

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1585
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2003
POWERS OF OIL COMPANIES
CHARAN DAS MAHANT

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the powers to inspect, verify and stamp the weights and measures including dispensing units installed on the Petrol Pumps vest with the officials of the department of weight and measures and cannot be delegated to any other official of other departments including official of any Oil Company;
- (b) if so, whether any official of other department/Government Oil Company can impose any fine/penalty on the observation of any variation on minus side in the weights and measure being used by any trader/petrol pump dealer when there was of seal and stamp of the department;
- (c) if not, whether these said officials of other department can take any cognizance as per section 63 of this act of 1985 on such an observation;
- (d) if not, whether these officials have the remedy to inform the officials on weights and measures to take suitable steps for establishing the offence and to take suitable action against erring traders/petrol pump dealers; and
- (e) if so, the procedure to be adopted by them?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a) to (e) : Stamping of dispensing pumps installed at Retail Outlets vests only with the officials of Weight and Measure Department. The statutory power of stamping of Dispensing Units of Weights & Measure Authority under the Weight & Measure Act can not be delegated to any official who does not belong to Weight & Measure Department. Notwithstanding the aforesaid, the dealers of the Oil Companies under the agreement entered into with them, are not permitted to sell any petroleum products, even if a calibrated and stamped weight & measure fitted in the retail outlet is giving any incorrect measurement. If any dealer is found selling the Oil Company's product by using any weight & measure which is giving incorrect measurement (short delivery), the Oil Company is entitled to take action under Marketing Discipline Guidelines and/or Dealership agreement.