

OIL & GAS REGULATORY AUTHORITY

PRESS RELEASE

Oil & Gas Regulatory Authority (OGRA) in order to determine the availability of MS and HSD and its smooth sale to the public at the prices declared by the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for their retail outlets and posted on OGRA's website, conducted surprise inspections on December 31st 2009 and January 01, 2010 in the entire country through teams comprising of OGRA Officers. This was done since it was apprehended based on the rumors, that OGRA might decrease the price of POL products from January 1st 2010, the retail outlets would decline the purchase of POL and hence its sale to its customers. The inspections have revealed that retail outlets of OMCs were involved in doing so, i.e. they declined the purchase of MS & HSD and as a result sale of both these products declined, thus causing severe in-convenience and hardship to the consumers of these products. Moreover, it was observed that out of 158 retail outlets inspected, 85 retail outlets were found over-charging the customers, whereas 40 retail outlets were found have deficient in POL stocks. OGRA has taken strict notice of such malpractices / deficiencies causing inconvenience to the public and has decided that OMCs / petrol pump owners involved in such activities will be strictly dealt in accordance with the Rules and the prevailing Law. OGRA is in the process of issuing show-cause notices and resultantly imposing penalties to all these companies who failed to discharge their duties diligently.

(Muhammad Asad Latif)
Joint Executive Director(PR)

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