LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 393 TO BE ANSWERED ON $5^{\rm TH}$ FEBRUARY, 2018

BPCL PETROL PUMPS

† 393. SHRI GOPAL SHETTY:

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) the location-wise details of the petrol pumps of various oil companies particularly Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited in the country including Thane district of Maharashtra that had been provided land on lease and after the expiry of the lease the said petrol pumps are still running there and rent has not been paid along with the action taken by the Government in this regard, location/ company-wise;
- (b) whether complaints have been received against the petrol pumps which are being run illegally even after the expiry of lease of land and land owners were not paid rent during the lease period and if so, the details thereof along with action taken by the Government against such irregularities, company/location-wise;
- (c) whether the Government/oil companies have received alleged complaints regarding illegal transfer without obtaining No Objection Certificate and sale of petrol pumps of various oil companies particularly of BPCL located in Thane district of Maharashtra; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with action taken by the Government/oil companies in this regard, complaint/ location-wise?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान)

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a)&(b) - Setting up of Retail Outlet (RO) sales network by Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) is a continuous process to ensure availability of transport fuel like petrol and diesel in the interest of motoring public as well as small scale industries, agriculturists etc.

OMCs have been leasing / de-leasing retail outlet sites on an ongoing basis as a part of their normal business. OMCs receive complaints/representations from land owners for release of land either after expiry of lease period or during the lease period itself citing various reasons.

The lease of the Retail outlet land is renewed by mutual agreement between OMCs and the land lords upon expiry of the lease period. In cases of disagreement, OMCs may not be in a position to renew the lease immediately after the expiry of lease. In such cases, OMCs operate the Petrol pumps even after expiry of the lease of land and rentals are paid as per the previous lease agreement. In some cases the land lords refuse to accept the rentals and insist on vacation of the site or higher rentals, file Court cases, etc. These pending lease payments are settled subsequently after mutual agreement / Court verdict.

The OMC-wise number of petrol pump being operated after expiry of lease and where rents are not being paid are as under:

Oil Marketing Company	Number of Locations
IOCL	227
BPCL	349
HPCL	263

(c)&(d) Complaints regarding illegal transfer without obtaining No Objection Certificate and sale of Petrol Pumps are investigated by OMCs and once the case of Benami operation has been established, punitive action for contravention of Dealership agreement provision is taken, which includes termination of the Dealership.

As per available information, BPCL and HPCL have not received any complaints regarding transfer of RO dealership without obtaining NOC in Thane district of Maharashtra. However, IOCL is in receipt of a complaint against M/s Vasai Auto Care, Dist. Thane which is under investigation.
