

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 3637
ANSWERED ON- 03/04/2023

Security and safety in Barauni refinery

3637: SHRI RAKESH SINHA:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there was blast in Barauni refinery in 2021 which led to injury of 19 people;
- (b) the final report and the reasons for the said blast;
- (c) the steps which have been taken to protect the environment and hazards inherent in the nature of work; and
- (d) the present status of security and safety in the refinery campus?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) to (d): Yes Sir. There was an explosion in Vacuum Distillation Unit Furnace in 2021 at IOCL's Barauni Refinery which caused injuries to 19 people. The affected unit was subsequently inspected by Oil Industry Safety Directorate (OISD) and Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) teams.

The reason for the incident as per the Report submitted by OISD & PNGRB was deviation from the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). IOCL has informed that all the 19 nos recommendations of OISD and PNGRB have since been implemented.

Identification of Hazards is done through Globally accepted tools such as HAZOP (Hazard and operability study), HAZID (Hazard Identification) etc. and suitable mitigation measures are incorporated during the design stage itself. At present, Fire and Gas leak detection system are also installed at various locations of the Barauni Refinery for early detection and prompt response.

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