

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3450

ANSWERED ON:10.12.2009

COMPLAINTS AGAINST LPG DISTRIBUTORS PUNJAB

Kashyap Shri Virender; Patasani Dr. (Prof.) Prasanna Kumar; Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

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

- (a) whether award of any LPG distributorship by Punjab State Office, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL), Chandigarh had been investigated by CBI ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) and IOCL had taken any action on the report submitted by CBI ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof ;
- (e) whether any complaints had been received by IOCL relating to the scam of issuance of fabricated experience and salary certificates issued by various LPG distributors of IOCL in the State of Punjab during the period from 2006 to 2008 ; and
- (f) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon ?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Yes, Madam. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) has reported that they have received a report from CBI, Chandigarh pertaining to irregularities committed by one Shri Vivek Bajaj who was one of the applicants for allotment of LPG agency for the location Phagwara-I in the State of Punjab and after selection process, was empanelled at the 1st position. CBI in its report has brought out that Shri Vivek Bajaj, placed at No. 1 in the selected panel for Phagwara-I location had made false statement, concealed facts and submitted forged documents in his application to the IOC. While forwarding their report, CBI have recommended appropriate action, as deemed fit, may be taken against Shri Vivek Bajaj. After interview / preparation of panel, IOC undertakes Field Verification Credential (FVC) and the report of CBI will be taken into consideration while undertaking FVC in respect of this location.

(e) & (f): Complaints were received in the year 2008 regarding submission of bogus experience certificates by the applicants for the location Nakodar & Jalandhar in the State of Punjab. For the location Bachwind, enquiry conducted by IOC in the year 2008 found that the experience certificate submitted by one candidate was false.