

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1345  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2010  
SHORTAGE OF LPG  
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that domestic cooking gas distributors are creating artificial scarcity of gas and charging more prices for gas cylinder ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government would ensure the availability of cooking gas as per the requirement in Karnataka ; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) & (b) : Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have not detected any cases of creating artificial scarcity by any of their LPG distributors. However, OMCs have detected 74 established cases of overcharging of LPG against their LPG distributors in the country, out of which 6 cases were established in the State of Karnataka between April – December, 2009. Action against all the erring distributors was taken as per provisions of Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG).

(c) & (d) : OMCs have reported that at present, there is no overall shortage of LPG in the country including the State of Karnataka and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the OMCs through indigenous production and imports in accordance with the genuine demand of customers registered with the LPG distributors.

OMCs have reported that they have supplied 575.57 Thousand Metric Tonnes (TMT) of domestic LPG in the State of Karnataka between April 2009 to January 2010 as against 537.89 TMT of domestic LPG during the corresponding period of last year, showing a growth rate of 7.01%.