

**Separate cadre for DGH**

\*347. SHRI JAIPRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) is also acting as the upstream regulator since 1993;

(b) whether even after twenty years of its existence, it is yet to create its own cadre and is presently manned by officials on deputation from upstream PSUs;

(c) whether it is a direct conflict of interest as ONGC and OIL are upstream companies under the regulatory jurisdiction of DGH and their own employees sit in the regulatory body;

(d) whether similar conflict of interest is also created when officials of ONGC and OIL in DGH regulate the matters of other entities; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken to remove the anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) No. The Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) was established under the administrative control of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP & NG) by Government of India Resolution in April, 1993. DGH assists and advises MoP & NG on the technical issues relating to the upstream hydrocarbon sector of the country.

(b) The Government Resolution dated 08.04.1993 creating DGH provides for manning of DGH by such staff as MoP & NG in consultation with Director General (DG) decide which will be drawn from the oil industry on deputation/tenure basis. Accordingly, DGH's manpower requirement is met by staff drawn from Public Sector Oil Companies on deputation/ tenure basis. In addition, specialists, as considered necessary, are also engaged as consultants/advisers on contractual basis.

(c) to (e) No anomaly or conflict of interest has been observed as a result of manning of DGH by staff drawn from various Oil PSUs like Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), Oil India Ltd. (OIL) and others, as the activities of all Exploration and Production (E & P) Companies operating in the country, either Public Sector, Private or Foreign Companies, are regulated by Government of India strictly in terms of contractual provisions, related rules, regulations, policies and guidelines.