

Availability of LPG in rural areas of Bihar

†3158. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being adopted by Government to ensure the availability of LPG in rural areas and expansion thereof in Bihar;

(b) whether it is a fact that people are not getting benefits under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana owing to inadequate facilities of LPG in rural and semi-urban areas of Bihar; and

(c) if so, the measures being adopted by Government to develop gas infrastructure in rural areas of Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) With a view to increase the national LPG coverage to 75% by 2019, Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are continuously appointing new LPG distributors and more than 97% of blocks are covered by at least one LPG distributorship. Currently selection and commissioning of new distributors is underway in more than 2300 locations across the country including the State of Bihar. Further advertisement for 400 locations each in the States of UP and Odisha has been released by OMCs. Also, Letter of Intent (LoI) for 56 Durgam Kshetriya Vitrak (DKV) have been issued to various State run Co-operative Societies/Corporation.

(b) and (c) With a view to provide LPG connections to poor households, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) was launched to provide 5 crore new LPG connections to the women belonging to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families over a period of three years starting from Financial Year 2016-17.

As on 09.12.2016, Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have released 12288517 LPG connections under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) against the target of 1.5 crore LPG connections for 2016-17. This includes 13,61,233 LPG connections released in the State of Bihar. Further, 1059 LPG distributors are functioning in Bihar.

Introduction of transparent LPG cylinders

3159. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to introduce transparent LPG cylinders;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.