

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4158
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2013
PUBLIC SECTOR REFINERIES
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether various refineries in the country are capable and efficient to compete with current international market scenario, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the public sector refineries are also well equipped with modern technology and storage capacity;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;and
- (d) if not, the effective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SMT. PANABAAGA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (c) Indian refineries have adopted state-of-the art modern technologies for production of petroleum products and continuously upgrade the technologies in line with international trend and as per requirement. Adequate storage capacity with regard to crude and products has been provided as per laid down norms.

Further, apart from primary processing technologies, viz., Crude Oil Fractionation by Atmospheric Distillation and Vacuum Distillation for initial separation, following are the major modern process technologies employed across PSU refineries for producing petroleum products:

(i) Secondary/Upgradation Technologies for yield improvement:

Thermal cracking processes, viz., Visbreaking, Delayed Coking

Fluidised Catalytic Cracking, INDMAX Technology

Hydrocracking

(ii) Quality Upgradation Technologies:

Catalytic Reforming, Isomerisation, Alkylation, Prime G for meeting the quality specifications of Petrol w.r.t. octane number, benzene content, aromatics, olefins, sulphur and distillation.

Diesel Hydro-desulphurisation (DHDS), Diesel Hydro-treating (DHDT) for diesel for reduction of sulphur & PAH (Poly Aromatic Hydrocarbons) and cetane number improvement.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to parts (a) to (c) above.