

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4331

ANSWERED ON:21.04.2005

OPENING OF RETAIL OUTLETS

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

- (a) the number of petrol/diesel retail outlets proposed to be opened by the private/public sector companies in the country during the Tenth Plan period, State-wise;
- (b) whether any irregularities have come to the notice of the Government regarding opening of diesel/petrol pumps in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) : After the announcement of the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism in the petroleum sector w.e.f. 1.4.2002, the public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) make their own marketing plans for setting up of new retail outlets(ROs) on yearly basis. There is no target for the Tenth Plan period for setting up ROs. As regards private sector companies, M/s Reliance Industries Limited, M/s Essar Oil Limited and M/s Shell India Marketing Pvt. Ltd. have been authorized to market transportation fuel and they propose to set up 5,849, 1,700 and 2,000 number of ROs respectively. However, there is no fixed time-frame for setting up these ROs.

(b) to (d) : The Government do receive, from time to time, complaints regarding the opening of retail outlets/selection of dealers by OMCs. These complaints are looked into and remedial action taken after enquiry.