

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2385

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2009

SAFETY IN OFFSHORE INLAND PETROLEUM OPERATIONS PETROLEUM INSTALLATIONS

Kashyap Shri Virender;Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

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

(a) whether no legal framework exist for regulating safety in offshore/inland petroleum operations/petroleum installations in the country even though petroleum operations in the country's offshore areas and inland areas are going on for the last three decades;

(b) if so, the reasons for not taking any action to establish such framework for so long;and

(c) the time by which the Government would take steps to establish safety regulatory framework for offshore petroleum operations ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a): The existing legal framework for safety in offshore, inland upstream sector and other inland petroleum operations exists as following:

(i) For safety in offshore: Oil Industry Safety Directorate (an autonomous body under Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas) is entrusted with the responsibility of administering the "Petroleum & Natural Gas (Safety in Offshore Operations) Rules, 2008" notified in June, 2008 by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas under Oil (Regulation Fields Development) Act, 1948.

(ii) For safety in inland upstream sector: Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), under the Ministry of Labour and Employment is the statutory authority for regulating the safety, under the Mines Act, 1952. Besides DGMS, the Petroleum & Explosive Safety Organization (PESO) is also a statutory authority under the Petroleum Act, 1934 and Rules made thereunder for technical and safety requirements of the oil installations.

(iii) For other inland petroleum operations : The major statutory authority for other inland petroleum operations are (a) Petroleum & Explosives Safety Organization (PESO) under the Petroleum Rules made under the Petroleum Act; and (b) Chief Inspector of Factories of respective State Government under Factory Rules made under the Factories Act, 1948.

(b) & (c): Does not arise in view of (a) above.