

(d) The anti-fog disc insulators are generally used in stretches of transmission lines which are prone to pollution accumulation. These insulators have special profile and additional creepage compared to standard insulators. The usage of anti-fog insulator results in lesser interruptions/outages of transmission lines under polluted and foggy conditions as compared to standard insulators, thereby increasing the availability of the Transmission line.

Closure of Public Sector Units

2072. SHRI MANGALA KISAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Public Sector Enterprises Units closed down, till date;
- (b) what are the plans of Government to revise these closed down units;
- (c) what are the amount of required funds to run the closed down units in the country; and
- (d) whether Government would plan to run the units under Public Private Partnership (PPP) model?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) As per available information, 5 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) have been closed between the period 2005-06 to 2008-09.

(b) and (c) The Board for Reconstruction of Public Sector Enterprises (BRPSE) was constituted in December, 2004 to advise the Government for strengthening, modernizing, reviving, and restructuring of CPSEs. On the recommendations of BRPSE, the Government have approved, so far, 37 cases for revival and restructuring of CPSEs involving a cash assistance of Rs.2,921 crore and a non-cash assistance of Rs.12,332 crore.

(d) The concerned administrative ministries/departments of the CPSEs prepare proposals for revival/rehabilitation/closure or disinvestment on case to case basis and refer the cases to BRPSE for its recommendations, which are, thereafter, put up for approval of the Government. While recommending the revival proposals of CPSEs, all options are considered by BRPSE.

Sale of ethanol mixed petrol

†2073. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that some years back Government had taken a decision to mix ethanol in petrol to be sold in the country;
- (b) if so, when this decision was taken;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether any estimation regarding reduction in production cost of petrol in the country was also made;

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(e) whether the sale of ethanol mixed petrol has started in the country on the basis of this decision; and

(f) if so, the annual average quantity of ethanol mixed petrol being sold in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas vide its notification dated 20th September, 2006 has directed the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to sell 5% Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) subject to commercial viability as per Bureau of Indian Standards specifications in entire country except North-Eastern States, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep with effect from 1st November, 2006.

(c) and (d) Ethanol blended petrol is being sold at the same price as that of prevailing petrol price. There has been no reduction in selling price of petrol subsequent to blending of ethanol with petrol.

(e) 5% EBP programme has been implemented in 16 States and 3 UTs out of 20 States and 4 UTs identified for implementing the programme.

(f) Annual Average Ethanol Blended Petrol sold in the country has been 375.11 Crore litre for the period from Nov. 2006 to Feb. 2010.

ONGC'S subsidies for oil companies

†2074. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Indian Oil Companies give subsidy to other companies in form of discount;

(b) if so, the amount paid by the said companies in form of subsidy during the years 2007-08, 2008-09 and till the end of December 2009 in the year 2009-10;

(c) whether these companies have earned net profit even after giving amount in the form of subsidy; and

(d) if so, the quantum of increase in production of these companies separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) Under the burden sharing mechanism, the upstream oil PSUs, namely, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), Oil India Limited (OIL) and GAIL (India) Limited

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.