

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4250

ANSWERED ON:19.08.2010

FIRE AT PETROL PUMPS

Ponnam Shri Prabhakar;Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

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

- (a): whether huge losses have incurred due to fire broke outs at petrol pump;
- (b): if so, the details thereof during the last three years State-wise;
- (c): the reasons therefore in each case; and
- (d) the remedial steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs.), viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPC) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC) have reported 70 cases of fire incident at their retail outlets (RO) during the last three years, due to various reasons such as electrical short circuit in the dispensing unit (DU), vapour accumulation near DU, spark from vehicles, use of mobile phone, DU hit by vehicle, smoking by customers, etc. OMCs have a vast network of retail outlets and all out efforts are made by them through its field force to ensure that the losses are minimal in case of an unfortunate incident involving fire. Whenever any incident of fire / accident occurs at a RO, the same is investigated by a team of officers and cause of accident is established. Remedial steps for prevention of such accidents are drawn and these are circulated to all concerned officials. Safety inspections are regularly conducted and continuous education is imparted to RO dealers and their staff on observance of safe practices at the ROs. The State-wise data of such incidents are available with Director (Marketing) of OMCs.