

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:36  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2006  
MARKER SYSTEM TO CHECK ADULTERATION  
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Chaure Shri Bapu Hari

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched marketing of kerosene laced with imported markers to check diversion of the subsidized fuel for adulteration of motor fuels and industrial solvents;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the countries from where this marker is being imported;
- (d) the annual expenditure is likely to be incurred thereon;
- (e) the other options adopted by the Government to check adulteration; and
- (f) the effective steps taken by the Government to implement these measures?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (F) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 36 TO BE ANSWERED ON 23RD NOVEMBER 2006 REGARDING MARKER SYSTEM TO CHECK ADULTERATION ASKED BY SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO AND SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

(a) to (f): To check adulteration in auto fuels and diversion of PDS Kerosene Government has asked public sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to take various steps, including introduction of marker in kerosene. OMCs have commenced introduction of marker in kerosene on all India basis with effect from 1.10.2006. Under the system, marker is being put in kerosene in all supply locations depots/terminals. The system heralds the introduction of a world class technology to curb and eventually eliminate the menace of adulteration of transportation fuels along the supply chain. Through this introduction, adulteration even with very small quantities of kerosene can be detected. OMCs are importing the marker from United Kingdom (U.K.). Expenditure for introduction of marker would involve the cost of the marker for doping in kerosene and the cost of test kits which would vary from year to year.

The details of others steps taken recently by OMCs to curb adulteration of petrol/ diesel and streamlining the PDS kerosene distribution is at Annex.

ANNEX TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 36 DATED 23.11.2006

**STEPS TAKEN TO CHECK ADULTERATION OF PETROL/DIESEL AND STREAMLINING PDS KEROSENE DISTRIBUTION**

Checking of adulteration is a continuous process and the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has been reviewing steps taken to curb adulteration from time to time. In the process, several technological and institutional measures have been taken recently to contain adulteration. The recent steps taken by the Ministry are summarized below:

1. Automation of Retail Outlets: In order to monitor the activities at retail outlets by adopting the latest technological improvements, automation of retail outlets is being implemented. MOP&NG has directed the oil marketing companies (OMCs) to complete automation of retail outlets selling more than 200 KL per month by March 2007.

2. Third Party Certification of Retail Outlets: OMCs have been directed to complete third party certification of all the retail outlets selling more than 100 KL per month by March 2007.

3. Monitoring of movement of Tank Trucks through Global Positioning System(GPS): In order to prevent adulteration during transportation, OMCs have been directed to install GPS to complete monitoring of the movement of all the company owned/dealer owned/contractor owned tank trucks by March 2007.

4. Jan Kerosene Pariyojna; To - streamline the PDS Kerosene distribution system and contain diversion of kerosene for adulteration

and other unauthorized usages, Jan Kerosene Pariyojna(JKP) has been launched initially for 6 months on a pilot basis in 414 blocks with effect from 2.10.2005. The Pilot scheme has been extended upto 30.6.2007.

5. Smart Card Scheme: With the objective of ensuring that the benefit of the subsidy reaches the targeted consumers in an efficient and cost-effective manner and to prevent any leakages, this Ministry is considering introduction of Smart Card System for distribution of PDS kerosene. The scheme is proposed to be introduced initially on an experimental basis in three districts - Latur in Maharashtra, Nalanda in Bihar and Nainital in Uttaranchal w.e.f. 1.1.2007. In the Pilot project, subsidized kerosene through Smart Card is proposed to be available to BPL families while all other ration card holders would be given non-subsidized kerosene. An independent agency will be engaged to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the Pilot. Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) would ensure adequate availability of PDS as well as non-subsidized kerosene during the entire period of implementation of the Pilot.