

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 152
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18th JULY, 2022

Improvement in existing LPG distribution system

152 Shri Sanjeev Arora:
Shri K.C. Venugopal:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken steps to popularize the use of 2.5 kg LPG cylinder and if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated for this purpose;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to strengthen the existing LPG distribution system;
- (c) whether Government proposes to introduce partnership with the private companies for LPG distribution system;
- (d) if so, the strategy chalked out in this regard along with the names of the companies which have been shortlisted for such partnership in the country, and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the other steps taken by Government to improve the existing LPG distribution system?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

- (a) Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) encourage the use of 5 KG LPG cylinders by LPG consumers. Consumers of domestic LPG including Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) beneficiaries have the option to take 5 Kg connections. In addition, the option of 2 Kg and 5 Kg connections are given under the Free Trade LPG (FTL) category where the cylinder is sold on an outright basis unlike in the case of domestic/non-domestic LPG cylinders which are essentially loaned to the customers. The process of getting a 5 Kg FTL cylinder connection has also been simplified and submission of only Proof of Identity is required for getting a connection.
- (b) to (e) To strengthen the distribution system, OMCs expand the distribution network by commissioning new LPG distributorships and by setting up new LPG bottling plants/augmenting the capacity of existing LPG bottling plants. The number of distributors and bottling plants have gone up from 13,896 and 187 as of 01.04.2014 to 25,303 and 203 as of 01.07.2022, respectively. Further, OMCs have been taking steps for the establishment of Private Bottling facilities in various areas and 14 Private Bottlers have already been commissioned. OMCs have also joined hands with Common Service Centres (CSCs) to improve access to various LPG services like booking refills and refill delivery in rural and far-flung areas and as of June 2022, agreements with more than 57000 CSCs have been concluded.