

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that the distributors are under instructions not to cancel the cash memo without any valid reason. Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS)/Short Message Service (SMS) refill booking system has been introduced by OMCs, wherein the customers get SMS on refill booking/generation of cash memo and refill delivery. In case, cash memo is cancelled by the distributor, the reason for the same is captured in the system and SMS of refill cancellation is also triggered to the consumers. In OMCs software, against cancelled refill, LPG cylinder cannot be delivered to any other person.

(b) OMCs carry out surprise inspections at distributors premises, conduct refill audits, surprise check at customer's premises, *en-route* checking of delivery vehicles etc. to prevent the diversion of domestic LPG. Further, whenever complaints are received, the same are investigated and in all established cases, punitive action is taken as per the extant Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) and the Distributorship Agreement. Whenever complaints/information on commercial establishments using domestic cylinders receive, State Government/District Authorities take necessary action.

(c) OMCs have released 25,050 LPG connections in Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana. Further, the target to issue 8 crore LPG connections under the Scheme has already been achieved on 7th September, 2019.

PNG in Andhra Pradesh

1103. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that geographical area of Nellore district has been given under PNGRB Act, 2006, to provide Piped Natural Gas (PNG) in Nellore district of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the status of providing Piped Natural Gas to the households in the above district?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) is the authority to grant authorization to the entities for the development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) network in Geographical Areas (GAs) as per PNGRB Act, 2006. PNGRB identifies GAs for authorizing the development of CGD network in synchronization with the development of natural gas pipeline connectivity and natural gas availability. Under the 10th CGD Bidding Round, PNGRB has authorized 50 Geographical Areas (GA) spread over 124 Districts across 14 States including Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore District (Nellore) GA in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

PNGRB has authorized Consortium of AG&P LNG Marketing Pte Ltd. and Atlantic Gulf and Pacific (AG&P) for development of CGD Networks in Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore District (Nellore) in the State of Andhra Pradesh. As per the Minimum Work Program submitted to PNGRB, the entity has committed to provide 8,52,111 PNG connections to households and to set up 81 CNG stations over the work plan period.

Production of CNG from stubble

1104. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that technology of converting stubble into Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is commercially viable;

(b) if so, whether Government has any such proposal to convert stubble into CNG, a move which will provide jobs and additional income to farmers and also will help reducing pollution; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the alternate arrangements for this purpose by Government?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) can be produced from biomass and organic waste sources like paddy straw and farm stubble, agricultural residue, cattle dung, sugarcane press mud, distillery spent wash, municipal solid waste, sewage treatment plant waste, forest residue etc.