

companies (OMCs.), viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPC) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC) have submitted their resignation from RO dealerships during last one year due to various reasons such as personal circumstances, health grounds, financial conditions, migration to new business, inability to operate the RO due to constraints in their family, etc. The Government has not conducted any study in this regard.

***Installation of Gramin Pumps and Kisan Sewa  
Kendras in non-viable areas***

2154. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Oil Corporations are installing and advertising to install Gramin Pumps and Kisan Sewa Kendras on such villages where there is no population;
- (b) if so, whether the same is permitted in the policy;
- (c) if not, what action shall be taken in this respect; and
- (d) by what time the corrective action shall be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) Kisan Sewa Kendras (KSKs)/Hamara Pumps/Rural Retail Outlets (ROs) are low cost retail outlets developed by public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPC) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPC), to cater to rural/agricultural market in order to reach diesel, other petroleum products and non-fuel products at Kisan's doorstep. For setting up of such ROs, a detailed feasibility study is conducted and sales potential is assessed based on requirement for local/transient vehicular traffic, consumption for agricultural instruments, population of existing ROs/rural ROs and their sales, any other proposed RO, etc.

***Payment of ex-gratia to victims of fire of IOC depot, Jaipur***

2155. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details pertaining to loss of property and life caused due to fire-breakout in Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) depot in Jaipur, on 29 October, 2009;
- (b) when FIR was registered/challaned and status of accused found guilty;
- (c) whether any *ex-gratia* payment to victims was announced;
- (d) if so, whether it has been paid; and