

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:68
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2013
IRREGULARITIES AT RETAIL OUTLETS OF OMCs
Sinh Dr. Sanjay

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

- (a) whether cases of irregularities or malpractices at the retail outlets of various Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have come to the notice of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of such cases reported and the number out of these cases where irregularities/malpractices have been established by OMCs during each of the last three years and the current year, company-wise;
- (c) the action taken by the OMCs against those outlets, company-wise; and
- (d) the effective initiatives taken/being taken by the Government to check irregularities/ malpractices being committed at the retail outlets of various Oil Marketing Companies?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred in reply to parts (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.68 for answer on 01.03.2013 regarding 'Irregularities at Retail Outlets of OMCs' asked by Dr. Sanjay Sinh.

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have conducted 364471, 138575, and 97629 inspections respectively during the last three years and current year (April – December, 2012) out of which 12487 number of irregularities/malpractices have been established against the Retail Outlets of the OMCs. Details of action taken against established cases of irregularities/ malpractices at Retail Outlets of OMCs during the said period are annexed.

The Motor Spirit and High Speed Diesel (Regulation of Supply, Distribution and Prevention of Malpractices) Order, 2005 issued by the Central Government under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 provides for punitive action against malpractices such as adulteration. Public Sector OMCs also undertake regular and surprise inspection of Retail Outlets and take action under the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) and Dealership Agreements against the outlets found indulging in irregularities/malpractices. The MDG provides for termination of outlets in the first instance itself for serious malpractices like adulteration, tampering of seals and unauthorized fittings/gears in the dispensing units. The Government has also taken a number of initiatives viz. Automation of Retail Outlets, Third Party Certification of Retail outlets, Monitoring of movement of tank trucks through Global Positioning System (GPS) to check various irregularities/ malpractices at retail outlets of various OMCs.