

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2361

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2009

DIVERSION OF SUBSIDIZED FUEL

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji; Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) whether the Government has imported markers to check diversion of the subsidized fuel for adulteration of motor fuels and industrial solvents;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the annual expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and
- (d) the other options adopted by the Government to check the adulteration?

Answer

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

(a)&(b): In order to check diversion of subsidized PDS Kerosene for adulteration of transport fuels, a Marker System was introduced w.e.f. 01.10.2006 throughout the country by doping of kerosene with marker at all the supply locations of Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). The marker was procured from M/s Authentix Ltd. (UK) through their Indian partner M/s SGS India Pvt. Ltd.

(c): At present there is no marker in use, the question of annual expenditure does not arise thereon.

(d): Government has taken number of additional initiatives viz. Automation of Retail Outlets, Third Party Certification of Retail Outlets and monitoring of movement of tank trucks through Global Positioning System (GPS). Further, the provisions of Motor Spirit and High Speed Diesel (Regulation of Supply, Distribution and Prevention of Malpractices) Order, 2005 issued under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 also provide to check the various malpractices including adulteration. OMCs also undertake regular and surprise inspection of Retail Outlets to check the menace of adulteration.