

8. ONGC pays compensation to the affected farmers through District Pollution Cell, and also payment of damage compensation is made directly by in-house negotiating committee of ONGC as per assessment of oil leakage.
- (c) ONGC is taking following steps to avoid incidence of oil leakages:—
  - Replacement of oil pipelines based on condition monitoring/health of pipelines.
  - Intelligent pigging of trunk lines is being carried out to monitor the health of pipelines
  - Improved 3 Layer Polyethylene (LPE) coating for pipelines for better resistance to external corrosion.
  - Technologies like Cathodic Protection, GRE lines for better pipeline protection.
  - Biotechnologies like PDB (Paraffin Degrading bacteria), Chemical Injection to protect pipelines.

#### **Enhancement in number of LPG dealers in Orissa**

3067. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of LPG dealers in Orissa alongwith number of blocks covered by these dealers;
- (b) whether Government has any plan to enhance the number of LPG dealers in Orissa in order to provide LPG connections in all the 314 blocks of the State; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) As on 01.11.2010, Public-Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are operating 203 LPG distributors in the State of Orissa, covering 145 blocks.

OMCs have issued notice inviting applications for selection of LPG distributors under the scheme Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitaran Yojana for establishing LPG distributors in 101 locations in the State of Orissa.

The selection of the same is in progress as per policy.

In addition to this, new regular LPG distributorships as well as RGGLVs are being planned to cover every block in the State of Orissa.

#### **Gas connections to poor families in Orissa**

3068. SHRI KISHORE KUMAR MOHANTY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering any proposal to provide gas connections to poor families in rural areas of Orissa;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has set any target for providing subsidized gas connections to the poor families in Orissa; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) A proposal for providing one time financial assistance to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in the country including in the State of Orissa for acquiring new LPG connection is under consideration of the Government. Under the proposed scheme, the Government and the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) would provide one time assistance of Rs. 1400 for acquiring a new LPG connection to a BPL family. The Rs. 1400 would cover the present security deposit on a LPG cylinder and regulator.

(c) and (d) The “Vision 2015” adopted for LPG sector *inter-alia* focuses on raising the population coverage of LPG with the focus on rural areas and areas where LPG coverage is low. The Vision-2015 envisages to achieve 75% population coverage in the country by releasing 5.5 crore new LPG connections by 2015 especially in rural areas and under-covered areas. To ensure that growth of LPG usage is evenly spread, OMCs are assessing/identifying locations in a phased manner under Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitaran Yojana (RGGLVY).

RGGLVY scheme which primarily aims at providing LPG to the rural households, including BPL families has been launched on 16.10.2009 and subsequently OMCs have undertaken to set up 2329 LPG distributors in 22 States including 101 locations in the State of Orissa. The selection of the same is in progress as per policy.

#### **Shortage of LPG cylinders in NER**

3069. SHRI KHEKIHO ZHIMOMI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is huge shortage of supply of LPG Cylinders to the customers in the North East Region (NER), particularly in Nagaland;
- (b) the details of gap between supply and demand of LPG in North-Eastern States, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government proposes to take any action to meet the demand in this region;
- (d) whether Government proposes to open new gas agencies in Nagaland;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and