GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6672 ANSWERED ON:06.05.2010 OIL BONDS Meghe Shri Datta Raghobaji

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to issue Oil Bonds to meet the loss suffered by oil companies,
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether loss making oil companies have made any efforts to find out any other measures to meet their losses; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a)to(d): As the retail selling prices of the sensitive petroleum products namely, Petrol. Diesel. PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG are not being maintained in line with the international oil prices, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) incur under-recoveries on the sale of these petroleum products. To protect the interest of the common man, the Government has been following an equitable Burden Sharing Mechanism, to ensure that the burden of under-recoveries is shared by all the stakeholders.

Under the said Burden Sharing Mechanism, the under-recoveries of the OMCs have been compensated as per the details given below:

(Rs.Crore)

2006-07 2007-08 2008-09

Total Under-recovery 49,387 77,123 1,03,292 of OMCs

Oil Bonds issued by 24,121 35,290 71,292 the Government

Assistance given by 20,507 25,708 32,000 the PSU Upstream Oil Companies

Borne by OMCs 4,159 16125 Nil

During the year 2009-10, the OMCs have incurred under-recoveries of Rs.46,051 crore. Ministry of Finance has released budgetary support of Rs.12,000 crore as the share of the Government towards meeting the under-recoveries for the year 2009-10. The PSU Upstream Oil Companies have also contributed Rs.8,364 crore to the OMCs for their under-recoveries on Petrol and Diesel by way of discount on crude/products during the first three quarters of 2009-10. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has requested Ministry- of Finance to provide a further cash assistance of Rs. 19,620.95 crore to fully compensate the OMCs'under-recoveries on PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG during 2009-10.

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As per the above Burden Sharing Mechanism, the OMCs have not reported any loss during the years 2006-07 to 2008-09 and 2009-10 (April-December 2009).