

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3205

ANSWERED ON:16.03.2015

MULTIPLE LPG CONNECTION

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

- (a) the number of households having multiple LPG connections issued by different Oil Marketing Companies (OMC`s) surrendered by consumers and cancelled by OMC during the last three years and the current year, OMC/State/UT-wise;
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to stop and restrict the use of domestic LPG to industrial sector in the country;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to waive off the security deposit to get new LPG connection for domestic use;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with amount taken by OMC as security deposit to get new LPG connection in the country;
- (e) whether the Government has allowed private companies to distribute cooking gas in the country;
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with number of such companies which are operating for distribution of LPG cylinders in the country, company/State/UT-wise; and (g) whether a large number of applicants for LPG connection in the country are in the waiting list and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with steps taken by the Government to clear the waiting list for LPG connection in the country, State/UT-wise particularly in Maharashtra ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a): State/UT/OMC-wise number of multiple domestic LPG connections of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), blocked & surrendered/cancelled as on 01.03.2015 are at Annexure I.

(b): The possibility of malpractice/ irregularities in subsidized domestic LPG cylinders by unscrupulous elements cannot be ruled out due to the lower retail price of subsidized LPG for domestic use vis a vis the market price for commercial LPG. OMCs are on vigil to prevent and take action against black marketing of cylinders.

OMCs have reported that the filled LPG cylinders are supplied to customers with proper heat shrinkable preformed PVC seal. Distributors are under instructions to ensure that Pre- Delivery Inspection (PDi) is carried out when the deliveries are made to the customers.

OMCs also carry out 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 of any malpractice, punitive action is taken in accordance with the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG).

Moreover, various initiatives have been taken by the Government viz. capping on supply of subsidized cylinders, de-duplication, a 24x7 LPG service portal www.MyLPG.in, re-launched Direct Benefit Transfer for LPG consumer (DBTL) scheme called, 'PAHAL', KYC exercise etc. which reduce the misuse and diversion of subsidized LPG cylinders.

(c)& (d): Presently, there is no proposal under consideration to waive off the security deposit for LPG connection.

OMCs have reported that as on date they are collecting a refundable security deposit for domestic cylinders) and regulator @ Rs 1450/- per 14.2 Kg LPG cylinder and Rs.150/- for pressure regulator (PR) except for North Eastern States where the deposit rate is Rs. 1150/- and Rs.100/- respectively. With regard to 5 Kg. domestic LPG cylinder, it is Rs. 350/- per cylinder for whole country and Rs 150/- for PR except North Eastern States where it is Rs 100/-

(e) & (f) : As per the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order, 2000, a parallel marketeer can import and market LPG under the Parallel Marketing System (PMS) on which no subsidy is payable from Government. As per the information available with Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell (PPAC), State/UT-wise number of parallel marketeers are at Annexure II.

The parallel marketeers, operate subject to fulfillment of the conditions prescribed in the said LPG Control Order.

(g): As on 01.03.2015, State-wise details of waiting list for release of new LPG connection including for the State of Maharashtra is at

Annexure III. Liquidation of the waiting list for new LPG connections is a continuous process dependent on the fulfilment of formalities by the consumer.