

**Allowing private companies for opening of petrol pumps/LPG agencies**

753. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has allowed certain private companies for opening of petrol pumps/LPG agencies during last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the names of such petrol pumps operated by them; and
- (c) the OMC/State/UT/category-wise number of cases for opening of new petrol pumps/gas agencies considered/scrutinized/interviewed and draws held/results declared during the said period including the number of complaints of corruption received and action against OMCs/officials involved therein including cancellation of petrol pumps/LPG agencies and suspension of officials, if any, during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Government Resolution dated 08.03.2002 makes provision for granting marketing rights of MS/HSD/ATF to the new entrants including the private sector. Various private companies like M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd., M/s. Essar Oil Ltd., M/s. Shell India Ltd. have set up retail outlets of petrol and diesel in the country for retailing of auto fuels. As per available information, no private company has applied to market Petrol/Diesel during last three years and current year.

The Liquefied Petroleum Gas (Regulation of Supply and Distribution) Order, 2000, vide Notification dated 26.04.2000 permits parallel marketing of LPG by parallel marketer carrying on any or all of the business of importing, storing, bottling, marketing, distributing and/or selling LPG under the Parallel Marketing System (PMS). The parallel marketer, subject to fulfillment of the condition prescribed in the said LPG Control Order are free to operate and are not required to seek authorization or license from the Government.

(c) Details of State/UT/OMC-wise number of Retail Outlets commissioned throughout the country during the last three years and current year by Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) after considering/scrutinizing and interviews are given in Statement (*See below*).

OMCs have commissioned 5080 LPG distributorships during last three years and the current year.

OMCs have standard procedure to deal with complaints including against corruption. Each and every complaint is registered and examined by senior officer appointed by the competent authority. The complaints having *prima-facie* merit are investigated and complainants are advised to furnish material, if any, to substantiate their allegations and then a speaking order is passed.

During the last three years and the current year, OMCs have informed that there have been some complaints of corruption, but none of these complaints has resulted in suspension of officers.

***Statement***

*Detail of State/UT/OMC-wise retail outlets commissioned throughout the country during the last three years and current*

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	IOCL	BPCL	HPCL
1.	Andhra Pradesh	395	208	312
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	6	0
3.	Assam	45	85	18
4.	Bihar	290	143	135
5.	Chhattisgarh	198	53	86
6.	Delhi	1	1	1
7.	Goa	1	4	3
8.	Gujarat	299	277	183
9.	Haryana	314	64	135
10.	Himachal Pradesh	26	2	7
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	28	32	18
12.	Jharkhand	89	98	41
13.	Karnataka	377	307	129
14.	Kerala	124	43	40
15.	Madhya Pradesh	385	245	203
16.	Maharashtra	476	451	340

Sl. No.	State/U.T.	IOCL	BPCL	HPCL
17.	Manipur	14	8	0
18.	Meghalaya	11	28	4
19.	Mizoram	4	1	0
20.	Nagaland	1	5	0
21.	Odisha	171	86	64
22.	Punjab	203	53	89
23.	Rajasthan	343	194	159
24.	Sikkim	3	7	1
25.	Tamil Nadu	376	334	162
26.	Telengana	47	151	54
27.	Tripura	16	1	0
28.	Uttar Pradesh	728	252	191
29.	Uttarakhand	34	21	25
30.	West Bengal	138	107	48
<b>Union Territories</b>				
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	1	0	0
2.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	1	1
4.	Daman and Diu	0	0	2
5.	Lakshdweep	0	0	0
6.	Pondicherry	4	5	2
TOTAL		5143	3273	2453

#### Linking of petroleum prices to international prices

754. SHRI K. N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has linked the petroleum prices in the country completely to the international prices; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?