

**SUPERVISION OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF 3 KG SUBSIDIZED LPG GAS
FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF MAQASHID SYARIAH
(A Case Study at a Distribution Base in Kuala Batee Subdistrict, Southwest
Aceh Regency)**

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Abstract

The distribution of subsidized LPG is part of the government's policy to ensure access to basic energy needs for low-income communities. However, in practice, several irregularities persist, including off-target distribution, prices exceeding the official Retail Price Ceiling (HET), and weak oversight mechanisms at the base distribution level. This study aims to examine the supervision system in the distribution of 3-kg subsidized LPG cylinders in Kuala Batee District, Southwest Aceh Regency, and to assess the extent to which current distribution practices align with the principles of Maqashid Syariah. This research employs a qualitative method with a descriptive-analytical approach. Data were collected through field observation, in-depth interviews with LPG outlet owners, five subsidy recipients from the local community, one relevant village official, and a review of policy and regulatory documents. The findings were analyzed within the framework of Maqashid Syariah, focusing on the principles of *hifz al-mal* (protection of wealth) and *hifz al-nafs* (protection of life). The results indicate that the existing supervision of LPG distribution remains ineffective. Key issues include the misidentification of eligible recipients, inconsistent pricing beyond regulatory limits, and the absence of a robust verification system. From the perspective of Maqashid Syariah, such shortcomings not only undermine social justice but also hinder the realization of public welfare. Therefore, improvements are needed in the form of data-driven distribution systems, collaborative oversight, and public education to ensure that LPG subsidies are distributed fairly and in accordance with Islamic ethical values.

Keywords: *Supervision, Subsidized LPG, Maqashid Sharia, Distribution, Social Justice.*

Abstrak

Distribusi LPG bersubsidi merupakan bagian dari kebijakan pemerintah dalam memenuhi kebutuhan dasar energi bagi masyarakat berpenghasilan rendah. Namun, dalam praktiknya, masih ditemukan berbagai penyimpangan, seperti distribusi yang tidak tepat sasaran, penjualan di atas Harga Eceran Tertinggi (HET), serta lemahnya sistem pengawasan di tingkat pangkalan. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis sistem pengawasan dalam pendistribusian gas LPG subsidi 3 kg di Kecamatan Kuala Batee, Kabupaten Aceh Barat Daya, serta meninjau sejauh mana praktik distribusi tersebut selaras dengan prinsip-prinsip *Maqashid Syariah*. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif dengan pendekatan deskriptif-analitis. Data diperoleh melalui observasi, wawancara mendalam dengan pemilik pangkalan, 5 orang masyarakat penerima LPG subsidi, dan 1 pihak terkait (aparatur desa), serta dokumentasi kebijakan dan regulasi pemerintah. Analisis dilakukan dengan mengaitkan temuan lapangan terhadap kerangka *Maqashid Syariah*, khususnya prinsip *hifz al-mal* (menjaga harta) dan *hifz al-nafs* (menjaga jiwa). Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pengawasan distribusi LPG subsidi belum berjalan efektif. Ketidaktepatan sasaran penerima, variasi harga yang tidak sesuai ketentuan, serta lemahnya sistem verifikasi menjadi faktor utama permasalahan. Dalam perspektif *Maqashid Syariah*, kondisi ini tidak hanya mencederai keadilan sosial, tetapi juga menghambat tercapainya kemaslahatan masyarakat. Oleh karena itu, diperlukan perbaikan sistem distribusi berbasis data, pengawasan kolaboratif, serta edukasi masyarakat untuk mewujudkan distribusi subsidi yang adil dan sesuai nilai-nilai syariah.

Kata Kunci: Pengawasan, LPG Subsidi, *Maqashid Syariah*, Pendistribusian, Keadilan Sosial.

INTRODUCTION

Energy is a basic need that underpins various human activities. Without adequate energy supply, daily activities and development will be disrupted. Fossil energy sources such as petroleum, natural gas, and their derivatives including kerosene, gasoline, diesel, and LPG play an important role in modern life, both for household and industrial purposes, and are the main pillars of economic, social, and technological growth.¹ Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) is a mixture of propane and butane that is liquefied through high pressure to facilitate its storage and distribution. Since 2007, the Indonesian government has replaced the use of kerosene with LPG as a measure of national energy efficiency. This policy has caused various reactions from the public, both economically and psychologically, and has an impact on changes in subsidy policies and target recipients. In sales practice, LPG base owners as producers are required to comply with the price set

¹ Kementerian Energi dan Sumber Daya Mineral Direktorat Jenderal Minyak dan Gas Bumi “*Konversi Mitan ke Gas*”, 7

by the government to prevent distribution irregularities, in accordance with Law Number 8 of 1999 Article 4 and Article 7 letter a, which requires business actors to act in good faith.²

LPG is a by-product of the petroleum and natural gas processing process, which consists mainly of propane (C_3H_8) and butane (C_4H_{10}) with a composition of close to 99%, and contains a small amount of pentane gas (C_5H_{12}) that has been liquefied through high pressure. As revealed by Saladin, LPG is one of the main energy sources used by most Indonesian people, both from the lower to upper middle class.³ PT Pertamina, as the official distribution implementer from the government, produces LPG cylinders in several sizes, namely 3 kg, 5.5 kg, 12 kg, and 50 kg. Of all these types, only 3 kg cylinders receive direct subsidies from the government through the allocation of state budget funds. Meanwhile, LPG cylinders measuring 5.5 kg, 12 kg, and 50 kg are marketed without subsidies. The 3 kg tube itself has become an important part of people's daily needs, especially because of its more affordable price compared to other sizes, thanks to the subsidy support provided by the state.⁴

The management and distribution of 3 kg LPG is the responsibility of PT Pertamina as a business entity appointed by the government to ensure energy availability. Because it concerns the basic needs of the community, irregularities in its distribution, such as violations of procedures, have the potential to cause irregularities and scarcity that are detrimental to the public.⁵ The Government of Indonesia has established regulations to ensure that the distribution of 3 kg subsidized LPG is on target, as stated in Presidential Regulation No. 104 of 2007 and updated through Presidential Regulation No. 70 of 2021, which states that subsidized LPG is only for households and micro businesses. To strengthen supervision, the Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Regulation No. 28 of 2021 was issued as a revision of the Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Regulation No. 26 of 2009, in order to regulate the distribution and verification mechanism more strictly.⁶

In addition, the government sets the criteria for recipients of the 3 kg LPG subsidy. Based on Presidential Regulation Number 38 of 2019, this subsidy is allocated to households and micro business actors who use LPG for cooking

² Hajar, "Tanggung Gugat Prinsipal Dalam Perjanjian Keagenan LPG," *Yuridika* 28, no. 3 (September-Desember 2013): 66.

³ Saladdin Wirawan Effendy, "Analisis Pola Distribusi dan Biaya Transaksi Gas Elpiji 3 Kg Penyebab Harga Tidak Sesuai HET di Masyarakat (Studi Kasus Kabupaten Banyuasin)," *Jurnal Media Ekonomi dan Kewirausahaan (MEKU)*, Fakultas Ekonomi Universitas Sumatera Selatan 1, no. 2 (Mei-Agustus 2022).

⁴ Wildanum Mukhalladun, "Pengawasan Pendistribusian Gas Subsidi 3 Kg di Gampong Blang Pauh Dua Kecamatan Julok oleh Dinas Perdagangan, Koperasi dan Usaha Kecil Menengah Kabupaten Aceh Timur" (Skripsi, Universitas Islam Negeri Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh, 2022), 2

⁵ Jumrah, "Proses Pengawasan Pendistribusian LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) Tiga Kilo di Dinas Perdagangan Kabupaten Luwu" (Skripsi, 2021), 2

⁶ Kementerian Energi dan Sumber Daya Mineral, *Peraturan Menteri ESDM Nomor 28 Tahun 2021*, diakses 9 Juni 2025, <https://jdih.esdm.go.id>.

purposes, as well as for fishermen and farmers who are included in the target group.⁷ In order to ensure that the distribution of 3 kilograms of LPG subsidy is on target, the government requires consumers to be officially registered. The registration process is carried out through an official distributor or base by showing identity documents in the form of an Identity Card (KTP) and Family Card (KK). Through these policies and monitoring systems, the government seeks to ensure that the distribution of subsidized LPG is carried out efficiently and appropriately, so that the benefits are truly received by the eligible community groups.⁸ The 3 kg subsidized LPG gas is intended to help low-income people get access to safe and affordable energy. However, its distribution is often problematic due to weak supervision, which leads to irregularities, prices above the HET, and scarcity at the consumer level.⁹ In the Kuala Batee District, Southwest Aceh Regency, this issue is important to study, considering the high dependence of the local community on 3 kilograms of subsidized LPG gas to meet their daily energy needs.

The results of the interviews showed that there was a variation in the price of the sale of 3 kg subsidized LPG gas depending on the location and status of the buyer. At the official base, the price of subsidized LPG gas is sold for Rp 25,000 per cylinder.¹⁰ Outside the official base, such as in grocery stalls, prices can jump up to Rp 35,000 per tube.¹¹ This condition shows a discrepancy between the price set by the government and practices in the field, which has the potential to burden the underprivileged who are the main target of subsidies. In addition, the distribution of subsidized LPG is also not completely on target. Subsidized LPG, which should be specifically intended for low-income people, in practice is also widely used by civil servants and middle and upper economic groups. This phenomenon reflects the lack of effective supervision and control systems in the distribution of subsidized LPG, so that the benefits are not fully felt by the community groups most in need.

3 kg LPG gas is an energy aid for the poor, but the reality is that it is often abused by the poor because of its cheaper price and easy access. As a result, subsidies are not on target, burdening the state budget, and reducing supplies for citizens who really need them. Weak supervision and enforcement of rules exacerbates this condition. Therefore, distribution should be carried out through a

⁷ Pemerintah Republik Indonesia, *Peraturan Presiden Republik Indonesia Nomor 38 Tahun 2019*, diakses 9 Juni 2025, <https://setkab.go.id>.

⁸ Kementerian Energi dan Sumber Daya Mineral, "Beranda," diakses 9 Juni 2025, <https://migas.esdm.go.id>.

⁹ Bayu Anggara dan Syapril Abdullah, "Pelaksanaan Pengawasan Dinas Perindustrian dan Perdagangan Kota Pekanbaru dalam Pendistribusian Gas LPG 3 Kg di Kota Pekanbaru," *Publika* 3, no. 2 (25 Januari 2021): 2.

¹⁰ Ahmad, pemilik pangkalan LPG subsidi di Kecamatan Kuala Batee, wawancara oleh penulis, Kuala Batee, 10 Juni 2025.

¹¹ Siti, warga penerima LPG subsidi di Desa Lhok Gajah, Kecamatan Kuala Batee, wawancara oleh penulis, Kuala Batee, 11 Juni 2025.

strict verification and control system so that appropriate subsidies and social justice are achieved.¹² The distribution of 3 kg LPG that is not on target has a wide impact, especially in the economic, social, and environmental fields. Economically, subsidies are inefficient because they are enjoyed by the wealthy, thus burdening the state budget and reducing allocations for other important sectors. Supply imbalances also occur, making it difficult for the poor to obtain LPG that should be their right.¹³

From the social side, the misuse of 3 kg LPG by the public can exacerbate inequality and weaken the effectiveness of government assistance. Subsidies that should be for vulnerable people are actually enjoyed by those who are not entitled, showing low social awareness. Weak supervision and distribution without verification also exacerbate this injustice.¹⁴ The environmental impact due to the increase in subsidized LPG consumption by all groups is also a concern, because it increases carbon emissions from fossil fuels. This is contrary to the government's efforts to encourage clean energy. To overcome this, it is necessary to implement a closed subsidy system based on DTKS or the integration of digital data such as ID cards, accompanied by public education so that subsidies are truly enjoyed by the right parties.¹⁵

In the view of *Maqashid Sharia*, subsidies fall under the category of *hifz al-mal* (property protection), which aims to maintain the economic stability of the ummah and ensure that the basic needs of the poor are met. Deviations from subsidies are considered contrary to the goals of sharia because they hinder the achievement of benefits for priority groups. Such actions can even be categorized as *ghasab* (unlawful taking of the rights of others), which is clearly prohibited in Islam. Islam also emphasizes the importance of social responsibility and the prohibition of greed. Therefore, economically capable people have a moral and religious obligation not to take advantage of subsidies intended for the poor, as the Prophet PBUH advocated empathy and protection for the rights of the weak.¹⁶ In *Maqashid Syariah*, the supervision of the distribution of 3 kg subsidized LPG aims to realize the public benefit and prevent harm. The *hifz al-nafs* principle ensures access to energy for the poor, while *hifz al-mal* emphasizes the importance of fair and transparent distribution so that subsidies are not abused and remain on

¹² L. D. Lestari, M. D. Rahmawati, dan M. Hasna, "Kebijakan Pemerintah dalam Mengatasi Kelangkaan Gas LPG," *Jurnal Ekonomi dan Ilmu Sosial* 10, no. 1 (2023): 115–121.

¹³ *Ibid*,

¹⁴ Nuramalia, *Analisis Disparitas Harga Gas LPG 3 Kg* (Skripsi, Universitas Islam Negeri Alauddin Makassar, 2022).

¹⁵ F. Listianty, Harjono, dan Medinal, "Analisis Efektivitas Saluran Distribusi Gas Elpiji Bersubsidi di Kawasan Kecamatan Taman Sari (Studi Kasus PT. Usaha Mulia Karya Mandiri Pangkalpinang)," *Jurnal Progresif Manajemen Bisnis* 5, no. 2 (2018): 47–54.

¹⁶ Desna, *Analisis Kepatuhan Pemilik Pangkalan LPG terhadap HET yang Ditetapkan Pemerintah dalam Penjualan Gas Subsidi Berdasarkan Perspektif Ta'sir Al-Jabari* (Skripsi, Universitas Islam Negeri Ar-Raniry, 2021).

target.¹⁷ Supervision is a strategic step to ensure that the distribution of subsidized LPG is on target and in accordance with regulations. In this context, oversight includes quota monitoring, recipient validation, price control, and distribution reporting to prevent irregularities.¹⁸

The selection of *the perspective of Maqashid Syariah* in this study is based on the urgency to assess public policy, especially in terms of the distribution of subsidies, through the main values and objectives of Islamic sharia. *Maqashid Syariah* is the main foundation in the Islamic legal system which is oriented towards the creation of benefits (maslahah) and the prevention of all forms of damage (mafsadah). This concept includes five main objectives, namely: to protect religion (*hifz al-din*), to protect the soul (*hifz al-nafs*), to protect reason (*hifz al-'aql*), to protect posterity (*hifz al-nasl*), and to protect property (*hifz al-mal*).¹⁹ The distribution of 3 kg LPG reflects the principles of *hifz al-mal* and *hifz al-nafs*. Without supervision, irregularities can harm the state and threaten the rights of the poor.²⁰ Thus, *the Maqashid Syariah approach* in this study aims to evaluate the distribution of 3 kg LPG subsidy based on the principles of justice, concern for the needy, and the protection of basic rights of the community. In the Islamic view, the abuse of subsidies is not only against the laws of the state, but also against sharia ethics. Therefore, the ideal solution requires collaboration between the government, scholars, and the community to ensure that the distribution of subsidies runs according to the goals of sharia and reflects social justice.

Previous studies on the distribution of 3 kg subsidized LPG have generally been limited to technical and policy aspects, while analysis of the supervisory mechanism at the base level and its relevance to *the principles of Maqashid Syariah* has been rarely carried out. In fact, the base is a critical point in the distribution chain that is prone to irregularities. Therefore, this study aims to fill this gap by examining the 3 kg LPG distribution supervision system in Kuala Batee District within the framework of *hifz al-mal* and *hifz al-nafs* as part of an evaluation based on Islamic economic law.

Based on the previous explanation, the main focus of this study is to examine how the monitoring mechanism for the distribution of subsidized 3 kilograms of LPG gas at the base level of Kuala Batee District is implemented, as well as assess the extent to which the distribution process is in accordance with the provisions and targets that have been set in the applicable regulations. In addition, it is also important to examine how the distribution practice is reviewed from the perspective of *Maqashid Sharia*, especially in terms of maintaining the public welfare, distribution justice, and protection of the rights of the underprivileged.

¹⁷ Nasrullah, M. R., dan H. A. Musa, "Implementasi *Maqashid Syariah* dalam Kebijakan Publik," *Jurnal Hukum Islam dan Ekonomi Syariah* 12, no. 2 (2020): 234–256.

¹⁸ Sondang P. Siagian, *Filsafat Administrasi* (Jakarta: Bumi Aksara, 2001), pp. 122.

¹⁹ Al-Ghazali, *Al-Mustasfa min 'Ilm al-Usul* (Beirut: Dar al-Kutub al-Ilmiyyah, 1993), pp. 286.

²⁰ Asyraf Wajdi Dusuki and Abdulazeem Abozaid, "The Challenges of Realizing Maqasid al-Shari'ah in Islamic Banking and Finance," *International Journal of Economics, Management and Accounting* 15, no. 2 (2007): 150–152.

These problems are crucial to be studied considering that irregularities are still found, such as price differences, distribution that is not in accordance with the provisions, and weak supervision that can hinder the achievement of subsidy goals in the context of Islamic law.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a qualitative method with a descriptive-analytical approach. This approach was chosen because it is considered to be able to describe in depth the social phenomena related to the practice of supervising the distribution of subsidized LPG gas and examining its conformity with the principles of *Maqashid Syariah*. The research was conducted in Kuala Batee District, Southwest Aceh Regency, with a focus on the official base of 3 kilograms of subsidized LPG gas as the main analysis unit. The selection of informants is carried out purposively, which is based on certain considerations so that the selected informants are really relevant to the research problem. The informants consisted of one owner of the subsidized LPG base, five people receiving subsidies, and one village apparatus who knew the policies and implementation of distribution in the area. The informant's criteria include first-hand experience in the distribution process, receipt of subsidy benefits, and involvement in supervision.²¹

Data collection in this study was carried out through three main methods, namely in-depth interviews, direct observation in the field, and document review. The interviews were directed to a number of resource persons who were considered to have knowledge and experience closely related to the research topic, including subsidized LPG base owners, subsidy recipient communities, and village officials. These interviews were conducted in a semi-structured manner so that researchers could explore information more flexibly and in-depth according to the context of the field. Observations are carried out directly at the location of the base and LPG gas distribution area to observe the transaction process, selling price, recording system, and interaction between sellers and consumers. Meanwhile, documentation is obtained through official documents such as government regulations, circulars, and data from Pertamina or related institutions that regulate and supervise the distribution of 3 kg LPG.

In analyzing the data, this study uses qualitative descriptive analysis techniques. Data obtained from interviews, observations, and documentation will be categorized, reduced, and analyzed to find thematic patterns that are appropriate to the focus of the research. This analysis is also directed to find the relevance between the practice of distributing subsidized LPG and the principles of *Maqashid Shariah*, namely the protection of life (*hifz al-nafs*), property (*hifz al-mal*), and the public good (*maṣlahah 'ammah*). Field data will be compared with theories

²¹ Sugiyono, *Metode Penelitian Kualitatif, Kuantitatif, dan R&D*, (Bandung: Alfabeta, 2017), pp. 9.

in the literature and government regulations to obtain a complete and objective understanding of the phenomenon studied.

The researcher also used source triangulation techniques and methods to improve the validity of the data. Source triangulation is carried out by comparing information from various informants (base owners, communities, and village officials), while technical triangulation is carried out by comparing the results of interviews, observations, and documentation, such as comparing selling price practices in the field with the officially applicable Highest Retail Price (HET) provisions, or matching LPG stock availability claims with official distribution data from the base. According to Lexy J. Moleong, triangulation is the main procedure in qualitative research that aims to increase the credibility of data through comparison between different information sources, data collection techniques, or data collection times, so that more objective and reliable results are obtained.²² In the implementation of research, the researcher plays the role of the main instrument (human instrument), which is in charge of regulating the flow of data collection, making field notes, and reflecting on the research process and results.

The time and location of the study were designed for two months, located in Kuala Batee District, Southwest Aceh Regency. This location was chosen because it is one of the areas that experienced problems in the distribution of 3 kg subsidized LPG, based on community reports and monitoring of varied prices. By conducting a study at this specific location, it is hoped that the results of the study will be able to provide a concrete picture of the effectiveness of supervision of subsidized LPG gas distribution in the local context, as well as contribute to the formation of a more equitable and Islamic distribution policy.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Overview of LPG Bases in Kuala Batee District

Kuala Batee District, which is located in Southwest Aceh Regency, Aceh Province, is an area with a fairly dense population and the majority of its residents make their livelihoods in the agriculture, fisheries, and small-scale trade sectors. In meeting domestic energy needs, people in this region rely heavily on subsidized LPG measuring 3 kilograms as the main source for cooking, considering the limited access to alternative fuels such as firewood and non-subsidized LPG which are relatively high. The LPG base in Kuala Batee District acts as the main distribution channel for 3 kg LPG from agents to the community. Even though it has been officially registered and licensed, distribution carried out every two to three days still faces obstacles, especially in consumer data collection, price control, and supply constraints.²³

²² Lexy J. Moleong, *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*, Edisi Revisi (Bandung: Remaja Rosdakarya, 2019), pp. 130.

²³ Ahmad, owner of a subsidized LPG station in Kuala Batee District, interviewed by the author, Kuala Batee, June 10, 2025.

One of the main findings in this study shows that most LPG bases in Kuala Batee District have not implemented buyer identity verification. Although Presidential Regulation No. 104 of 2007 emphasizes that 3 kg LPG is only intended for households and micro-enterprises registered in the DTKS, practice on the ground shows that people from various economic levels can still buy subsidized LPG without showing an ID card or family card. This discrepancy is due to the unavailability of digital systems and integrated closed purchasing mechanisms to restrict access only to eligible recipients.²⁴ The price of 3 kg LPG at the official base of Kuala Batee still varies, even though the HET is set at Rp 22,500. Some bases sell for Rp 25,000, triggered by operational costs, weak supervision, and lack of control from the relevant authorities.²⁵ This condition adds to the economic burden on the poor because subsidies are not distributed in a targeted manner.²⁶

Limited access to official bases has forced remote villagers in Kuala Batee to buy LPG from retailers at a higher price, reaching Rp 30,000-Rp 35,000 per cylinder.²⁷ This condition reflects the formation of informal distribution chains due to the weak reach of official distribution to remote areas. Some bases also complain of supply uncertainty from agents, especially during a surge in demand ahead of the holidays or the end of the month.²⁸ Structurally, the LPG base in Kuala Batee plays a vital role as the spearhead of subsidized energy distribution. However, weak local supervision makes this function not optimal. Ideally, the base should not only be a place of sale, but also serve as a distribution control point so that subsidized LPG is only received by eligible groups, in line with the principles of fairness and budget efficiency. From a sharia perspective, this role reflects social responsibility (*mas'uliyah ijtimai'iyah*) in distributing the right of mustahik appropriately. Distribution irregularities not only trigger economic inequality, but also contradict *the Sharia Maqashid*, especially *hifz al-mal* and *hifz al-nafs*. Therefore, the existence of the LPG base in Kuala Batee needs serious attention in order to realize a more equitable distribution system and in line with Islamic values.

B. Field Findings: Distribution and Surveillance Systems

Based on the results of interviews, observations, and documentation conducted at several LPG bases in Kuala Batee District, a number of problems

²⁴ Republik Indonesia. *Peraturan Presiden Nomor 104 Tahun 2007 tentang Penyediaan, Pendistribusian, dan Penetapan Harga Liquefied Petroleum Gas Tabung 3 Kilogram*. Jakarta: Sekretariat Negara, 2007.

²⁵ Ahmad, owner of a subsidized LPG station in Kuala Batee District, interviewed by the author, Kuala Batee, June 10, 2025.

²⁶ Kementerian Energi dan Sumber Daya Mineral. *Peraturan Menteri ESDM Nomor 26 Tahun 2009 tentang Penyediaan dan Pendistribusian LPG 3 Kg Bersubsidi*, jo. Permen ESDM Nomor 28 Tahun 2021

²⁷ Siti, a recipient of subsidized LPG in Lhok Gajah Village, Kuala Batee Subdistrict, interviewed by the author, Kuala Batee, June 11, 2025.

²⁸ Badan Pusat Statistik Kabupaten Aceh Barat Daya. *Kecamatan Kuala Batee Dalam Angka* 2023. Blangpidie: BPS Aceh Barat Daya, 2023

were found in the distribution and supervision system of 3 kg subsidized LPG gas. Although the observed base has an official permit from Pertamina and is registered as a distribution partner, the technical implementation in the field does not fully reflect the closed distribution system mandated by government regulations, including:

1. In terms of distribution, most bases sell 3 kg LPG without identity verification. In fact, this subsidy should only be for households and micro businesses registered in the DTKS. However, purchases generally do not require an ID card or family card, so the general public, including non-subsidy recipients such as civil servants and wholesalers, can still access subsidized LPG.²⁹
2. Regarding the selling price, a discrepancy was found between the price at the base and the HET set by the government. In Southwest Aceh, the official price of 3 kg LPG should be around Rp 22,500, but in the field it is often sold above that price.³⁰ However, in the field, 3 kg LPG is sold for Rp 25,000 at the base, and can reach Rp 30,000-Rp 35,000 at informal retailers such as stalls. This increase was triggered by additional distribution costs, retailer profit margins, as well as weak price surveillance at the final level.³¹
3. Supervision by relevant agencies such as the Trade Office and the Energy and Mineral Resources Office is still not optimal. Surveillance is incidental, with no regular evaluation and digital reporting system. Manual recording on an unintegrated base makes it difficult to track distribution and beneficiaries when deviations occur.
4. LPG distribution is often constrained by delays in supply from agents, especially during high demand such as holidays, which cause long queues and people are forced to buy from retailers at higher prices. Meanwhile, retailers who buy in bulk from the base often sell freely without restrictions, triggering potential hoarding and uneven distribution.³²
5. The lack of public education about the subsidy target has caused many residents to not have the right to continue using 3 kg LPG, so that social awareness to use LPG according to its designation is still low.³³

The problem of distribution and supervision of 3 kg subsidized LPG in Kuala Batee District is actually not standing alone. Similar findings were also found in Sleman Regency, Yogyakarta, where LPG distribution was carried out

²⁹ Nurul Fadhillah, a recipient of subsidized LPG in Lhok Gajah Village, Kuala Batee Subdistrict, interviewed by the author, Kuala Batee, June 11, 2025.

³⁰ Saifuddin, Sekretaris Desa di Desa Lhok Gajah, Kecamatan Kuala Batee, wawancara oleh penulis, Kuala Batee, 11 Juni 2025.

³¹ Zubaidah, a recipient of subsidized LPG in Lhok Gajah Village, Kuala Batee Subdistrict, interviewed by the author, Kuala Batee, June 11, 2025.

³² Siti, a recipient of subsidized LPG in Lhok Gajah Village, Kuala Batee Subdistrict, interviewed by the author, Kuala Batee, June 11, 2025.

³³ Saifuddin, Sekretaris Desa di Desa Lhok Gajah, Kecamatan Kuala Batee, wawancara oleh penulis, Kuala Batee, 11 Juni 2025

without adequate identity verification, so that non-DTKS residents could still buy subsidized LPG.³⁴ In Gresik, East Java, the price of 3 kg LPG at the retailer level even reached Rp 25,000, exceeding the HET due to weak price control.³⁵ Meanwhile, in West Kalimantan, distribution is often hampered by supply delays and manual recordings, causing scarcity at the moment of high demand.³⁶ These findings reinforce the generalization that the problem of subsidized LPG distribution is structural and spread across many regions, confirming the urgency of data-based system reform and digital supervision.

The above findings show that the subsidized LPG distribution and supervision system in Kuala Batee District still faces various structural and cultural obstacles. Without an improvement in an accurate data-based distribution system and intensive and thorough supervision, irregularities will continue to occur. This untargeted distribution of subsidies ultimately causes social inequality, state losses, and hurts the principle of social justice which is the goal of the subsidy policy.

C. Supervision Analysis in the Perspective of *Sharia Maqashid*

The supervision of the distribution of 3 kg subsidized LPG gas is not only technical, but also concerns moral and social responsibilities that have an impact on economic justice. In this case, *Maqashid Syariah* is a relevant approach to assess the suitability of distribution with Islamic values, especially related to the public benefit and protection of the rights of small communities. Its main principles include *Hifz al-Din*, *Hifz al-Nafs*, *Hifz al-'Aql*, *Hifz al-Nasl*, and *Hifz al-Mal*.³⁷ Of the five principles, the fair and targeted distribution of LPG subsidies is closely related to two maqashids: *hifz al-nafs* and *hifz al-mal*. 3 kg LPG gas as a basic household need is a form of energy that supports survival, so its fulfillment and affordability are related to *the aspect of hifz al-nafs*. On the other hand, because subsidies are a form of public fund allocation, its supervision falls into the category of *hifz al-mal*, which is to protect public assets from being misused by unauthorized parties.³⁸

Field findings that show that there is distribution that is not on target, sales above the highest retail price, and purchases by the wealthy are a violation of the maqashid. This kind of practice in shari'i can be categorized as a form of *ghasab* (taking something that is not one's right), and can even approach an act of *treachery* or betrayal of the state's mandate.³⁹ In Islam, *ghasab* is a great sin because

³⁴ Badan Pusat Statistik Kabupaten Sleman, *Statistik Kesejahteraan Rakyat Sleman 2022* (Sleman: BPS Sleman, 2022), pp. 45.

³⁵ Dinas Perdagangan dan Perindustrian Kabupaten Gresik, *Laporan Kinerja Tahun 2023* (Gresik: Disperindag Gresik, 2023), pp. 18.

³⁶ Dinas ESDM Provinsi Kalimantan Barat, *Evaluasi Distribusi LPG Subsidi Tahun 2023*, Pontianak, 2023.

³⁷ Fathurrahman Djamil, *Maqashid Syariah dalam Hukum Islam* (Jakarta: PT RajaGrafindo Persada, 2012), pp.82.

³⁸ Wahbah Az-Zuhaili, *Ushul al-Fiqh al-Islami*, terj. Litbang Depag RI (Jakarta: Gema Insani, 2011), pp. 76.

³⁹ M. Syukri Amini, *Filsafat Hukum Islam* (Banda Aceh: Ar-Raniry Press, 2019), pp. 97.

it takes the rights of others illegally, especially if it concerns public property or public funds, such as subsidies.

Furthermore, the distribution of subsidy that is not on target is also contrary to the principle of justice ('adl) in Islam, which demands that every right be given to those who are entitled to receive it. In this context, 3 kg LPG is a right for the poor, so its use by economic groups can harm the value of social and economic justice. This kind of practice is contrary to the words of Allah in QS. Al-Nahl verse 90 "*Indeed, Allah has commanded (you) to be just and to do good, to give to the relatives, and Allah forbids from evil deeds, iniquity and enmity. He teaches you so that you can learn.*" (QS. Al-Nahl verse 90).

So, from the perspective of *Maqashid Syariah*, supervision has a strategic role in maintaining the subsidy distribution system so that it remains on the path of benefits. Supervision not only functions as a tool of administrative control, but also as a function of hisbah, which is a social mechanism in Islam that aims to prevent evil and command goodness.⁴⁰ In this case, supervision of subsidized LPG gas bases and retailers must be carried out by the government (al-hisbah area), as well as involving the participation of the community and religious institutions as a form of collective supervision. The implementation of LPG subsidies without strict supervision will only give birth to *mafsadah* (damage) both economically, socially, and spiritually. The state will continue to bear the burden of subsidy that is not on target, the poor will find it increasingly difficult to gain access to energy, and untrustworthy business actors will continue to take non-halal profits. Therefore, strengthening a distribution system based on data verification, such as through integration with Integrated Social Welfare Data (DTKS) and the use of digital ID cards, is part of efforts to maintain the public welfare. This effort is in line with *maqashid al-shari'ah*, which is to prevent damage and realize widespread benefits.

The distribution of 3 kg subsidized LPG in the perspective of *Maqashid Syariah* is in line with the concept of distributive justice in Islamic economics, as reflected in the zakat system. Both emphasize the importance of *hifz al-nafs* (safeguarding the soul) and *hifz al-mal* (safeguarding property), by channeling resources to groups that are truly entitled to receive. In the zakat system, only eight groups (*asnaf*) are entitled to be beneficiaries, so the distribution to non-entitled parties is considered null and void and violates the principle of 'adl (justice). This is similar to the distribution of subsidized LPG which should only be given to poor households and micro businesses. The abuse of subsidies by the wealthy can be categorized as a form of *ghasab* or *thiniyah*, which is the unlawful taking of public rights, which is condemned in Islam. Therefore, strengthening the data-based distribution system and collective supervision is needed so that subsidies function like zakat, namely as an instrument of social justice.⁴¹

⁴⁰ Fathurrahman Djamil, *Maqashid Syariah dalam Hukum Islam* (Jakarta: PT RajaGrafindo Persada, 2012), 84.

⁴¹ M. Umer Chapra, *The Islamic Vision of Development in the Light of Maqasid al-Shariah* (Jeddah: Islamic Research and Training Institute, 2008), 24

Thus, based on this analysis, the supervision of the distribution of 3 kg subsidized LPG gas in Kuala Batee District is not fully in line with the values of *Maqashid Syariah*. There are still many practices that do not reflect the principles of justice, social responsibility, and protection of public property. To achieve a fair distribution system, synergy between government policies, effective supervision, and active participation of communities and religious institutions is needed. If supervision is carried out in the spirit of *maqashid*, then the benefits of subsidies will be truly felt by those who need it most, and the goals of sharia to realize the benefits of the ummah can be achieved optimally.

D. Factors Causing Distribution Inaccuracies

The inaccuracy of the distribution of 3 kg subsidized LPG gas in Kuala Batee District is caused by a number of interrelated factors, both from the technical, institutional, and social sides. These factors cause subsidized LPG to not be fully distributed to eligible community groups, and even enjoyed by those who should not be targeted. The following is an analysis of some of the main factors found in this study:

1. Lack of Verification of Subsidy Recipient Data

The inaccuracy of the distribution of subsidized LPG occurs due to weak data verification. Without the obligation to show an ID card or family card, subsidized gas is easily accessible to the wealthy, so the DTKS-based closed distribution policy is not effective.

2. Low Supervision from Local Governments

Supervision from the Trade Office and the Energy Office at the district level has not been running optimally. Many bases are not routinely supervised, without surprise inspections and integrated reporting, even though the Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Regulation No. 28 of 2021 has regulated the importance of periodic supervision. This condition opens up opportunities for hoarding, price manipulation, and illegal distribution.

3. Price Inconsistency with HET

The highest retail price (HET) of 3 kg LPG is often not adhered to at the base and retailer levels. The study found that price variations that exceed the HET due to distribution costs, weak supervision, and brokerage practices, which are most detrimental to the poor.

4. Lack of Education and Social Awareness of the Community

Another factor is the lack of education to the public about the purpose of the subsidy and who has the right to access it. Many people from the middle to upper economic class continue to use 3 kg LPG for reasons of practicality and cheaper prices, without considering that it can harm the poor. This unawareness shows the weakness of social responsibility in complying with the subsidy policy. From the perspective of *Maqashid Sharia*, this action hurts the value of justice and

the principle of *hifz al-mal* (protection of property) because subsidies that are the rights of vulnerable groups are instead consumed by those who do not have the right.⁴²

5. Unavailability of Technology-Based Distribution System

The subsidized LPG distribution system has not utilized optimally integrated digital technology. The recording process is still carried out manually, and the distribution is not equipped with an electronic identity-based control system such as a digital ID card or barcode system. The disintegration of these systems leads to weak transparency and accountability of distribution, thus opening up opportunities for duplication of purchases and other manipulative practices.

The factors causing the inaccuracy of the distribution of 3 kg subsidized LPG are multidimensional. The combination of weak technical regulations at the field level, lack of supervision from relevant agencies, and low public awareness causes the goal of subsidies not to be achieved optimally. If not addressed immediately, this condition will continue to harm the state, widen social gaps, and hurt the principle of justice that is the foundation of public policy, especially when studied from the perspective of *Maqashid Sharia*.

E. Improvement Efforts Based on *Sharia Maqashid Values*

Efforts to improve the distribution of 3 kg of subsidized LPG gas are crucial to establishing a fair, on-target, and Sharia-compliant distribution system. Within the framework of *Maqashid Sharia*, the distribution of energy subsidies must reflect efforts to maintain the benefit of the community (*maslahah 'ammah*) and prevent harm (*mafsadah*), especially for those who are economically weak. Based on field findings and analysis results, several strategic steps can be taken to improve the distribution system, by the values of *Maqashid Sharia*:

1. Strengthening an Integrated Data-Based Verification System

In *Maqashid Sharia*, the protection of property (*hifz al-mal*) requires that public assets, including subsidies, be given only to those who have the right.⁴³ Therefore, the government needs to optimize the use of Integrated Social Welfare Data (DTKS) to ensure that subsidies are on target. Every transaction of purchasing 3 kg LPG should ideally be connected to an identity verification system, such as an electronic ID card or digital application that is able to identify the buyer's economic status. In this way, access to subsidies can be limited only to those who have moral and sharia rights, as well as prevent abuse by the poor.

In an effort to maintain fair distribution and ensure that energy subsidies are enjoyed only by entitled groups, a technology-based approach is a relevant solution in the context of the principles of *Maqashid Sharia*, especially *hifz al-mal*

⁴² M. Syukri Amini, *Filsafat Hukum Islam* (Banda Aceh: Ar-Raniry Press, 2019), 99.

⁴³ Fathurrahman Djamil, *Maqashid Syariah dalam Hukum Islam* (Jakarta: PT RajaGrafindo Persada, 2012), 85

(protection of property). One form of practical implementation is the implementation of a QR code-based verification system that is integrated with the Integrated Social Welfare Data (DTKS). Through a digital application officially developed by the government, every buyer of 3 kg LPG gas is required to scan a QR code connected to the Population Identification Number (NIK) on an electronic ID card. The system will automatically validate the user's socioeconomic status, and only those who are registered as subsidy beneficiaries in the DTKS can proceed with transactions. This mechanism is considered effective in closing the gap in the abuse of subsidies by disenfranchised communities, while reflecting the principle of distributive justice in Islam, because subsidies as public assets are allocated in a targeted manner for the public benefit.

2. Revitalizing the Role of Supervision (*Hisbah*) in a Collaborative manner

Supervision of the distribution of subsidies should be seen not only as an administrative task, but also as part of the Sharia mandate. In the concept of *hisbah*, supervision is a religious command to ensure that social transactions run fairly and do not harm the weak. Therefore, supervision of bases and retailers should involve cross-sectoral institutions, including local governments, religious leaders, and community and Islamic institutions. This collaboration will strengthen the social and moral control system, as well as encourage honesty in the sales process.

3. Increasing Public Awareness about Subsidized Consumption Ethics

The abuse of subsidies by economic groups can reflect the weak awareness of the value of *hifz al-nafs* and '*adl* (justice). For this reason, it is necessary to carry out educational campaigns through local media, mosques, schools, and community forums so that people understand that taking subsidy rights without meeting the recipient criteria is a form of moral and religious violation. The value of solidarity and empathy for others must be revived as part of the Islamic teachings in muamalah.⁴⁴

4. Enforcement of Strict Sanctions against Subsidy Abuse

Strict legal sanctions against bases or retailers who sell above the HET or sell to unentitled parties must be enforced fairly and equitably. In *Maqashid Sharia*, preventing damage (*dar'u al-mafسادah*) takes precedence over attracting benefits. Therefore, preventive and curative measures must be implemented in tandem to prevent wider abuse. This sanction must also be accompanied by a public *complaint system* so that the public can directly supervise the distribution.⁴⁵

5. Optimization of Official Distribution Channels and Elimination of Unofficial Channels

⁴⁴ Fathurrahman Djamil, *Maqashid Syariah dalam Hukum Islam* (Jakarta: PT RajaGrafindo Persada, 2012), 86

⁴⁵ M. Syukri Amini, *Filsafat Hukum Islam* (Banda Aceh: Ar-Raniry Press, 2019), 105.

The distribution of 3 kg LPG gas must be fully returned to the official base, not through the route of grocery stalls or unregistered retailers. This is because it is this informal route that often sells LPG at high prices and without control. In this case, the principles of *hifz al-nafs* and *hifz al-mal* will not be achieved if prices and access to distribution are not maintained. The government needs to restructure the distribution chain, including by limiting the distribution area per base so that it does not overlap and cause hoarding practices.

Improving the distribution of subsidized 3 kg LPG needs to combine administrative, technical, and ethical approaches. The principles of Maqashid Syariah provide a moral basis so that subsidies really reach those who are entitled. By upholding the values of justice, social responsibility, and protection of public property, the distribution of subsidies will be more beneficial and economically fair. To ensure that the 3 kg LPG subsidy is on target according to *the principles of hifz al-mal* in Maqashid Syariah, the implementation of a QR code-based verification system needs to be designed in a structured manner involving various parties. The implementation plan can be divided into three main stages:

a) Preparatory Stage (0–3 months)

At this stage, the Ministry of Social Affairs together with PT Pertamina and the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources synchronized the Integrated Social Welfare Data (DTKS) with LPG distribution data. The State Cyber and Cryptography Agency (BSSN) and Dukcapil are involved in ensuring the security and validity of population data. At the same time, a digital application for QR code-based subsidy verification was developed by the government's appointed IT Team.

b) Trial Stage (4–6 months)

The trial was carried out in several pilot areas, including areas with LPG distribution that are prone to irregularities. The official LPG base will be equipped with a QR code scanner and training on the use of the system will be conducted by Pertamina to base managers. Periodic evaluations are carried out by a joint supervisory team from the local government, Pertamina, and the Social Service.

c) National Implementation Stage (7–12 months)

After the successful trial phase, the system was implemented nationally. The public is required to show an electronic ID card connected to the subsidy verification application when buying 3 kg LPG. The Trade Office and Satpol PP are authorized to conduct field supervision, while clerics and community leaders are involved in socialization and education to the public so that the public understands the importance of targeted subsidies as part of their moral and sharia responsibilities.

Through this stage, LPG distribution supervision is not only an administrative function, but also part of the application of sharia values in public

policy, especially in safeguarding public property and distributing benefits to those who are entitled.

CONCLUSION

The distribution of 3 kg subsidized LPG has not been running optimally and is often not on target. Various problems were found such as price inequality, weak supervision system, and abuse by people who are not entitled to receive subsidies. In fact, this subsidized LPG is intended for low-income people to meet basic energy needs. In the perspective of Maqashid Sharia, this condition shows that the principles of *hifz al-mal* (safeguarding property) and *hifz al-nafs* (safeguarding one's soul) have not been fulfilled, because subsidies that are supposed to provide benefits actually cause social injustice. Therefore, it is necessary to implement a data-based supervision system, verification of the identity of subsidy recipients, and the active role of the community in social supervision to ensure that the distribution runs fairly and appropriately.

This study has several limitations, including the limited number of informants interviewed, so that the findings are not fully representative of the conditions in all LPG bases in Kuala Batee District. In addition, limited time and access to official data from relevant agencies are also obstacles in digging for more comprehensive information about the distribution and supervision system of 3 kg LPG subsidies. As a suggestion, local governments and related agencies need to strengthen the monitoring mechanism periodically and implement a technology-based distribution system that is integrated with welfare data. The public also needs to be educated about the ethics of using subsidies so that they are wiser and aware of social rights and obligations. For future researchers, it is recommended to expand the scope of the research area or explore the role of technology, local actors, or a more specific *approach to Maqashid Syariah*, so as to enrich scientific references and make a real contribution to the improvement of fair and sustainable subsidy policies.

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