

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2024
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2011
BENAMI/BOGUS LPG CONNECTIONS
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of LPG connections in the country as on date;
- (b) whether a sizeable number of LPG connections are bogus/benami;
- (c) if so, whether the Union Government proposes to carry out a survey in order to identify fake LPG connections;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the punitive action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government against the LPG distributors indulged in release of benami/bogus LPG connections?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI R. P. N. SINGH)

- (a): As on 01.07.2011, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) were serving 1279.71 lakhs LPG customers in the country.
- (b) to (d): In order to check release of multiple connections leading to diversion of the highly subsidized domestic LPG, Government has amended the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order, 2000, vide Notification dated 10.09.2009 which, inter-alia, provides for only one LPG connection per household.

Efforts are being made by OMCs for identifying multiple connections in the same name and/or same address by a software based de-duplication process. The connections identified are being blocked/terminated, after informing the customers.

Under Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) aligned pilot project for LPG distribution is being commenced in Hyderabad and Mysore, the UIDAI number of all customers and their family members will be collected and the connections without UID and one UID having more than one connection will be blocked/terminated.
- (e): In order to stop various malpractices including release of benami / bogus LPG connection, enrollment of Transfer Voucher (TV)/Termination Transfer Voucher (TTV), Government has formulated "Marketing Discipline Guidelines, 2001" which provides for penal action against LPG distributors to prevent blackmarketing of LPG.