

Recovery of petrol/diesel vapour during unloading at petrol pumps

434. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is mandatory for petrol pumps to install a system to recover petrol/diesel vapour emitted during unloading into underground storage tank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the company-wise total number of petrol pumps in the country *vis-à-vis* the number of petrol pumps which have already installed the said system; and

(d) the corrective steps taken by Government to check the release of volatile organic compound from fuel tankers during unloading of petrol, diesel which is harmful for humans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that they have not installed any Vapour Recovery System for collecting vapours during unloading of tanker at any of the ROs in the country. However, the Government has directed OMCs to install Vapour Recovery System for collecting vapours during fueling of vehicles at:

(i) All the ROs in Delhi

(ii) All high selling ROs, *i.e.* selling more than 300 KL per month in the country.

Accordingly, OMCs have initiated the process of tendering and getting approvals of Legal Metrology Department for installation of Stage II Vapour Recovery System at ROs.

Appointment of dealers by oil companies in Jammu and Kashmir

†435. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plans to appoint new distributors of oil distribution companies in Jammu and Kashmir in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government will contemplate upon it keeping in view of the shortage of it?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Appointment of LPG distributorships and Retail Outlets (ROs) is a continuous process. OMCs are regularly appointing LPG distributors/ROs in the country including Jammu and Kashmir. At present, there are 231 LPG distributors and 485 ROs in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Currently, selection process for setting up of 33 new LPG distributorships and 37 ROs in Jammu and Kashmir is at different stages of selection.

Shifting of subsidy into State run fuel retailers

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India have demanded that cooking gas and kerosene subsidy borne by upstream companies so far be shifted into State run fuel retailers amid the continuing oil slump that is squeezing producers' profit but boosting retailers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the ONGC and Oil India have written to Government demanding relief from shouldering the burden of subsidy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The Public Sector Upstream Oil Companies, namely Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) have requested the Government to review the subsidy sharing mechanism and exempt them from sharing of subsidy.

In view of the request of Public Sector Upstream Oil Companies for relief from sharing the under-recovery of OMCs; they have been exempted from sharing of under-recoveries of OMCs in Q3 of the last financial year and the remaining under-recovery on sale of PDS Kerosene for Q3 was borne by Public Sector OMCs.

Funds spent by GAIL on welfare of locals in Auraiya, Uttar Pradesh

437. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what was the annual income of Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) plant situated at Pata in Auraiya district, Uttar Pradesh for last two years; and

(b) whether two per cent of this annual income was spent on welfare work of the local people surrounding that areas particularly on health and treatment, if so, the details thereof?