

1	2	3	4
6.	Kochi-Mangalore-Bangaluru (PH-1)	41	6.0
7.	Dabhol-Bangaluru	1097	16.0
8.	South Gujarat Network	671	15.4
9.	North Gujarat Network		2.9
10.	Rajasthan Network	151	2.4
11.	Cauvery Basin Network	278	8.7
12.	Lakwa Network	8	2.5
13.	Agartala Network	61	2.3
14.	Mumbai Network	129	7.0
15.	KG Basin Network	881	16.0
TOTAL		11070	206.0

#### Adulteration of fuel

1242. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether weak regulatory regime is allowing large scale adulteration of fuel being used in motor vehicles which is leading to rise in the air pollution;

(b) if so, what are the details of the existing regulatory mechanism;

(c) whether Government intends to strengthen the regulatory mechanism to prohibit adulteration of fuel with the participation of various stakeholders; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when the new regulatory regime will be put in place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have a system in place for regularly checking the quality of petrol and diesel being supplied by them to their Retail Outlets (ROs) in the country.

Public Sector OMCs undertake regular and surprise inspection of Retail Outlets and take action under the provisions of the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) and Dealership Agreements against the outlets found indulging in irregularities/ malpractices like adulteration, short delivery etc. The MDG provides for termination of outlets in the first instance itself for serious malpractices like adulteration,

tampering of seals and unauthorized fittings/gears in the dispensing units and graded penalties for other malpractices/irregularities. Other initiatives to prevent irregularities in Retail Outlets include Automation of Retail Outlets, Third Party Certification of Retail Outlets and Monitoring of movement of tank trucks through Global Positioning System (GPS).

(c) and (d) The Motor Spirit and High Speed Diesel (Regulation of Supply, Distribution and Prevention of Malpractices) Order, 2005 issued by the Central Government under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 provides for punitive action against malpractices such as adulteration. Provisions are also available in the contractual documents and administrative guidelines to prevent and punish malpractices.

A Quality Control Cell is also functional in each of the Public Sector OMCs which carries out surprise inspections at ROs for checking various irregularities including adulteration.

### **Reforms in oil and gas exploration**

†1243. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to formulate any plan to bring big reforms in the area of oil and gas exploration;

(b) if so, whether oil and gas industry is likely to be benefited from this plan; and

(c) if so, by when this plan is likely to be implemented and the details thereof of the above plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Government takes various policy and administrative initiatives from time to time to facilitate hydrocarbon exploration in the country. Some of the policy decisions taken by the Government in recent years to enhance exploration and production activities are as under:

- Government has approved Hydrocarbon and Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP) and same has been notified on 30th March 2016. This Policy provides for a uniform licensing system to explore and produce all hydrocarbons such as oil, gas, coal bed methane, shale oil/gas, etc. under a single licensing framework Policy also provides many incentives such as reduced royalty rates for offshore blocks, marketing and pricing freedom and easy to administer revenue sharing model.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.