

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:472
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2010
MIXING OF NAPHTHA WITH PETROL
Alagiri Shri S. ;Sinh Dr. Sanjay

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that naphtha is being mixed with petrol;
- (b) if so, the percentage thereof;
- (c) whether smoke emitted from the naphtha mixed with petrol is harmful to health and environment;
- (d) if so, the nature of ill effects of naphtha mixed smoke on health; and
- (e) the details of the steps that the Government has taken to check such adulteration?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) & (b): The possibility of mixing of Naphtha with petrol by some unscrupulous elements cannot be ruled out owing to substantial price differential between petrol and Naphtha and the easy miscibility of Naphtha with petrol.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. If petrol is mixed with Naphtha, it affects the Octane Number and thereby combustion, which leads to increase in unburnt Hydrocarbon and Carbon-monoxide emissions.

(e): Government have issued the Naphtha (Acquisition, Sales, Storage and Prevention of Use in Automobile) Order, 2000 under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to prevent diversion and misuse of Naphtha for adulteration. State Governments have been empowered under this Order to take action in the case of malpractices/irregularities. Also, the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) take action against their dealers under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines (MDG), for adulteration in petrol.