GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:73
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2014
PILFERAGE OF CRUDE OIL
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of crude oil / gas pilferage during transportation from refineries, depots, pipelines, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of such cases which have come to the notice of the Government during each of the last three years and the current year, State / UT and Oil Marketing Company-wise;
- (c) the action taken / proposed to be taken by the Government against the persons found guilty; and
- (d) the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to check oil / gas pilferage in the country?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Details of cases of pilferage of crude oil / gas, State / UT and Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs)-wise during last three years and current year, as reported by 3 OMCs namely, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL), is given in Annexure-I.
- (c) FIRs have been lodged with respective police stations in cases of pilferages from crude oil pipelines which have taken place in different States. The cases are persued by the concerned OMCs with the State Administration and Police Authorities at different levels.
- (d) Following steps have been taken by the OMCs to prevent oil pilferages:-
- # Round the clock monitoring of Pipeline flow and pressure through Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA) for pipelines.
- # Daily foot patrolling by Line Patrolmen (LPM) and Directorate General Resettlement (DGR) guards.
- # Continuous interaction & sensitizing of villagers along pipeline Right of Way (ROW).
- # Continuous monitoring of Repeater cum Cathodic Protection System (RCP) through CCTV based surveillance system.
- # Issue of pilferages taken up at various levels of the police in all the states. Also regular interaction maintained with civil administration.
- # Electronic Surveillance; and
- # Patrolling by local police.

Besides, Government has amended the Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Act, 1962 to make it more stringent with provisions of deterrent punishment for offenders engaged in pilferage and sabotage of petroleum and gas pipelines.