

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:505
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2003
ADULTERATION IN PETROLEUM PRODUCTS
SHIVAJI MANE

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

- (a) whether the number of cases of adulteration in petroleum products are on the rise year after year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total quantum of petroleum products seized and the number of cases registered or persons booked, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to check the sale of adulterated petroleum products in the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) : The number of cases of adulteration of MS/HSD detected at retail outlets in the country during the last two years and April-September, 2003 is as under :-

Year	No. of Cases of adulteration detected
2001- 2002	301
2002- 2003	303
April-September, 2003	109

In all case of adulteration, action is taken against the erring dealers as per Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG) and/or Dealership Agreement and MS/HSD Control Order.The adulterated products in the underground tanks are removed and sent to the nearest refinery installation at dealer`s cost for reprocessing the product as per laid down procedure.

(d) : Besides the setting up of Anti Adulteration Cell, steps such as blue dyeing of Kerosene meant for Public Distribution System (PDS), regular/surprise inspection of the retail outlets, introduction of tamper proof locking system for tanker-trucks, revision of Marketing Discipline Guidelines making them more stringent, special vigilance drives, etc., are taken by the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs).Action is taken by the OMCs against erring dealers under the provisions of the MDG and/or Dealership Agreement. The State Governments also initiate action against any dealer indulging in adulteration of petroleum products and violation of any Control Order issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.