

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3018
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7th August, 2025

Incidents of Fire and Explosion of LPG Cylinders

†3018. Shri Laxmikant Pappu Nishad:

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether the incidents of fire and explosion of LPG cylinders are being reported continuously across the country in which many citizens have lost their lives and it has caused heavy damage to public property and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the incidents of theft of gas from LPG tankers plying on roads and illegal filling of cylinders have come to light which include Ajmer incident in January 2025 arrest of three persons for illegal filling from HPCL tanker at Awantipora in Jammu and Kashmir in June 2025 and seizure of large number of cylinders in Bhopal in February 2025 and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether such illegal fillings endanger the lives of the public by completely ignoring the safety standards and quality control procedures laid down for authorized distributors, if so the details thereof and the action taken/to be taken in this regard?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री

(श्री सुरेश गोपी)

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

(SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a) to (c): Accidents in domestic LPG cylinders happen due to various reasons which inter-alia include pilferage from cylinders, transfer of LPG from domestic to non-domestic cylinder, use of non-approved/non-standard equipments, improper handling at consumer's premises, not changing hosepipe periodically leading to its wear & tear, failure of O-rings, leakage from LPG hose, leakage from stove, LPG cylinder bursting due to extreme heat generated during fire caused by other factors etc.

Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are under directions to ensure that LPG connections are released after satisfying and meeting all the safety norms stipulated for installation of LPG connections. Provisions, norms and steps taken to ensure compliance with safety standards while providing connections in all areas are as under

- (i) Grant of approval for manufacturing units of LPG cylinders, valves and LPG regulators and design of these equipments, licensing of storage premises, cylinder testing and filling etc. is regulated under Gas Cylinder Rules 2016.

- (ii) Safe usage of LPG cylinders by Domestic LPG consumers, including PMUY beneficiaries are governed under Liquefied Petroleum Gas (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order 2000.
- (iii) LPG cylinders are periodically tested for safety as per norms of the Chief Controller of Explosives, Petroleum & Explosive Safety Organisation (PESO).
- (iv) Supply of a laminated safety card with pictorial depictions of do's and don'ts related to LPG connection to every PMUY beneficiary at the time of releasing LPG connections. Installation of LPG connection at premises of the customer by a trained mechanic.
- (v) Organisation of Safety Clinics by distributor to spread awareness about safety aspects of LPG. Dedicated round the clock helpline number (1906) for immediate action in case of LPG leakage complaints.
- (vi) Organisation of mass awareness programs on safe usage of LPG through audio-video/print media, banners/hoardings, leaflets, pamphlets, etc.
- (vii) Organisation of Pradhan Mantri LPG Panchayats in villages to spread awareness about safe and sustained usage of LPG amongst PMUY beneficiaries.

Further, a Basic Safety campaign was organised during March, 2024 to December, 2024 across the country under the theme “Khushiyan Ab Teen Guna” with the objective of reaching the doorsteps of domestic LPG customers. The campaign was designed to educate consumers on the safe usage of LPG, complemented by extensive mass awareness initiatives through print and electronic media, on-site safety checks at customer premises, and the replacement of Suraksha hoses. The campaign achieved significant progress with over 12.12 crore free basic safety checks conducted at customer premises without any cost to consumer and more than 4.65 crore LPG hoses replaced at discounted rates. Additionally, audio-visual (AV) materials were utilized during various field safety initiatives, such as LPG Panchayats and LPG Safety Clinics in schools, as well as for general public outreach. These AVs were also shared across social media platforms to maximize reach and impact.

OMCs have intimated that as a results of steps taken to enhance safety in LPG system, number of accidents have come down from 2.13 per million (in FY 2022-23) to 0.97 per million (in FY-2024-25).

OMCs have informed that in Awantipora, Jammu and Kashmir, an LPG carrying Tank Trucks (TTs) contracted by HPCL, was found involved in illegal filling from tankers to LPG cylinders in June 2025. Necessary action has been initiated and the said Bulk Tanker has been suspended as per Transport Discipline Guidelines, for indulging in pilferage.

Further, in February, 2025, a joint inspection team led by the district authority, conducted surprise raids at six locations in Bhopal. The operation resulted in the seizure of, inter-alia, 55 domestic cylinders at an unauthorised location. Legal action against culprits has been initiated by the District Administration. In another such raid undertaken by police at Talaiya, in Bhopal 15 LPG cylinders were seized at an unauthorised location. The shopkeeper was booked under relevant sections of the Essential Commodities Act. No such incident has been reported from Ajmer in January, 2025.
