

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3206

ANSWERED ON:16.03.2015

ADULTERATION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

Mondal Shri Sunil Kumar;Patel Shri Natubhai Gomanbhai;Puttaraju Shri C.S.;Sawaikar Shri Advocate Narendra Keshav

**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/dealers 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 punitive action including cancellation of their licences, taken against them, State/OMC-wise;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to launch regular drives/surprise checks at national level;
- (d) the details of petrol pumps running in the country even after the expiry of Land Lease Agreement and, if so, the number of land owners handover their properties to the Government along with the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard. State/UT-wise;
- (e) the details of petrol pumps which are operated on contract basis and some of them allotted to relatives of Oil marketing Companies (OMC), State/UT-wise; and
- (f) whether it is a fact that in connivance with the officers of OMCs, adulterated and (less quantity of petrol/diesel are being supplied by petrol pump owners which are on contract basis and if so, the details thereof including any inquiry conducted by the Government and action taken thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENORA 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 made 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 - December) are annexed as Annexure-I.

In case of proven cases of under-measurement and adulteration, there is provision to cancel the license in the MDG/Dealership Agreement OMCs have terminated 203 retail outlets for such irregularities during the last three years and current year (April-December) State/OMC-wise detail for the said period is annexed as Annexure-II.

(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 for serious malpractices and graded penalties for other malpractices/irregularities. 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 also against malpractices such as adulteration. Several initiatives to prevent irregularities in Retail Outlets have been taken that include Automation of Retail Outlets, Third Party Certification of Retail outlets and Monitoring of movement of tank trucks through Global Positioning System (GPS).

(d): The State/UT-wise number of Retail Outlets (ROs) operating even after the expiry of Land Lease Agreement (LLA) is given at Annexure-III

(e): OMCs operate some of the ROs on Company Owned Company Operated (COCO) basis. The staff on the forecourt is provided by the service provider who is on contract with the corporation for providing the staff for such services. In line with the broad guidelines issued by this Ministry for operation of retail outlets on COCO basis, OMCs have formulated a scheme approved by their management for appointment of an operator for operating the COCO ROs. The State/UT-wise and OMC-wise details of such COCO ROs is given at Annexure-IV.

As on date, there has been no reported case of COCO RO allotted to relatives of officers of OMCs.

(f): There have been no reported cases of any irregularities such as adulteration or dispensing of less quantity of petrol/diesel at the COCO ROs in connivance with the officers during the last three years and current year upto December, 2014