

**Crude oil reserve**

436. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to create adequate reserve of crude oil for strategic as well as economic stability;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The Government, through Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL), is setting up Strategic Crude Oil Reserves with storage capacity of 5.33 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) at three locations viz. Visakhapatnam (storage capacity: 1.33 MMT), Mangalore (storage capacity: 1.5 MMT) and Padur (storage capacity: 2.5 MMT) to enhance the energy security of the country. The Visakhapatnam Project is expected to be completed by February, 2015. Mangalore and Padur Projects are expected to be completed by October, 2015.

**Defunct petrol pumps of private sector oil companies**

†437. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the petrol pumps of private sector oil companies have gone defunct since last many years;
- (b) whether keeping in view the public conveniences the pumps of any other public sector oil companies are being planned to be installed in their places, if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether Government will direct the pump operating companies of the private sector to start the pumps, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Oil Companies develop their own network of ROs based on sales potential, economic viability and market conditions.

(c) No, Sir. The private sector ROs are run by the private oil marketing companies based on their commercial judgment and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has no role to play in the matter.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.