

Existing Guidelines	Amended Provision**
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Company Secretary</li> <li>• Cost Accountant</li> <li>• Diploma in Engineering</li> </ul>	
<p>Minimum Educational qualification is not applicable to Freedom Fighters under CC2 category.</p> <p>(b) In respect of applicants belonging to CC1 and CC2 categories:-</p> <p><b>For Rural ROs:</b> Passed Minimum 10th (examination conducted by a Board/School).</p> <p><b>For Regular ROs:</b> Passed Minimum 10+2 level of examination conducted by a Board/University.</p>	

\*\*The amendment pertaining to Educational qualification would be applicable from the next advertisement for dealer selection of retail outlets.

#### **Hydrocarbon exploration project at Karaikal**

3166. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has sanctioned a hydrocarbon exploration project to Puducherry to be established at Karaikal, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government of Puducherry has requested for establishment of the same in writing, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government of Puducherry is opposing the establishment of proposed hydrocarbon exploration project; and

(d) the response of the Central Government to the opposition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) The Government has approved Discovered Small Field (DSF) Policy for monetisation of 69 discovered small fields of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL), which had not been put into production by these companies. Under the Policy Government has recently approved award of 31 contract areas including Karaikal contract area to the successful bidders under DSF bid round 2016 for development of the field.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Land is acquired by the Contractor during drilling/exploration activity. For starting any petroleum activity, operator of the fields has to obtain or get the requisite Mining Lease transferred from ONGC through the State Government. After the grant/transfer of lease, to start any actual operations the operator will have to get requisite environmental clearances from State Government/Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change by following the prescribed process, which may involve public hearing also. The awarded projects are taken up for production only after following the requisite process including obtaining environmental clearances. ONGC in collaboration with local administration is disseminating information through various local media to allay the fears of people about environmental degradation.

### **Safety loopholes in PMUY**

3167. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;

(b) whether it is a fact that distributors have expressed some serious safety loopholes in the scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof and how Ministry is planning to plug the same for effective implementation of the scheme;

(d) the basis behind LPG Distributors of India Associations' allegation that 90 per cent of Ujjwala connections are unsafe; and

(e) how the Ministry is going to address the above and other concerns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Hon'ble Prime Minister launched Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) on 01.05.2016 from Balia, Uttar Pradesh. Under the Scheme, priority is given to 14 States/UTs, whose LPG average is lower than National coverage of 61.3 % as on 01.01.2016. As on 24.03.2017, OMCs have cleared 76,296 and 17,745 applications in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, respectively for release of LPG connections under PMUY Scheme.

(b) to (e) OMCs have given instructions to their LPG distributors to release LPG connections after satisfying and meeting all the safety norms for installation of LPG connections. Further, OMCs have reported that the following measures are adopted for ensuring safety and for educating the LPG customers who have been released LPG connections under PMUY Scheme:—