

New refinery in Rajasthan

†804. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI:

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

(a) whether Government propose to set up a new refinery in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the areas identified in Rajasthan by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (c) Consequent on delicensing of refinery sector since June, 1998 a refinery is to be set up anywhere in India by a Private or Public Sector Enterprise depending on the promoter's assessment of its viability. The Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) has reported that it is exploring the techno-economic feasibility/viability of setting up of a well-head refinery for processing the crude oil discovered by the Joint Venture of Cairn Energy and ONGC in Rajasthan.

Automation of retail outlets

805. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Oil Corporation has launched the project of automation of retail outlets to monitor and check adulteration spurred by the tragic killing of IOC Sales Officer in Uttar Pradesh recently;

(b) whether the hitherto lax inventory control by oil companies has led to adulteration in large scale by blending of kerosene and naphtha with diesel and petrol respectively; and

(c) if so, how far the proposed automation of retail outlets will eliminate adulteration during transportation by fuel tankers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has launched the Retail Automation programme and completed automation in 72 retail outlets across the country. IOC plans

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.