

THE PETROLEUM (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1970

No. 24 OF 1970

[29th May, 1970]

An Act further to amend the Petroleum Act, 1934.

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Twenty-first Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1970.

Short title and commencement.

(2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint.

30 of 1934.

2. In the Petroleum Act, 1934 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in the long title and preamble, the words "and other inflammable substances" shall be omitted.

Amendment of long title and preamble.

3. In section 2 of the principal Act,—

(a) for clause (b), the following clauses shall be substituted, namely:—

Amendment of section 2.

(b) "petroleum Class A" means petroleum having a flash-point below twenty-three degrees Centigrade;

(bb) "petroleum Class B" means petroleum having a flash-point of twenty-three degrees Centigrade and above but below sixty-five degrees Centigrade;

(bbb) "petroleum class C" means petroleum having a flash-point of sixty-five degrees Centigrade and above but below ninety-three degrees Centigrade;;

(b) in clause (c), for the word "flashing-point", the word "flash-point" shall be substituted;

(c) for clause (d), the following clause shall be substituted, namely:—

(d) "to transport petroleum" means to move petroleum from one place to another in India and includes moving from one

1. 1.8.1976: vide Notifn. No. S.O. 294 dated 30.6.1976

place to another in India across a territory which is not part of India;'

Amendment of section 3.

4. In sub-section (2) of section 3 of the principal Act, for the words "any dangerous petroleum", the words and letter "petroleum Class A" shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 4.

5. In section 4 of the principal Act,—

(a) for the words "dangerous petroleum" wherever they occur, the words and letter "petroleum Class A" shall be substituted;

(b) in clause (1), the words "including the charging of fees for any services rendered in connection with the import, transport and storage of petroleum" shall be inserted at the end.

Amendment of section 5.

6. In clause (b) of sub-section (2) of section 5 of the principal Act, for the words "dangerous petroleum", the words and letter "petroleum Class A" shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 6.

7. In section 6 of the principal Act,—

(a) for the words "dangerous petroleum" wherever they occur, the words and letter "petroleum Class A" shall be substituted;

(b) in clause (a) of the proviso, for the words "two gallons", the words "ten litres" shall be substituted.

Substitution of new sections for sections 7 and 8.

8. For sections 7 and 8 of the principal Act, the following sections shall be substituted, namely:—

No licences needed for transport or storage of limited quantities of petroleum Class B or petroleum Class C.

"7. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Chapter, a person need not obtain a licence for the transport or storage of—

(i) petroleum Class B if the total quantity in his possession at any one place does not exceed two thousand and five hundred litres and none of it is contained in a receptacle exceeding one thousand litres in capacity; or

(ii) petroleum Class C if the total quantity in his possession at any one place does not exceed forty-five thousand litres and such petroleum is transported or stored in accordance with the rules made under section 4.

No licence needed for import, transport or storage

8. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Chapter, a person need not obtain a licence for the import, transport or storage of petroleum Class A not intended for sale if the total quantity in his possession does not exceed thirty litres.

(2) Petroleum Class A possessed without a licence under this section shall be kept in securely stoppered receptacles of glass, stoneware or metal which shall not, in the case of receptacles of glass or stoneware, exceed one litre in capacity or, in the case of receptacles of metal, exceed twenty-five litres in capacity.”

of small quantities of petroleum Class A.

9. In section 9 of the principal Act,—

Amendment of section 9.

(a) in sub-section (1),—

(i) for the words “dangerous petroleum” in both places where they occur, the words and letter “petroleum Class A” shall be substituted;

(ii) for the words “twenty gallons” in both places where they occur, the words “one hundred litres” shall be substituted;

(b) in sub-section (2),—

(i) for the words “The dangerous petroleum”, the words and letter “Petroleum Class A” shall be substituted;

(ii) for the words “six gallons”, the words “thirty litres” shall be substituted.

10. For section 11 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

Substitution of new section for section 11.

“11. Nothing in this Chapter shall apply to any petroleum which has its flash-point not below ninety-three degrees Centigrade.”

Exemption of heavy oils.

11. In sub-section (1) of section 15 of the principal Act, for the word “flashing-point”, the word “flash-point” shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 15.

12. In sub-section (1) of section 16 of the principal Act, for the word “flashing-point”, the word “flash-point” shall be substituted.

Amendment of section 16.

13. In section 19 of the principal Act,—

Amendment of section 19.

(a) for sub-section (1), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(1) The testing officer after testing samples of petroleum shall make out a certificate in the prescribed form, stating whether the petroleum is petroleum Class A or petroleum Class B or petroleum Class C, and if the petroleum is petroleum Class B or petroleum Class C, the flash-point of the petroleum.”;

(b) for sub-section (3), the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely:—

“(3) A certificate given under this section shall be admitted as evidence in any proceedings which may be taken under this

Act in respect of the petroleum from which the samples were taken, and shall, until the contrary is proved, be conclusive proof, that the petroleum is petroleum Class A or petroleum Class B or petroleum Class C, and, if the petroleum is petroleum Class B or petroleum Class C, of its flash-point."

Amend-
ment of
section 23.

14. In section 23 of the principal Act,—

(a) in sub-section (1); for the words "with fine which may extend to five hundred rupees", the words "with simple imprisonment which may extend to one month, or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both" shall be substituted;

(b) in sub-section (2), for the words "with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees", the words "with simple imprisonment which may extend to three months, or with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees, or with both" shall be substituted.

Substitu-
tion of
new sec-
tion for
section 27.

15. For section 27 of the principal Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely:—

Notice of
accidents
with
petroleum.

"27. Whenever there occurs in or about, or in connection with, any place in which petroleum is refined, blended or kept, or any carriage or vessel either conveying petroleum or on or from which petroleum is being loaded or unloaded, any accident by explosion or by fire as a result of the ignition of petroleum or petroleum vapour attended with loss of human life or serious injury to person or property, or of a description usually attended with such loss or injury, the occupier of the place or the person for the time being in charge of the petroleum or the person in charge of the carriage or the master of the vessel, as the case may be, shall, within such time and in such manner as may be prescribed, give notice thereof and of the attendant loss of human life, or injury to person or property, if any, to the nearest Magistrate or to the officer in charge of the nearest police station and to the Chief Inspector of Explosives in India."

Amend-
ment of
section 28.

16. In sub-section (3) of section 28 of the principal Act, the words "in a Presidency-town" shall be omitted.