

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3325
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2007
BPCL PETROL PUMPS
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

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

- (a) the number of BPCL petrol pumps running in the country where the period of lease has expired and the Corporation has lost its rights to store petroleum products specially in Northern India;
- (b) the investment/expenses has been made by the Corporation on the modernisation of such retail outlets after the expiry of period of lease, name of retail, outlet-wise and amount-wise;
- (c) whether the Government would conduct enquiry regarding the misuse of Corporation funds;
- (d) whether the oil corporation, specially BPCL would close such retail outlets where it has lost all the legal rights in the event of expiry of lease period;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor

Answer

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

(a)&(b): Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has reported that the Corporation has 105 retail outlets (ROs) in Northern India out of the total 409 ROs running in the country, where lease has expired. However, in none of these cases, the Corporation has lost its right to store petroleum products due to expiry of the lease of the site. The Corporation has not made any expenses/investments on modernization of the ROs after the expiry of the period of the lease of the site.

(c): Does not arise.

(d)&(e): The Corporation exercises all the options available for the protection of the ROs site viz. Statutory option, legal tenancy act, etc. Efforts are also made by the Corporation to negotiate with the landlords for fresh lease/ purchase of the site. The Corporation considers surrendering of site/closure of ROs on a case to case basis after exhausting all options.

(f): Does not arise.