

(c) and (d) The enrolment of new LPG Customers and Release of LPG connections is a continuous process. OMCs have reported a waiting list of 16,670 for release of new LPG connections in the State of Andhra Pradesh and in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep as on 1.4.2007 OMCs have reported that waiting list is expected to be cleared by the end of May, 2007.

#### **LPG connection in Jharkhand**

3622. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tribal families in Jharkhand who do not have LPG connections;

(b) whether Government propose to supply LPG connections to all the tribals of Jharkhand;

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when everybody will be given LPG connections on demand;

(d) whether it is a fact that LPG refill cylinders are in short supply and people have to wait for a long time to get the refill; and

(e) if so, by when it will be solved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that they do not maintain data on tribal families in the country including Jharkhand who do not have LPG connection.

(b) and (c) At present, new LPG connections are available across the counter for genuine domestic customers and there is no overall waiting list for release of new connection in the State of Jharkhand.

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

#### **Kisan Sahayak Kendra Scheme**

3623. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

[8 May, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

(a) whether Government have a proposed to set up petrol pump outlets in every block of the country under the Kisan Sahayak Kendra Scheme;

(b) if so, the number of petrol pump outlets that has been set up in Orissa so far under this scheme:

(c) whether there is any problem in setting up petrol pump outlets in the scheduled areas of Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and IBP Co. Limited (IBP) are setting up rural retail outlets (such as Kisan Seva Kendra, Hamara Pump etc) Oil over the country to cater to the needs of farmers, agriculturists and other consumers of petrol and diesel in the rural areas. This has been done with the intention of reaching product predominantly HSD ensuring quality and at the correct price in far-flung areas to meet the rural agricultural demand. These retail outlets are set up at identified rural locations having sufficient potential and found to be economically viable based on survey and feasibility studies.

(b) OMCs have set up 108 rural retail outlets in the State of Orissa.

(c) and (d) The major problem faced by OMCs in setting up of such ROs in the scheduled areas of Orissa is availability of suitable land.

#### **Piped natural gas distribution**

3624. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have evolved a plan to put 200 cities on the gas distribution and compressed natural gas network;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether it is also a fact that two crore households will reap the benefits of piped natural gas in the next few years for which a road map had been drawn up; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?