

Safety of oil installations

231. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of a major fire at the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) terminal in Jaipur in December 2009, Government has charged certain officials of IOC for gross violation of the procedures laid down by the Oil Industry Safety Directorate and the IOC's safety manual;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Oil Industry Safety Directorate has since investigated safety procedures of the other fuel depots in the country; and

(d) if so, the details of any loopholes that were found and further steps Government proposes to take to beef up the safety of oil installation across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) and (b) In connection with the incident of fire at Jaipur Terminal during Oct, 2009, IOC has initiated disciplinary action against Shri K.N. Agrawal, Foreman (F) and Shri Ashok Gupta who was Shift In-charge on that day. Rajasthan State Police is also investigating the incident. Eight officers and one workman including the then General Manager, Rajasthan State Office of IOC were arrested on 2.07.2010.

(c) and (d) After the incident at Jaipur, OISD has reviewed the Self Safety Audit Reports of 656 Oil and Gas storage and distribution installations submitted by oil companies belonging to public as well as private sector. The major areas of improvement identified in the Self Safety Audit by these companies are:

1. Need for Revised Risk Analysis
2. Fire Fighting facilities
3. Layout

This Ministry has advised these oil companies for updation of their facilities accordingly.

Exploration of Shale Gas

232. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state: