

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5028  
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2010  
PILFERAGE OF PETROL FROM PIPELINE  
Singh Shri Radha Mohan

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

- (a) whether the pilferage of petrol is taking place by cutting Mathura-Jalandhar pipeline of the Indian Oil;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) the arrangements made by the Government for checking such incidents of pilferage of petrol, preventing fire incidents and the leakage of petrol in the future?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (b): Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL) has reported that since 16th October 2008, Mathura-Jalandhar Pipeline (MJPL) of IOCL has had 22 cases of pipeline pilferage. Out of these 22 cases, 17 took place in the State of Haryana, 3 in the State of Uttar Pradesh and one each in the State of Uttarakhand and Delhi. FIRs have been lodged in all the 22 cases with the respective Police Stations.

(c): Following measures have been taken by IOCL to strengthen safety and security of its oil pipelines:

# Patrolling of Right Of Way (ROW) through physical walking by line patrolmen.

# Time to time surprise checks by officers to verify the efficacy of patrolling by patrolmen.

# Leak detection system has been installed in MJPL which gives alarm in case of any pressure drop due to leak/pilferage activities.

# Monitoring of operation parameters through Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition (SCADA) system.

# Interaction and sensitizing villagers through awareness programs along the ROW.

# Close and regular interaction with State administration and district authorities.

Apart from the above, keeping in view the increased pilferage activities in MJPL, following additional steps have also been undertaken to strengthen the surveillance system :

(i) Intensifying line patrolling by deployment of Director General of Rehabilitation (DGR) sponsored guards for physical patrolling of the complete stretch every day.

(ii) Night patrolling of vulnerable stretches of Right of Way (ROW) and road crossings by DGR armed guards.

(iii) Frequent joint patrolling of pipeline ROW along with local police at night.

(iv) Provision of CCTV based surveillance system at repeaters for remote monitoring.

(v) Amendments have been proposed in the Petroleum & Mineral Pipeline Act, 1962 for making it more effective by providing deterrent punishment.

(vi) Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) based surveillance system for ROW integrity management-system is under trial.