

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2642

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2014

ADULTERATION IN PETROL DIESEL

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

- (a) whether the incidents of under-measurement and adulteration of petrol/diesel by various petrol pumps have been noticed by the Government during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of complaints against the petrol pumps/persons involved received by the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and the follow-up taken against them, State/OMC-wise;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to launch regular drives/surprise checks at national level to curb such malpractices and ensure efficient service to customers by various petrol pumps in the country during the said period, State/OMC-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has cancelled the license of petrol pumps which are found to be involved in such irregularities during the said period; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State/OMC-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) & (b) : During the last three years and current year Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have detected malpractices including under-measurement and adulteration at their retail outlets in the country. As per data available, State/OMC-wise detail of cases of under-measurement and adulteration detected at retail outlets during the last three years and current year (April June) are annexed as Annexure-I.

(c) : Public Sector OMCs 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 and graded penalties for other malpractices/irregularities. Other initiatives to prevent irregularities in Retail Outlets include Automation of Retail Outlets, Third Party Certification of Retail outlets and Monitoring of movement of tank trucks through Global Positioning System (GPS). State/OMC-wise detail of inspections carried out by OMCs at retail outlets during the last three years and current year (April June) is annexed as Annexure-II.

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. Provisions are also available in the contractual documents and administrative guidelines to prevent and punish malpractices.

(d) & (e): In case of proven cases of under-measurement and adulteration, the provision to cancel license is prescribed in MDG/Dealership Agreement. OMCs have terminated 175 retail outlets against such irregularities during the last three years and current year (April June). State/OMC-wise detail for the said period is annexed as Annexure-III.