

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1981
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31st July, 2025

LPG Distribution Network of IOC in Lakshadweep

1981. Shri Muhammed Hamdullah Sayeed:

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the islands of Chetlat and Bitra in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep are currently not covered under the LPG distribution network of Indian Oil Corporation (IOC);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for the continued non-availability of LPG distribution facilities in these remote islands;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to take immediate steps to establish LPG distribution or alternative supply mechanisms in Chetlat and Bitra islands to ensure access to clean cooking fuel for the residents;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the timeline and modalities proposed for the implementation of such facilities; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री

(श्री सुरेश गोपी)

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a) to (e): Domestic LPG supplies in Lakshadweep island is solely done by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL). The UT of Lakshadweep islands constitutes of 10 inhabited islands, viz- Kavaratti, Androth, Minicoy, Amini, Agatti, Kadmat, Kalpeni, Kiltan, Chetlat & Bitra.

LPG cylinders are taken on ships/boats from Calicut bottling plant to various islands in the UT. Domestic LPG distribution to these islands is done by distributorship run by Lakshadweep Cooperative Marketing Federation (LCMF), a cooperative society under the Union Territory of Lakshadweep Administration (UTLA). LCMF currently oversees the distribution of LPG cylinders across the UT of Lakshadweep through a network of godowns and extension counters.

Chetlat and Bitra are small islands with populations of only 2,347 and 271 people respectively, according to the 2011 Census. Residents of these islands avail LPG supplies from extension counters/godowns located in nearby islands currently.

To further improve the supply infrastructure in Chetlat and Bitra, UTLA, has constructed dedicated LPG cylinder Godowns in these islands for use by LCMF.
