

## DISTRIBUTION OF SKO IN PUNJAB

The Department had issued a policy for distribution of Kerosene oil in the year 1994, which had following discrepancies:

- A ratio of 60:40 was fixed for distribution of kerosene oil in the urban and rural areas respectively, which was arbitrary.
- Consumers in the different districts were getting different quantity of kerosene oil.
- All the consumers in the State were treated as one category and the social & economically weaker sections were not considered separately.
- Consumers with Single Bottle Connection (SBC) were being given a meager quantity of 3 lts.

The State Government, in August, 2009, issued **a revised policy** for distribution of kerosene oil for uniform distribution of SKO to all the deserving/ needy consumers in the State. As per the new policy:

- The ratio of 60:40 for distribution of kerosene was done away with and distribution of kerosene oil to the LPG users was also stopped.
- All the consumers in the State were divided into five categories on the basis of their economic condition and each category is being distributed 10 lts. SKO per card every month.
- The five categories for distribution of kerosene oil and the number of consumers under each category (districtwise details attached) is given below:

Category		Number of consumers getting kerosene oil
I	BPL ration card holders	2,62,545
II	AAY ration card holders	1,21,406
III	Blue ration card holders	8,90,716
IV	Red card holders	1,485
V	Consumers who were either APL or not covered under the four categories are covered under this category	9,73,848
	Total	22,50,000

- State Government is receiving a monthly allocation of 22500 KL SKO per month from GOI. The total quantity of SKO allocated by the GOI for a particular month is to be lifted and distributed by the wholesale dealers before 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Normally, the oil companies do not allow lifting after 25<sup>th</sup> and the unlifted quantity lapses, but in case of non availability or late availability the SKO is lifted and distributed upto the end of the month. Oil companies do not carry over the unlifted quantity of SKO, but in case there is any undistributed quantity available with the wholesaler/ retailers, the same is carried forward by the State Government.
- In order to ensure that the consumers get their due quota of SKO regularly, monthly checking norms have been fixed for all the field officials. The field officials are required to verify the sale of SKO.
- Oil Companies (IOC, HPCL & BPCL) supply kerosene oil to the wholesale dealers at three points in the State. The three distribution points and details of districts attached with them are given below:

Bathinda	Muktsar, Moga, Bathinda, Mansa, Faridkot and Ferozepur
Sangrur	Ropar, Sangrur, Barnala, Patiala, Fatehgarh Sahib, SAS Nagar and Ludhiana
Jalandhar	Jalandhar, Tarntaran, Gurdaspur, Amritsar, Hoshiarpur, Kapurthala, SBS Nagar, Ferozepur, Ropar and Ludhiana

- *In order to check pilferage & diversion of SKO, the State Government has initiated installation of Vehicle Tracking System (VTS) in the Tank Trucks (TT) carrying SKO, so that their movement can be monitored through the Global Positioning System (GPS). Presently, this system has been installed on Pilot basis in three TTs in Ferozepur District.*