

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
DEPARTMENT FOR PROMOTION OF INDUSTRY AND INTERNAL TRADE
RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2291.
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 07TH AUGUST, 2026.**

STAFF STRENGTH AND INSPECTION CAPACITY IN PESO

2291. SHRI A. A. RAHIM:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

- (a) the sanctioned strength and working strength in the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO);
- (b) whether Government has assessed the impact of manpower shortages in PESO on inspection, safety audits and enforcement activities, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of inspections of petroleum, explosives and compressed gas installations carried out by PESO during the last five years, year-wise; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to undertake a comprehensive review of the manpower requirements of PESO in view of the increasing number of establishments under its regulatory jurisdiction, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)**

- (a):** The details of sanctioned strength and working strength in Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO) is given below-

	Present Strength	Sanctioned	Present working strength
Total Staff strength at PESO	594*		291

* A total of 114 posts were created in the year 2025.

- (b):** The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), through the National Productivity Council (NPC), had undertaken Performance Audits of the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO) in 2017 and 2021. The studies, inter alia, assessed the manpower requirements of PESO and recommended enhancement of its manpower from the then sanctioned strength of 480 to 627 posts.

Pursuant to the recommendations and subsequent examination of the matter, efforts have been made to augment the manpower of PESO. As a result, 114 additional posts were created in Year 2025, increasing the sanctioned strength of PESO from 480 to 594 posts as on date. Thus, substantial progress has been made towards addressing the manpower requirements identified in the Performance Audit studies.

(c): The Number of inspections of petroleum, explosives and compressed gas installations carried out by PESO during the last five years, years wise is as follows:

Rules under which installations are covered	No. of Inspection				
	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Ammonium Nitrate Rules, 2012	116	127	142	127	92
Explosives Rules, 2008	5837	6967	6361	5517	5331
Gas Cylinder Rules, 2016	2357	3972	3222	2390	2688
SMPV(U) Rules, 2016	2757	2862	2574	3463	4533
Petroleum Rules, 2002	2232	8160	13503	5097	2319
Calcium Carbide Rules, 1987	11	11	12	6	7
TOTAL	13310	22099	25814	16600	14970

(d): The Government has undertaken various Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) initiatives in PESO, including simplification and digitization of regulatory processes, online service delivery, reduction in procedural requirements, and rationalization of inspections. These measures have streamlined the workload and rationalized the manpower requirements of PESO. Accordingly, comprehensive review of the manpower in PESO at this juncture is not required.
