

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4720  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH, 2020**

**Challenging of Labour Awards**

**4720. SHRI RAMCHARAN BOHRA:**

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether his Ministry had issued a circular on 08.11.2019 to all the Ministries directing strict compliance of the Government order dated 19.03.1999 providing that all the Public Sector Undertakings under the Union Government have to take prior permission in consultation with their respective Ministries, the Ministry of Labour and Employment and the Ministry of Law and Justice for challenging the labour awards passed by Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Courts (CGIT-cum-LCs) in higher courts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the management of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), Ahmedabad has challenged the labour awards passed by Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-labour Courts (CGIT-cum-LCs) during the financial year 2017-2018 to 2019-2020 in the High Court in violation of the Government order dated 19.03.1999 and without taking prior permission from his Ministry and if so, the details thereof, and
- (d) whether the Ministry has taken any action to ensure compliance of Government orders by the undertakings under its control and taken any strong action against the officers of the said undertakings guilty of violating the said Government order and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान)

**MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS  
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Labour & Employment has issued a letter dated 08.11.2019 to all Central Ministries for adhering to the screening procedure as provided in its Office Memorandum dated 19.03.1999 before challenging the award in the Industrial Tribunals etc.

(c) to (d): During the Financial Year 2017-18 to 2019-20, ONGC Ahmedabad Assets challenged the two awards of CGIT, before the Hon'ble High Court of Gujarat. In both the Awards the liability was cast upon ONGC to ensure reinstatement of the drivers (engaged by the contractors) and also to ensure the payment of back wages from the date of termination. These drivers were not

employed by ONGC and therefore, their reinstatement and back wages were not within the control of ONGC. One petition has been disposed of by the Hon'ble High Court with the direction to CGIT to have proper hearing in the matter before passing of Award. The other petition is still pending before the High Court of Gujarat.

Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has circulated the letter dated 08.11.2019 of Ministry of Labour & Employment to all Central Public Sector Enterprises under the administrative control of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for information and appropriate action.

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