

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3715
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2004
PETROL PUMPS INSTALLED BY HPCL
Osmani Shri A.F. Golam

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that certain Public Oil Companies particularly HPCL are installing petrol pumps by spending huge funds on such lands on National Highway's which are not meeting the guidelines of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways;
- (b) if so, the details of guidelines in this regard;
- (c) whether the officers of these Oil Companies are duty bound to confirm that the site should not be in violation of the guidelines prescribed by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for installation of petrol pumps on National Highways;
- (d) if so, whether any responsibility is likely to be fixed on the officers of Oil Companies in case such sites of Petrol Pumps are not cleared by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways;
- (e) whether the guidelines would not hamper the interests of the existing Petrol Pumps and already approved proposals; and
- (f) if so, the time by which the directions shall be issued to accept the existing Petrol Pumps and approved proposal form the ambit of latest guidelines?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MORTH) issued their guidelines in October, 2003 regarding norms for access for fuel stations, service stations and rest areas along National Highways (NHs). The Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and IBP Co. Limited have reported that they set up petrol pumps on National Highways in accordance with the Guidelines issued by the MORTH. However, if any deviation/violation is brought to the notice of the Government, it will be investigated and appropriate action taken.

(e) & (f): The Guidelines have been issued by the MORTH in larger public interest to ensure safety of the Highway users and free flow of traffic. Interests of the existing petrol pumps are not affected in any manner, as they are exempted from these guidelines.