

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:748
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2006
ALLOTMENT OF PETROL PUMPS
Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

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

:

- (a): whether the Government has received any complaints regarding irregularities in allotment of petrol pumps;
- (b): if so, the number of complaints received during each of the last three years, State- wise/company-wise;
- (c): the action taken by the Government thereon;
- (d): whether the Government proposes to formulate any new policy regarding allotment of petrol pumps;
- (e): if so, the details thereof; and
- (f): the number of petrol pumps likely to be opened during 2006-07, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) to (c): The Government receive complaints from time to time against selection of retail outlet dealers (petrol pumps). Such complaints are inquired into through the oil marketing companies (OMCs) / Chief Vigilance Officers of OMCs and remedial action taken, wherever necessary. During the last three years, i.e., 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05, the public sector OMCs, viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and IBP Co. Limited (IBP), had received 943 complaints with regard to selection / appointment of retail outlet dealers. OMC-wise break-up of the number of complaints is as under:-

IOCL BPCL HPCL IBP TOTAL

2002-03 30 13 6 2 51
2003-04 103 36 61 6 206
2004-05 352 80 159 95 686

State-wise details of the complaints are available with the Director(Marketing) of the OMCs concerned.

(d) & (e): Based on certain broad parameters advised by the Government to the public sector OMCs, the latter have framed their guidelines for the selection of retail outlet dealerships, LPG distributorships and SKO-LDO dealerships, and have been making selections in terms of these guidelines. These guidelines, which are objective and transparent in nature, provide for a detailed procedure to be followed by the OMCs in making selection of dealers/distributors. The procedure includes selection of dealers/distributors by the selection committee of the OMC concerned on the basis of evaluation of the suitability of the candidates vis-À-vis certain laid down parameters and weightages. Further, the guidelines provide for grievance redressal mechanism and any complaint/ grievance related to the selection of dealers/distributors is dealt with by the OMCs as per this mechanism. At present, no change in policy in the matter of allotment of retail outlets, is contemplated.

(f): The aforesaid four OMCs tentatively plan to set up 3,111 retail outlet dealerships in the country during the year 2006-07. However, it is not possible to indicate the exact number of such outlets that would be commissioned during that year since the job depends on various factors like selection of dealers, procurement of suitable sites, obtaining of 'no objection certificates' and other statutory approvals, construction of outlets, etc. State-wise details are available with the Director(Marketing) of the OMCs concerned.