

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1041  
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2012  
SHIFTING OF DEPOTS  
Verma Shri Sajjan Singh

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

- (a) whether any scheme is being formulated to shift depots of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation and Bharat Petroleum to other places, which are situated near human habitations in various of the country
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of such human habitations in the proximity of which incidents of fire took place in oil depots, and the number of persons who lost their life as a result thereof in the country during the last three years; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of the said incidents?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

- (a)&(b): Yes, Madam. There is a proposal of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) for shifting 26 depots which are situated near human habitations to other places.
- (c): There is no fatality involving general population outside oil depots for any oil company in the last three years.
- (d): Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) has developed exhaustive standards to be followed by the oil industry. The OISD conducts regular safety audits and pre-commissioning audits to ensure compliance of these standards. In case of all oil depot locations to be commissioned in future, the State Governments have been sensitized to restrict habitation round oil depots through an appropriate buffer zone.