

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1099

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2012

SURPRISE RAIDS ON LPG DISTRIBUTORS

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

- (a) the details of surprise raids carried out by the Government and the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to check blackmarketing at LPG distributors premises, refill audits, surprise check at customer premises, en-route checking of delivery vehicles during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise particularly in the North-Eastern States including Assam;
- (b) the number of cases of irregularities noticed during the same along with the number of cases filed against the guilty in this regard ;
- (c) whether the information about the raids gets conveyed well in advance due to nexus between officers of the OMCs and LPG distributors and the raids conducted are merely an eyewash; and
- (d) if so, the action taken/being taken by the Government against the corrupt officers of OMCs?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : To check blackmarketing of LPG, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) carry out regular surprise inspections at distributors` premises, conduct refill audits, surprise checks at customers` premises, en-route checking of delivery vehicles etc. If LPG distributors are found guilty, action is taken in accordance with the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG).

During the last three years, 50346 number of refill audit and 90698 inspections were conducted at the LPG distributorships in the country. Based on the established cases of irregularities, including, diversion/ blackmarketing of LPG, action has been taken in 4901 cases against the erring LPG distributors during the said period, under the provisions of MDG. The State-wise details are Annexed.

(c) : Raids are carried out without prior intimation and no such instances have come to notice where the distributors were tipped-off in advance.

(d): Does not arise in view of (c) above.