

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:188
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2014
ILLEGAL REFILLING OF LPG CYLINDERS
Chaudhary Shri P.P.;Karandlaje Km. Shobha

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

- (a) whether the illegal practice of refilling of 5 Kg LPG cylinders from big cylinders are on rise in various gas agencies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the accidents reported during the last three years and the current year and the action taken by the Government against gas distributors / persons involved therein, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has issued guidelines to refill domestic gas cylinders through various petrol/diesel pumps in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the said kind of refilling in gas agencies/ petrol and diesel pumps/gas stove shops is allowed under Petroleum Explosive Safety Organisation rules; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the provision made by the Government to issue licence in this regard ?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) :Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that there are no established cases of illegal practice of refilling of 5 kg LPG cylinders from big cylinders or of accidents at distributor premises. However, the possibility of malpractice/irregularities in subsidized domestic LPG cylinders by some 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 have reported that regular/surprise inspection are carried out by their Field Officers, Anti Adulteration Cell and Vigilance Department at LPG godowns and showrooms of LPG distributorships. OMCs also carry 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 of any malpractice, punitive action is taken in accordance with the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG). Various initiatives have been taken by the Government viz. capping on supply of subsidized cylinders, de-duplication, introduction of Transparency Portal, KYC exercise, re-launch of modified DBTL etc. which will reduce the misuse and diversion of subsidized LPG cylinders

(c) & (d) : No.

(e) : Does not arise.