

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:432
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2002
ADULTERATION IN PETROLEUM PRODUCTS
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;RAMJI MANJHI

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

- (a) whether there is no fool-proof method to detect adulteration in automobile fuels;
- (b) if so, whether the guidelines laid down by the Bureau of Indian Standards to detect adulteration, are inadequate;
- (c) if so, whether the adulteration in automobile fuels is still going on in a large scale;
- (d) if so, the other steps proposed to be taken to check the adulteration in automobile fuels in the country; and
- (e) the number of complaints received by the Government against adulteration of petroleum products during the last three years in the country, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK)

(a) to (e) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.432 BY RAMJEE MANJHI & SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH DECEMBER, 2002 REGA ADULTERATION IN PETROLEUM PRODUCTS .

(a) to (d) : Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) lays down the specifications of petroleum products and any deviation in respect of any standards stipulated in the specifications would lead to the conclusion of the presence of adulterant/adulterants. Thus the checking of the quality of the products is an ongoing process and it is not correct to conclude that there is no fool-proof method to detect adulteration. The specification laid down by BIS is adequate and BIS also brings out changes in specification, as per the requirement periodically.

The State Government authorities, Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and the Anti Adulteration Cell (AAC) set up by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas in March, 2001 periodically inspect and check the quality of the petroleum products. Action is taken as per provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, terms of the dealership agreement and/or the Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

(e) : Complaints against adulteration of petroleum products are received by State Government, OMCs and AAC of Government of India. Since March, 2001, when the AAC was formed, 402 inspections were made by the Cell mostly as a result of complaints received. Details of region-wise inspections made by AAC are given below:-

North West South East Total

No. of Retail Outlets inspected	123	82	115	82	402
No. of Samples failed	14	30	04	01	49

State-wise details of complaints would be laid on the Table of the House after compilation.