

TRIES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

[English]

Adulteration of Petroleum Products in West Bengal

2035. SHRI HET RAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of threat of closure of petrol pumps in West Bengal to protest against adulteration of petroleum products; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to check the adulteration in petroleum products and to deal with the situation arising out of closure of petroleum products and to deal with situation arising out of closure of petrol pumps?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following steps are being taken to prevent adulteration of petrol and diesel with kerosene;

- (i) Filter paper test at petrol pumps.
- (ii) Recording of temperature and density of HSD both at supply and receipt points.
- (iii) Doping of Kerosene with furfural.
- (iv) Introduction of Mobile Laboratories for surprise checks at petrol pumps.

(v) Regular inspections of petrol pumps and kerosene agencies by oil company officers.

(vi) State Govts. UTs have been delegated powers under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act to issue appropriate orders for regulating the a distribution and trade of essential commodities and for any incidental and supplementary matters.

The State Level Oil Coordinator, West Bengal, has advised the Oil companies to persuade their dealers as not to go on strike, apart from apprising the Govt. of West Bengal.

[Translation]

Petrol Consumption in Bihar

2036. SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the yearly consumption of petrol and diesel in Bihar and the number of petrol pumps to meet this demand;

(b) the annual rate of increase in consumption of petrol and diesel in Bihar;

(c) whether Government are making some concrete efforts ensuring sale of Petrol and diesel in the whole country at uniform rates;

(d) whether the sale price of petrol in Bihar is more than that of prevailing in Delhi; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) The yearly consumption of petrol and diesel in Bihar during the last three years in give below: