

RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 23rd December, 1998/2 Pausa,
1920 (Saka)

The House met at Eleven of the Clock, Mr.
Chairman in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS Petrol Pumps in Himachal Pradesh

*341. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol pumps functioning on all the National and State highways separately in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the criteria for opening of petrol pumps on National/State highways in the country;

(c) whether Government have assessed the feasibility and requirements for opening of petrol pumps on National/State highways in Himachal Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Himachal Pradesh

(a) Presently 38 retail outlets on National Highways and 48 on State Highways are functioning in Himachal Pradesh.

(b) The following volume-distance norms are adopted by the Oil Industry for opening retail outlets on National Highways;

(i) The combined throughput per retail outlet within 15 KM (on either side) of the proposed retail outlet should exceed 80 Kilo litres (KL) per month.

(ii) The minimum expected sale of the proposed RO during the second year of operation should be.

- (a) In the case of Lone-50 KL per HSD month.
(b) In the case of -MS-5 KL per Combined month MS/HSD HSD-50 KL per Month

(c) and (d) The feasibility of opening new retail outlet dealerships including on National and State Highways in the State of Himachal Pradesh is assessed periodically on the above basis. Accordingly, 26 locations have been included in the recent marketing plans for setting up retail outlet dealerships. Action for selection of dealers for these locations has been initiated. This includes a retail outlet at Dhalli, Shimla and another under multi-I facility Wayside Amenities Scheme. Besides, six locations, three on National Highways and three on State Highways have been found feasible for setting up retail outlets, under the prospective retail outlet marketing plan.

अनिल शर्मा : सभापति महोदय, जैसा कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में कहा है नेशनल और स्टेट हाईवे पर पेट्रोल पम्प खोलने के लिए कुछ नोर्म्स रखे गये हैं। इनका ब्यौरा भी उन्होंने अपने उत्तर में दिया है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी के ध्यान में यह बात भी लाना चाहूंगा कि हिमाचल और पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में स्थिति अन्य मैदानी क्षेत्रों से भिन्न है। मैदानी क्षेत्रों में आपको एक-एक किलोमीटर के ऊपर दो-दो या तीन-तीन पेट्रोल पम्प भी मिल जाएंगे। क्योंकि उनकी एवरेज दूरी के ऊपर निर्धारित होती है। जहां तक हिमाचल की बात है, अब हिमाचल में भी सड़कों का जाल बिछ चुका है। वहां पर आबादी और बस्ती दूर-दूर तक फैली हुई है। हमारे टूरिज्म क्षेत्र कुल्लू और मनाली के बीच की दूरी लगभग 50 किलोमीटर है। इस दूरी के बीच में एक भी पेट्रोल पम्प नहीं है। जैसा कि सर्वाविदित है कुल्लू और मनाली दोनों क्षेत्र टूरिज्म के लिए जाने जाते हैं। यहां पर दूर संचार और सड़कों की अच्छी व्यवस्था हो चुकी है। जब लाखों सैलानी मनाली की तरफ जाते हैं तो उन्हें पेट्रोल व डीजल के लिए मनाली से कुल्लू तक आना पड़ता है। जब टूरिज्म को कुल्लू में पेट्रोल आती है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि उसके लिए वहां पर क्या नार्मदा, मापदंड

% है, हिमाचल या पहाड़ों क्षेत्रों के लिए कोई विशेष रियायत दी गई है, यदि दी गई है तो क्यों दी गई है ?

मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न है, जहां तक नार्म्स की बात रखी गई है उसमें नेशनल हाईवे पर 15 किलोमीटर तक एक पेट्रोल पम्प से दूसरे पम्प की दूरी रखी गई है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या विशेष व्यक्तियों के लिए विशेष छूट दी जाती है। मैं मंत्री जी का ध्यान नेशनल हाईवे 21 की तरफ लाना चाहता हूँ जहां एक व्यक्ति को पांच किलोमीटर के अंदर...

सभापति : आप पिन प्वाइंट क्वेश्चन कीजिए। यह डिसकस के लिए नहीं है।

श्री अनिल शर्मा : सर, मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि एक तरफ तो नार्म्स की बात रखते हैं और दूसरी तरफ पांच किलोमीटर के अंदर नेशनल हाईवे-21 पर दो पेट्रोल पम्प एक ही आदमी के नाम के नाम से हैं। मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि केवल पांच किलोमीटर की दूरी पर ही क्यों दिए गये हैं ? क्या विशेष व्यक्ति को विशेष छूट दी गई है ?

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Member has raised the question particularly, with regard to Himachal Pradesh. There is no second opinion on this that Himachal Pradesh needs special attention because it is a hilly area. Sir, as of now, there are 93 outlets in Himachal Pradesh. Now we have added 32 more retail outlets for which already advertisements have been issued. The Oil Selection Board is in the process of selection of these outlets.

Sir, the hon. Member has suggested about the petrol pumps at Kullu and Man-ali. These will be considered by my Ministry.

श्री अनिल शर्मा : चेयरमैन साहब, मेरा जो क्वेश्चन पांच किलोमीटर वाला था, उसका जवाब मुझे नहीं मिला। मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि जो 38 और 48 नए आउट लेट है वे कहां कहां खोले जायेंगे ? दूसरा, मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि पहले कुछ आउट आफ टर्न पेट्रोल पम्प मंत्रालय द्वारा इश्यू किए गए थे। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि हिमाचल के अंदर कितने पेट्रोल पम्प आउट आफ टर्न थे जिनको रद्द कर दिया गया है और रद्द करने के बाद उनकी वास्तविक स्थिति क्या है ?

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Sir, the location of the petrol pumps is mostly determined on the basis of economic viability and the demand of the country. Secondly, after this Government came to power, no discretionary quota anywhere, whether in Himachal Pradesh or in any other part of the country, has been sanctioned and no one has been exempted.

With regard to the National Highways, the Ministry has asked the oil companies to go in for jubilee outlets all over the country. A jubilee outlet at every 200 kilometres on the National Highway will be in accordance to the international standard. These modern facilities will be inclusive of all and will involve an expenditure of nearly Rs. 5/- crores per jubilee outlet. So, on an experimental basis we have asked the oil companies to go in for 100 jubilee outlets on the National Highways to suit the necessities of the tourists and other vehicle drivers.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Sir, part (b) of the question is about the criteria for opening of petrol pumps on national/State highways in the country. Sir, the property of the National Highway is owned by the Surface Transport Ministry. Fifteen metres on a side i.e. thirty metres from the centre of the road is allotted by the Ministry of Petroleum for granting licences for the purpose. As a result the property of the National Highway is getting encroached and the expansion work becomes very difficult. Therefore, I would like to know whether there is any coordination committee with the Ministry of Surface Transport and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to see that these hassles are avoided and development of National Highway is not impeded.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: As the hon. Member is aware, three or four years back the Ministry of Surface Transport was sanctioning this land for integrated petrol pumps, which included S.T.D. and first-aid facilities on the National Highways. It was done on an experimental basis. I deeply regret to

announce that it has not so far yielded any good result.

As regards the queries the hon. Member has raised, definitely we are having a coordination committee between my Ministry and the Ministry of Surface Transport. In no way it is going to hinder the free flow of traffic and further expansions.

These jubilee outlets are created on the lands purchased by the oil companies. They are not on the lands of the National Highways.

श्री राजनाथ सिंह “सूर्य” : माननीय मंत्री जी वे मैं यह मानना चाहता हूँ कि पेट्रोल पम्पों के आवंटन में पहाड़ी और मैदानी क्षेत्रों के लिए जो दूरी का मापदंड है, वह सभी पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों में अलग अलग है या एक ही है ? अगर अलग अलग है तो जो मापदंड हिमाचल प्रदेश के लिए है, क्या उसी मापदंड के आधार पर उत्तर प्रदेश के उत्तरांचल में भी पेट्रोल पम्पों के आवंटन के बारे में नीति निर्धारित की जाएगी ?

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as I have explained earlier, the location of most of the petrol pumps is under the economic viability, the demand of the area and the sales potential. There is no uniform code or any kind of norms followed in all the hill areas. It all depends upon the economic viability.

श्री सूर्यभान पाटील : माननीय सभापति जी, हिमाचल प्रदेश में जिन पेट्रोल पम्प का आवंटन हुआ है, इसमें एक ही आदमी को दो या तीन पेट्रोल पम्प दिए गये हैं या नहीं ?

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Sir, if any such person has been allotted, it is against our rules and procedures. If it is brought to our notice, we will take action.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will take up Question Nos. 342 and 353 together.

Rural Sanitation Programme in Gujarat

†* 342. **SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN:** Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Gujarat developed as model villages under the Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme;

(b) the amount earmarked for this purpose during the year 1998-99;

(c) whether Government of Gujarat have sent the specific projects to Government for approval and release of funds under the programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the likely time frame for clearance of the projects, if any, under consideration by Government??

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA

PATIL): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House?

Statement

(a) to (e) Rural Sanitation is a state Subject, State Governments implement in the Rural Sanitation Programmes under state-sector Minimum Needs Programmes (MNT). The Central Government supplement the States' efforts through financial and technical assistance through the Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP).

It is a fact that there is a component of Development of model villages in the the States under the Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP), Under this, each state may develop at least one model village every year and send suitable proposals to the Government of India for financial assistance.

No specific proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat, as of date for development of model villages in the state, during the last three years; Rural Sanitation Programmes †*353. **SHRI ANANTA SETHI:** Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

†Question numbers 342 and 353 were taken together.