

## **SHRI DEORA INTRODUCES BILL TO AMEND THE PETROLEUM AND MINERALS PIPELINES ACT, 1962 IN LOK SABHA**

New Delhi: March 16, 2010

The Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas Shri Murli Deora introduced “Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Amendment Bill, 2010” today in the Lok Sabha. The Amendment Bill proposes to amend Section 15 and 16 of the Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Act, 1962 for strengthening the enforcement mechanism and penal provisions for making punishments more stringent for pilferage of petroleum crude/products with the onus on the accused to prove that the pilfered product does not belong to him.

Petroleum crude oil and products are hazardous materials. Crude/ petroleum product being very costly item(s), any spillage is financial loss to the company besides causing disruption in supply of crude oil/finished products, damage to cultivable soil as well as loss of life and property, in case of a fire; etc. Despite regular patrolling and inspection of the pipelines incidents of pilferage and sabotage by anti-social elements have been taking place frequently in various pipelines.