

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1357
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2014
ANTI PILFERAGE DEVICES ON LPG
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of cases of pilferage of LPG cylinders reported in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to fit anti-pilferage devices on LPG cylinders;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the action taken by the Government to check cases of cylinder pilferages?

Answer

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

(a) & (d) : The State/UT-wise details of established cases of pilferage noticed by Public Sector oil Marketing companies (OMCs) is at Annexure. In all established cases action has been taken against the erring LPG distributors as per provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG).

The possibility of malpractice/ irregularities in subsidized domestic LPG cylinders 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. Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) maintain 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. Instructions have been given to the distributors to ensure that Pre Delivery Inspection (PDI) is carried out when the deliveries are made to the customers, which consist of checking for intact seal, correct weight, valve leak, body leak and bung leak of the cylinder at the premises of the customer before the delivery is made.

OMCs also conduct surprise inspections at distributors premises, refill audits, random 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, introduction of Transparency Portal, KYC exercise and re-launch of DBTL etc which reduce the misuse and diversion of subsidized LPG cylinders.

(b) & (c) : At present, there is no such proposal under consideration of Ministry.