

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:51

ANSWERED ON:24.11.2011

UNDERWEIGHT GAS CYLINDERS

Tudu Shri Laxman;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

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

(a) whether the Government has taken note of the reported irregularities indulged in by the Oil Marketing Companies/LPG distributors especially in the supply of underweight cylinders during the winter season ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the number of godowns of various gas agencies/companies raided alongwith the number of cases in which irregularities were reported during the last three years, State-wise ;

(d) the action taken against the guilty persons so far, State-wise ?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 51 BY SHRI LAXMAN TUDU AND SHRI ANJAN KUMAR M . YADAV TO BE ANSWERED ON 24TH NOVEMBER, 2011 REGARDING UNDERWEIGHT GAS CYLINDERS.

(a) to (d) : To keep check on the irregularities in the supply of LPG cylinders, surprise Quality Control Checks which include weighment of cylinders, are carried out at the distributor godowns. Also, weight checking of filled cylinders in transit is done by the field officers to check pilferage/presence of any underweight cylinders. The distributors have also been instructed to satisfy the customers about the correct weight of cylinders by weighing them, to ensure that the seals are verified & shown to the customers at the time of delivery. In case any under-weight cylinder is received by the customer, such cylinders are to be replaced free of charge by the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs).

Based on the established complaints of diversion/ supply of partially-used cylinders / under-weight cylinders / pilfering product from LPG cylinders, action has been taken in 136 cases against the erring LPG distributors in the country during the last three years and the period April 2011 to September, 2011 under the provisions of Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG)/Distributorship Agreement. The State-wise and year-wise details are at Annexure.

Whenever OMCs receive complaints, these are investigated and if the complaint is established, suitable action is taken against the LPG distributor(s) in accordance with the provisions of the MDG.

MDG, 2001 provides inter-alia following action against erring LPG distributors:-

Fine of ` 20,000 plus the price of LPG diverted at commercial rates for 1st offence.

Fine of ` 50,000 plus the price of LPG diverted at commercial rates for 2nd offence.

#Termination of the distributorship for 3rd offence.