

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3220
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07th AUGUST, 2025

Losses Due to ATF Thefts

3220. Dr. Amol Ramsing Kolhe:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that despite investing crores in digital locks, GPS Vehicle Tracking System (VTS) and real-time alert systems, Officers at OMCs terminals failed to act on significant alerts where a tanker reached Hadapsar, Pune instead of Mumbai pending action for over 570 days, if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;
- (b) whether the ATF thefts have resulted in any arrests or suspension of officers and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether tankers deviate and conduct fuel theft using hidden compartments without the knowledge or complicity of terminal officials and if so, the details and the facts thereof;
- (d) the details of the product which was supplied in place of the stolen ATF; and
- (e) whether destination airports conducted quality checks on the fuel delivered and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(श्री सुरेश गोपी)

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a) to (e): A case was registered on 08.04.2023 at Hadapsar Police Station, Pune involving two Tank Lorries of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) carrying Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF), loaded from HPCL Vashi Terminal at Navi Mumbai and other Tank Lorry of Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) in empty state with tampered locking arrangement. Both HPCL and IOCL have taken action against the concerned transporters in accordance with Industry Transport Discipline Guidelines (ITDG), including blacklisting of the tank trucks/lorries on an industry basis and imposition of monetary penalty. Further, HPCL has issued caution letter on 27.03.2024 to the Manager-Operations and the Operations Officer of the supply location, considering lapses on their part in monitoring Vehicle Tracking System (VTS).

Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have well laid down Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for safe and secure transportation of fuel. Following additional measures have been taken by PSU OMCs for safe and secure transportation of fuel:

- ITDG Revision: The Industry Transport Discipline Guidelines (ITDG) was revised on 01.11.2024 with better clarity on penalties for pilferage and short delivery. Further additional clauses were incorporated to address malpractices like non- delivery and diversion of products to other entities.

- Monitoring of unauthorized stoppages: The latitude and longitude along with geofenced area of suspected points are identified through VTS system. Tank Truck (TT) movements are continuously monitored through the VTS to detect any stoppages at such locations and if detected, the VTS data is then scrutinized by the Location and action as per ITDG are taken.
- Sensitizing Locations: Incidents of established pilferage are shared with Locations to monitor similar patterns of the TTs for identification of potential malpractices.

As per the agreement between PSU OMCs and the transporter, the transporter is responsible for maintaining the quality and quantity of the product being transported. In the event of any deviation in quantity or quality, the entire loss/cost is to be borne by the transporter concerned. The contracted Tank Trucks are continuously monitored for any deviation and action is taken in accordance with ITDG in established cases of deviations.

The ATF receiving locations at the airport conduct quality checks, including density, appearance and water content, prior to acceptance. These checks are carried out in strict compliance with the procedures specified in the Aviation Quality Control and Assurance Manual (AQCAM).
