

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2369
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13 MARCH, 2025

High Cost of Domestic LPG Cylinder in Lakshadweep

2369. Shri Muhammed Hamdullah Sayeed:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the cost of a domestic LPG cylinder in Lakshadweep is 1,303.50, whereas in Kerala, it is only 812 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for this significant price disparity and the factors contributing to the high cost of LPG in Lakshadweep;
- (c) whether the Government has considered any specific measures to rationalize LPG pricing in Lakshadweep and align it with the rates in Kerala to alleviate the financial burden on the islanders, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to subsidize or reduce the additional logistical costs associated with transporting LPG to remote islands like Lakshadweep;
- (e) whether the Government take immediate action to ensure equitable LPG pricing in Lakshadweep and promote the use of clean cooking fuel in line with Sustainable Development Goal (Affordable and Clean Energy), if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the Government acknowledges that the high cost of LPG is forcing residents to rely on traditional cooking fuels, leading to environmental and health concerns particularly for women and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(श्री सुरेश गोपी)

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

(SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a) to (f): Distribution of LPG in Lakshadweep islands is done by Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) through Lakshadweep Co-operative Marketing Federation (LCMF), designated as the wholesale agent of Lakshadweep Administration under Public Distribution System. The price of domestic LPG in Lakshadweep islands is Rs. 1303.50 per 14.2 Kg cylinder. The current pricing of Lakshadweep is based on Kochi market in Kerala. Additional transportation and handling charges are charged from consumers by LCMF.

The Selling Price at Lakshadweep varies from island to island based on the expenditure incurred on placement of cylinders by Lakshadweep Co-operative Marketing Federation (LCMF). The amount of expenditure incurred on placement of cylinders includes transportation charges, handling and port charges and is worked out by LCMF. The incurred cost is advised by LCMF to cooperative society of each island and is charged from LPG consumers.

To ensure seamless LPG supplies in Lakshadweep islands, IOCL has hired two marine vessels MV Elikalpeni and MV Ganga for placement of LPG cylinders at various islands of Lakshadweep, incurring additional costs which are currently being borne by IOCL.
