Andhra Pradesh where gas pipeline network passes through?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINESH J. PATEL): (a) and (b) As on 1.4.2006, the estimated in place gas reserves in Krishna-Godavari basin by Public Sector, *viz.*, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Private Sector, *viz.*, Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is 154 billion cubic metres (BCM) and 507 billion cubic metres (BCM) respectively. Gas produced so far as on 1.4.2006 by ONGC is 18.67 BCM. RIL is expected to commence its production from June 2008 onwards.

(c) and (d) In KG basin GAIL (India) Limited is operating gas pipeline network of 833.9 Kilometres passing through three districts of Andhra Pradesh *viz.* East Godavari, West Godavari and Krishna.

#### **LPG agency at block level**

†1441. SHRI KRISHNA LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open gas agency at Block level and Tehsil level; and

(b) if so, by when the same would be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Government have given freedom to Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to set up LPG distributorship in accordance with their commercial assessment and locations are identified by them on the basis of available refill sale potential for sustaining an independent distributorship. However, Government have advised OMCs to draw up Marketing Plans for covering semi-urban and rural areas. OMCs have finalized a common industry marketing plan covering 791 locations for setting up LPG distributorships mainly in rural and urban-rural (semi-urban) locations.

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