

(d) and (e) Several measures have been taken by the Government/Oil PSUs to accelerate the production of crude oil in the country, which includes the following:

- (i) Offering of more unexplored areas for exploration through future New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP)/Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) bidding rounds.
- (ii) Introducing Policy/Guidelines allowing exploration in existing Mining Lease (ML) areas with certain conditions.
- (iii) Implementation of New Technologies such as horizontal well drilling etc.
- (iv) Application of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/ Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) techniques for increasing recovery factor from existing fields.

New LPG connections in Maharashtra

274. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

(a) the area-wise details of the new LPG connections for people and dealership opened in Maharashtra during last year; and

(b) the details of the proposed LPG dealership in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) The total number of new LPG connections released and number of distributorships opened by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) during the year 2012-13 and the period from Apr-June 2013 in the State of Maharashtra is as under:

Period	New connections released	Distributorship Commissioned
2012-13	13.56 Lakhs	77
Apr-June 2013	4.14 Lakhs	19

As on 01.07.2013, OMCs have advertised to open 68 Regular and 174 Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitarak (RGGLV) LPG distributorships in the State of Maharashtra out of which Letter of Intent (LoI) have been issued to 18 and 40 respectively.

Countrywide survey for assessing LPG consumption

275. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

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

(a) whether Government has conducted a countrywide survey to assess average annual consumption of cylinders per connection particularly in the rural and urban areas; area-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the report received so far; and

(c) if not, by when such a survey will be conducted, State-wise particularly in Andhra Pradesh including in the agency areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have reported that they have not conducted any survey to assess average annual consumption of LPG cylinders per connection and there is no proposal to conduct State-wise survey including for the State of Andhra Pradesh to assess the same.

Manipulation of electronic meters by petroleum dealers

276. SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by the Ministry in consultation with Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and State Governments on the fact that, by manipulating electronic meters by some petroleum dealers, consumers are getting lesser quantity of petroleum products for which they are paying money;