

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:846
ANSWERED ON:09.07.2009
CIRCULATION OF FAKE GAS CYLINDERS
Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar

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

- (a) whether complaints have been received by the Government about circulation of a large number of fake gas cylinders in the country ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) the number of such cases detected during the last three years and current year, year-wise and State-wise ; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to check circulation of fake cylinders in the country ?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) : Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have not reported instances of large scale circulation of fake LPG cylinders in the country. However, there have been some instances when spurious cylinders were detected by the OMCs at the distributors' premises. During the years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and April – May, 2009, OMCs have detected 156 number of spurious cylinders in the country. The year-wise and state-wise details are at Annex.

(d): OMCs are procuring LPG cylinders from cylinder manufacturers who are approved by the Oil Industry Technical Committee (OITC) and have valid manufacturing licences from the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and the Chief Controller of Explosives (CCOE). Strict control is exercised by BIS over the manufacturing process. LPG cylinders procured by OMCs meet the required quality standards.

LPG cylinders received from distributors/transporters at the bottling plants are mandatorily checked for quality and genuineness to avoid the entry of fake and outlived cylinders in circulation. On detection of sub-standard / spurious cylinders, these are confiscated and thereafter de-shaped / crushed to prevent their re-entry into circulation.

Apart from the legal action which could be taken against any supplier of spurious LPG equipment, in case any distributor is found in possession of spurious equipment or inducts such equipment in the distribution system, Marketing Discipline Guidelines provide, inter-alia, for confiscation of equipment, imposition of fine and recovery at penal rates for the first and second offences and termination of distributorship in the event of a third offence.