

Implementation of petroleum automation Scheme

905. SHRI TARUN VIJAY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of automation in the petroleum sector to weed out middle man corruption;
- (b) the States in which petroleum automation scheme has been implemented; and
- (c) the details of pace of implementation in each State?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (c) Public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs.), viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPC) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC) have been advised to complete automation of retail outlets (ROs) throughout the country selling more than 200 KL per month. OMCs have completed automation of 5439 such ROs.

Under recovery by OMCs

†906. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made an assessment of the prevailing tendency of less under recovery by oil marketing companies (OMCs);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) whether Government has taken proper steps to minimize the under recovery by oil marketing companies; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and its impact till date?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) and (b) At the beginning of the current financial year, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) were projected to incur under-recoveries on the four sensitive petroleum products of approximately Rs. 72,000 crore during 2010-11, assuming an average price of the Indian Basket of crude oil at \$75 per barrel.

(c) and (d) With effect from 26.6.2010, the prices of Petrol and Diesel have been made market-determined, both at the Refinery Gate and at the Retail level. As a result, the price of Petrol went up by Rs. 3.50 per litre. However, in the case of Diesel, it was decided that for the present, its price would be increased by only Rs. 2/- per litre. The prices of PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG were also increased by Rs. 3/- per litre and Rs. 35/- per 14.2 kg. cylinder respectively.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.