

Increasing use of LPG in rural areas

1551. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 85 per cent of rural India is still using firewood, crops residue or cow dung as its primary source of fuel for cooking;

(b) whether it is also a fact that about 20 per cent of urban Indians too use firewood for cooking;

(c) whether it is further a fact that less than 10 per cent households use LPG for cooking; and

(d) if so, the details of action taken to increase the use of LPG particularly in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (d) As per Census 2011, 85.7% of rural population reported using Firewood, Crop Residue or Cow Dung and 20.1% of urban population reported using Fire Wood as primary source of fuel for cooking purpose.

Further, as per Census 2011, 28.5% (Rural – 11.4% & Urban – 65%) of total population reported using LPG / PNG as primary source of fuel for Cooking purpose.

As per the Vision 2015 for the Oil Industry on “Consumer Satisfaction and Beyond” and further discussions on Perspective Plan, National LPG coverage has to be increased to 75%, with the district & State LPG coverage of minimum 50% & 60% respectively and atleast one distributor in each block. To achieve this target, OMCs are appointing LPG distributors in rural areas under the scheme Rajiv Gandhi Gramin LPG Vitrak (RGGLV) as well as Industry Marketing Plans.

As on 01.02.15, 15450 distributorships have been appointed in the country, which include 4178 RGGLVs.

Permission sought by Cairn India Ltd. for drilling of Exploratory Wells in ‘Kg’.

1552. SHRI SALIM ANSARI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Cairn India Limited has sought Government’s permission for undertaking drilling of 64 exploratory and appraisal wells in Krishna Godavari OSN-2009/3 gas blocks;