

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1945  
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2006  
PETROL RETAIL OUTLETS ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS  
Bishnoi Shri Jaswant Singh

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

- (a): the norms prescribed for opening of petrol retail outlets on the national Highways;
- (b): the number of petrol retail outlets opened by the public sector oil companies on the National Highways during the last three years;
- (c): whether some retail outlets have been closed down on national Highways during the said period; and
- (d): if so, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a): The grant of permission for access for fuel stations, service stations and rest areas along the National Highways is governed by the guidelines laid down by the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways. These guidelines inter alia specify the general conditions of siting, plot sizes for fuel stations, access layouts, drainage requirements, enforcement of Right of Way and Building Line, system for signs and markings, implementation procedure, etc.

(b) to (d): During the last three years, i.e., 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, the public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs), viz. Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and IBP Co. Limited, opened 2655 retail outlet dealerships (RO) along the National Highways. During the said period, some ROs along the National Highways have also been closed down due to various reasons, like, resitement of ROs due to expansion/ widening of National Highways, non-receipt of approval from National Highways Authority of India, termination of ROs due to irregularities/malpractices indulged in by dealers, dispute between the partners, poor sales performance, etc.