Inquiry into release of multiple LPG connections

3841. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government/Oil Corporations propose to conduct enquiry for the involvement of officials of the oil corporations/LPG distributorships in regard to release of multiple LPG connections and benami LPG connections on the basis of bogus, tampered and fabricated documents in Haryana and Punjab and also to fix responsibility;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that they have not noticed any instance of their officials involved in release of multiple LPG connections and benami LPG connections on the basis of bogus, tampered and fabricated documents in the State of Haryana and Punjab. However, some cases of unauthorized release of new LPG connections by the LPG distributors have been established and details of the same for the last three years and the period from April, 2012 to February, 2013 are as under:

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Apr' 2012-Feb'2013
Punjab	6	9	3	6
Haryana	0	0	7	5

In all the established cases, action has been taken against the erring LPG distributors according to provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG), 2001.

Prevention of oil pilferage during transportation

†3842. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the cases of oil pilferage during transportation;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of such cases which have come to the light during the current year and the last three years; State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government against the persons found guilty; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the corrective measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government to check oil pilferage in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported 442 number of cases of oil pilferage during the last three years and current year (up to 28th April, 2013). State/UT-wise detail is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) OMCs have taken penal action of blacklisting of Tank Trucks (TTs), termination of transportation contract etc. against the erring transporters as per the provisions of the Transport Disciplines Guidelines (TDG). FIRs have been lodged in all the cases of oil pilferage from pipelines and investigations are in progress at various stages.

(d) The following steps have been taken by the OMCs to check oil pilferage:

I. Oil pilferage from Tank Trucks:

(a) OMCs have Industry Transport Disciplines Guidelines (TDG) in place for taking penal action against transporters found involved in enroute oil pilferage.

(b) Tamper Proof Locking arrangements have been provided in Tank Trucks engaged in supply of petroleum products.

(c) Global Positioning System (GPS) based tracking system have been provided in the Tank Trucks engaged in supply of petroleum products.

II. Oil Pilferage from Product Pipelines:

Government has amended the Petroleum & Mineral Pipelines (P&MP) Act, 1962 making the Act more stringent. Further, OMCs have taken following measures to check oil pilferage from product pipelines:

(a) Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA) has been installed for effective monitoring and controlling of cross-country pipelines.

(b) Deployment of Director General of Resettlement (DGR) sponsored Security Agencies for carrying out line walking.

(c) Surprise night inspections and mock excavations are done to check the alertness of Line Walkers.

(d) Reward scheme to motivate informers.

(e) To increase awareness, periodic meetings are held with police at District/State Level. Interactions with village panchayats are also held to enhance awareness.

(f) Industry coordination meeting on Onshore Security Coordination with DG of Police of the Concerned State.

(g) CCTVs have been installed at all Sectionalizing Valve (SV) and Cathodic Protection (CP) Stations and monitored by Control Room Officers.

(h) GPS based Security personnel tracking system to enhance effectiveness of Line Walkers.

(i) Night Vision Binoculars have been provided for better security and surveillance of the pipelines.

(j) Pipeline Integrity Management program and practices have been developed to manage pipeline integrity.

The Government of India has also directed State Governments to take due action to contain oil pilferage in pipelines passing through their jurisdiction.

Statement

State/UT-wise number of cases of oil pilferage during transportation for the last three years and current year (up to 28th April, 2013)

Sl. No.	State	Cases of oil pilferage from Tank Trucks	Cases of oil pilferage from product pipelines
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	32	1
2.	Assam	*7	-
3.	Bihar	8	1
4.	Delhi	11	-

1	2	3	4
5.	Gujarat	32	11
6.	Goa	1	-
7.	Haryana	36	28
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	-
9.	Jharkhand	5	-
10.	Karnataka	34	-
11.	Kerala	23	-
12.	Madhya Pradesh	17	1
13.	Maharashtra	40	1
14.	Odisha	25	-
15.	Punjab	3	-
16.	Rajasthan	17	26
17.	Tamil Nadu	33	-
18.	Uttar Pradesh	19	9
19.	West Bengal	17	2
	TOTAL	361	81

* Oil pilferage cases inclusive of all North Eastern States.

Exploration of gas reserves in Rajasthan

†3843. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has explored natural gas reserves in several desert areas of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the districts of the State where such areas are located; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.