

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:383  
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2013  
FAKE LPG CONNECTIONS  
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**Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Oil Marketing Companies (OMC's) have initiated action against the LPG distributors for issuing fake/bogus connections to the fictitious persons in the country particularly in Northern States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the OMCs have any programme to investigate connections issued during the last five years;
- (d) the total number of LPG connections closed during the last five years; and
- (e) the other corrective measures being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard ?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) 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 cases of unauthorized release of LPG connections have come to the notice of OMCs in various States including Northern States. In all established cases of malpractices / Irregularities, action has been taken against the erring distributors as per Provisions of Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG), 2001. Details of established cases of malpractices / irregularities on All India basis including Northern States of unauthorized release of LPG connections by distributors for the period 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and April-October, 2013 are given below:-

Period	Apr-Oct`13	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11	2009-10
All India	28	109	74	58	43
NR	18	81	45	30	21

(c) to (e) OMCs have reported that detection of unauthorized / bogus LPG connections is a regular exercise undertaken by OMCs and is done during regular and surprise inspections by Field Officers and other concerning OMCs officials. Also the above aspect is checked by independent agencies such as Anti Adulteration Cell and Vigilance Department of OMCs. Whenever complaints are received, detailed investigation is carried out.

Weeding out of fake / bogus LPG connections is a continuous process and action is being taken to identify and block all such connections electronically.

As a part of cleaning up the LPG customer data base, Multiple LPG connections have been identified from the entire customer data base of OMCs since inception and such multiple connections have been blocked. Details of total number of LPG connections blocked / surrendered (closed) as on 01.11.2013 including last five years are given below:-

Category	No. of LPG Connections blocked & Surrendered			
	Blocked	Surrendered		
All India NR	All India	NR		
Total	8952549	3545179	103966	31923