

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1342
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2009
REOPENING OF PETROL DIESEL PUMPS
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a): whether Oil Companies have closed their certain petrol-diesel pumps during the last three years;
- (b): if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c): the steps taken by the Government to reopen them?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): 610 retail outlets (RO) of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), 327 RO of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and 285 RO of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) were closed during the last three years, due to various reasons such as:-

- i) Action under Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG).
- ii) Suspension/Cancellation of Explosive License/NOC.
- iii) Partnership disputes, Financial Problems of the dealers, Death of Signatory (Pending reconstitution), etc.
- iv) Lease problems/ eviction suits.
- v) Termination/ Resignation (Pending appointment of new dealer)
- vi) Court cases/Stay.
- vii) Locations becoming unviable due to low sales potential.

The state-wise details of these ROs are available with Director (Marketing) of public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs).

(c) In case of land disputes/ closure / diversion of road, etc. action is taken to resume the operation of the outlets by resiting the facilities to other location. In the cases of disputes in partners, efforts are made to resolve the dispute and reconstitute the dealership. Regarding ROs which are closed under the provision of MDG, resumption of operations depend on the nature of irregularities/malpractices detected at such ROs.