

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1041
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05th February, 2026

Availability of LPG Agency in Rural Areas

†1041. Smt. Anita Nagarsingh Chouhan:

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether the number of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) agencies in the rural, tribal and remote areas of the Ratlam Parliamentary Constituency is inadequate resulting in serious difficulties for consumers in obtaining gas connections, timely refilling and distribution, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any survey, site selection or prepared any proposal for approval of new LPG agencies or expansion of existing agencies in the said Constituency, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government proposes to approve new LPG agencies promptly, keeping in view the population, geographical location and consumer demand in the area, if so, the likely timeframe thereof?

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 (c):- Appointment of LPG distributorships by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) is a continuous process and locations for setting up of LPG distributorships are identified and advertised as per Unified Selection Guidelines for LPG distributorships (USG)-2016.

The process of applying for LPG distributorship has been simplified and a transparent online selection process is in place. All applicants are required to submit their application on web-based portal <https://www.lpgvitarakchayan.in>. The online selection process includes, online receipt of application, processing and online draw of lots etc. Detailed guidelines on eligibility, infrastructure requirement of land for LPG godown, approach road for godown, Showroom, infrastructure for home delivery of LPG cylinders etc. along with the details of selection process are given at www.lpgvitrakchayan.in.

As of January 01, 2026, there are a total of 25,596 LPG distributorships across the country, out of which 17,668 are serving rural areas. In order to improve access of LPG in rural and remote areas, OMCs have commissioned a total of 8,027 distributorships, during 01.04.2016 to 31.12.2025 across the country, out of which 7,434 (i.e. 93 %) are catering to rural areas.

To further improve last-mile delivery in remote and underserved habitations, OMCs have taken several measures, including commissioning of new distributorships, appointment of Common Service Center - Village Level Entrepreneur (CSC VLEs), use of modern technology tools for order booking and payments.

Ratlam Parliamentary Constituency covers Ratlam, Jhabua & Alirajpur districts and is served by a total of 68 LPG distributors of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) including 58 rural (Rurban, Gramin & Durgam Kshetriya Vitrak (DKV)) distributors. Further, OMCs have advertised two new LPG distributorships, the details of which are as under:

Sr. No.	District	Type of LPG Distributorship	Oil Marketing Company
1	Alirajpur	Durgam Kshetriya Vitrak (DKV)	IOCL
2	Jhabua	Durgam Kshetriya Vitrak (DKV)	BPCL

Source: IOCL on behalf of PSU OMCs

To improve last mile delivery in these districts, OMCs have also engaged 61 numbers of CSC-VLEs (Common Service Centre – Village Level Entrepreneur), etc. As a result of these efforts, the average refill delivery time in these districts is less than 1.5 days.
