

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:398
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2005
RETAIL OUTLETS NETWORK OF BPCL
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

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

- (a) the number of retail outlets the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) is having at present;
- (b) whether the BPCL has decided to invest Rs.450 crore this year on expanding its network of retail outlets;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the extent to which these retail outlets will be increased by the year-end; and
- (e) the sale of natural gas of the company during the current year as compared to each of the last three years?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

- (a) As on 1.11.2005, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) had in operation 6848 retail outlets all over the country .
- (b&c): BPCL plans to invest Rs.120 crore during the financial year 2005-06 for expanding its network of retail outlets.
- (d) BPCL tentatively plans to commission 100 new retail outlets in the country during the period November 2005 to March 2006. However, it is not possible to indicate the exact number of retail outlets to be commissioned during this period as this depends on various factors like selection of dealers, availability of land, obtaining various statutory approvals, construction period, etc.
- (e) During April-October, 2005, BPCL sold 54.9 TMT (Thousand Metric Tonne) of CNG. The quantities of CNG sold during 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 are as follows:-

2002-2003	17.0 TMT
2003-2004	46.2TMT
2004-2005	78.5TMT