

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1426  
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2013  
DUBIOUS SMALL LPG CYLINDERS  
Shivanagouda Shri Shivaramagouda

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

- (a) whether instances of refill of dubious small LPG cylinders of 2-3 kilogram being sold in the country have come to the notice of the Government;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SMT PANABAAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) To (c) : The 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 small LPG cylinders of 2-3 kilograms are not marketed by them in the country.

The possibility of malpractice of subsidized domestic LPG cylinders by some unscrupulous elements cannot be ruled out due to the wide gap between the retail price of LPG for domestic use and the market price for commercial LPG.

To check on malpractices in LPG distribution, OMCs carry out regular surprise inspections at distributors premises, conduct refill audits, surprise checks at customers premises, en-route checking of delivery vehicles, surprise quality control checks which includes weighing of cylinders carried out at the distributors godown etc. If any malpractice by distributors is detected, action is taken in accordance with the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) and distributorship agreement.