

LPG connections to BPL families

2537. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to distribute LPG connection free of cost or on subsidized rates to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the quantum of funds provided for the same;
- (c) the steps taken to ensure that ineligible families are not benefited from the scheme; and
- (d) the total number of BPL families to be benefited, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (d) The government is in the process of finalizing a Scheme wherein BPL families who opt for independent LPG connection would be provided with a one-time financial assistance of Rs. 1400 equivalent to security deposit for one LPG cylinder and one pressure regulator. The details / modalities are being finalized. The scheme will be funded partly (50%) from Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) by the Government and partly from the CSR funds of the six oil companies namely IOCL, BPCL, HPCL, OIL, ONGC and GAIL and from the internal resources of three oil marketing companies.

To ensure that the benefits of the scheme are availed off only by the targeted i.e. BPL families OMCs have devised a detailed procedure for verification of BPL status through the State Government Civil Supplies Department which is the competent authority for issuing BPL ration card.

The proposed year-wise allocation of funds and the number of BPL families expected to be benefited by the scheme are as under:-

Year	Number of BPL families	Total Grant Amount
		(Rs. in Crore)
2010-11	35 lakh	490
2011-12	35 lakh	490