

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:590

ANSWERED ON:17.05.2012

PILFERAGE OF LPG

Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Mishra Shri Mahabal

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

- (a) whether cases of gas pilferage before supplying LPG cylinders to consumers have come to light in various parts of the country ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) the total number of such cases brought before the Government during each of the last three years and the current year ;
- (d) the efforts being made by the Government to stop the said malpractice ; and
- (e) the details of the action taken against the LPG distributors who are indulging in the said malpractice ?

**Answer**

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 590 BY SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN AND SHRI MAHABAL MISHRA TO BE ANSWERED ON 17TH MAY, 2012 REGARDING PILFERAGE OF LPG.

(a) : Yes, Madam.

(b), (c) & (e) : Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have reported that based on the established complaints of supply of partially used cylinders / under-weight cylinders/ pilfering product from LPG cylinders, action has been taken in 93 cases in the country during the last three years under the provisions of Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG)/Distributorship Agreement (DA).

(d) : The officials of OMCs carry out checks at distributors' godowns, delivery points, as well as en-route to prevent pilferage. The distributors of OMCs are under strict instructions to check the weight of cylinders at their godowns before delivery, and only cylinders with the specified weight are to be delivered to the customers. The distributors have been instructed 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 replaced with a fresh refill cylinder without any additional charges.

Further, joint inspections/ raids are conducted by the officers of OMCs in coordination with State Government officials to curb pilferage of LPG and cases are filed by the District Administration against the culprits under various provisions of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and other relevant Acts.

Government have issued advertisements cautioning the public that use of domestic LPG for non-domestic purposes is dangerous and against the national interest. Through these advertisements, cooperation of the general public has also been sought to report any irregularity / malpractice to the OMCs.