

**Involvement of officials in oil Adulteration cases**

‡288. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers/employees of the Petroleum Ministry apprehended in the cases of allegedly selling adulterated products in collusion with dealers;

(b) the action taken against them so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) There is no established case of involvement of any officers/employees of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas in sale of adulterated products in collusion with its dealers during last three years and in current year up to June 2013.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

**Oil reserves for ensuring energy security**

‡289. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has established crucial oil reserves to ensure the energy securities of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is sufficient to tackle any emergency situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Government, through Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL), is setting up Strategic Crude Oil Reserves with storage capacity of 5.33 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) at three locations viz. Visakhapatnam (storage capacity: 1.33 MMT), Mangalore (storage capacity: 1.5 MMT) and Padur (storage capacity: 2.5 MMT) to enhance the energy security of the country.

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‡ Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Integrated Energy Policy (2008) approved by the Government has, *inter-alia* recommended that "a reserve, equivalent to 90 days of oil imports should be maintained for strategic-cum-buffer stock purposes and/or buy options for emergency supplies from neighboring large storages such as those available in Singapore. The buffer stocks should be used to address short-term price volatility...". The country currently has approximately 72 days of crude oil and petroleum products cover on import basis. In order to further increase the Strategic crude oil storage capacity, ISPRL has undertaken a detailed feasibility study for construction of additional 12.5 MMT of crude oil storages in Phase-II at four locations *viz.* Bikaner, Rajkot, Chandikhol and Padur.

**Lobbies against stopping of oil imports**

290. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is facing lobbies that do not want India to stop importing oil;

(b) whether the Ministry is also facing constant threats from lobbies who want to have their way; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action Government is taking to sideline the lobbies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**Shareholding of GAIL in China gas**

291. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) is having share holding in China Gas;