

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4553
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2009
THEFT OF OIL FROM ONGC PIPELINE
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware the thefts of oil from ONGC pipeline has been increasing in the country;
- (b) if so, the actual assessment of theft of oil from ONGC pipeline in different parts of the country;
- (c) the action taken by the Government against the erring officials; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a): 192 cases of oil theft/pilferage from pipelines during the last 5 years have been reported by Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC).

(b): The amount involved in theft/pilferage during last 5 years reported by ONGC are as follows:-

Year Amount Involved (Rs.)

2005 9,25,158

2006 15,57,967

2007 18,10,375

2008 19,41,240

2009 12,84,700
(up to October)

(c): In two cases, involvement of officials was suspected. Departmental Enquiry Committee could not establish the involvement due to lack of evidence. The officials were transferred by ONGC as an administrative measure.

(d): A number of steps have been taken by ONGC to prevent theft/pilferage of crude oil from pipelines which are as under: -

- (i): Line walker system instituted for surveillance of the vulnerable area.
- (ii): Conducting mobile nakabandi/ patrolling by joint team of local police and ONGC security personnel.
- (iii): Involvement of local community by sensitizing them.
- (iv): Effective liaison & coordination with district and state level police authorities.
- (v): Rewards for the police units/officers for their outstanding contributions.
- (vi): Obtaining actionable intelligence through sources

(vii): Government has constituted Onshore Security Coordination Committees (OSCC) headed by DGPs of concerned States and representatives from Civil Administrations/Jurisdictional Police Authorities for strengthening security of ONGC assets.

(viii): Deployment of state Reserve / Armed Police in the operational areas.

(ix): Efforts are on to acquire State-of-the-art pipeline monitoring system.