

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

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*Monday, August 11, 1997/Shravana 20, 1919 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Four Minutes Past  
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

#### WELCOME TO PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION FROM TURKEY

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the hon. Members of this House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Mustafa Kalemli, Speaker of the Turkish Grand National Assembly and Mr. Sayin Nihan Ilgun, Member of Parliament who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The Delegation arrived Delhi today early morning. They are now seated in the Special Box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to the President, the Parliament and the friendly people of the Republic of Turkey.

11.05 hrs.

#### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*Translation*]

##### **Sale of Sub-Standard Diesel Oil**

\*261. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :  
SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI :

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

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding the sale of sub-standard and adulterated diesel oil on the petrol pumps of Delhi; and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received during the last two years and till date alongwith the names of the petrol pumps; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against these petrol pumps ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

#### **Statement**

(a) to (c) Complaints, although very few, are received by the Government about irregularities by Retail Outlets including complaints regarding sale of sub-standard and adulterated Diesel Oil at the Petrol Pumps of Delhi as well as other parts of the country. In order to curb such malpractice and irregularities, the Oil Industry has evolved "Marketing Discipline Guidelines" (MDG) with the approval of the Government. Under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines, regular and surprise inspections are carried out by the field officials of the Oil Companies, Joint Industry Teams and Mobile Laboratories. Density checks under the MS/HSD Control Order and Furfural doping of Kerosene are done to check adulteration of Petrol and Diesel. Inseptions are also conducted by officials of the State Governments' Enforcement Agencies under the powers given under MS/HSD Control Order, 1990 issued under Essential Commodities Act. The Oil Companies conducted an All India Surprise Inspection Campaign during the month of December 1996 and January 1997. Another inspection drive is under progress presently in the country to check malpractice and violations of Marketing Discipline Guidelines for Kerosene, LPG, Petrol, Diesel and LDO throughout the country, which started on 21.7.97 and would end on 20.8.97.

Complaints, if received by the Government are forwarded to the Oil Companies, officials for inquiry and prompt action. In proven cases of adulteration, black-marketing and other irregularities, disciplinary action is taken such as issue of warning, suspension of sales and supplies, imposition of fines and termination of the dealerships/distributorships, under Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, a Resolution was passed in Parliament that the roads and National Highways in the country are in very bad condition and a cess at the rate of five paise per litre on diesel and at the rate of ten paise per litre on petrol should be levied for improving their condition and constructing new roads. But this proposal was not implemented. Cess was imposed on oil and an Oil Industry Development Board was set up. But this is also not functioning effectively