

PETROLEUM ACT, 1934

30 of 1934

[6th September, 1934]

CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1 :- PRELIMINARY

1. Short title, extent and commencement
2. Definitins

CHAPTER 1A :- CONTROL OVER PETROLEUM

3. Import, transport and storage of petroleum
4. Rules for the import,transport and storage petroleum
5. Production, refining and blending of petroleum
6. Receptacles of dangerous petroleum to show a warning
7. No licence needed for transport or storage of limited quantities of petroleum Class B or petroleum Class C
8. No licence needed for import, transport or storage of small quantities of petroleum Class A
9. Exemptions for motor conveyances and stationary engines
10. No licence needed by railway administration acting as carrier
11. Exemption of heavy oils
12. General power of exemption
13. Inspection of places

CHAPTER 2 :- TESTING OF PETROLEUM

14. Inspection and sampling of petroleum
15. Standard Test Apparatus
16. Certification of other test apparatus
17. Testing officers
18. Manner of test
19. Certificate of testing
20. Right to require re-test
21. Power to make rules regarding tests
22. Special rules for testing viscous or solid forms of petroleum

CHAPTER 3 :- PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE

23. General penalty for offences under this Act
24. Confiscation of petroleum and receptacles
25. Jurisdiction
26. Power of entry and search

27. Notice of accidents with petroleum
28. Inquiries into serious accidents with petroleum

CHAPTER 4 :- SUPPLEMENTAL

29. Provisions relating to rules
30. Power to apply Act to other substances
31. Power to limit powers of local authorities over petroleum
32. Repeals

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"Petroleum Act, 1899 was passed at time when the use of petroleum, particularly of dangerous petroleum or petrol, was limited, and with the great development in the use of petroleum that have taken place in the last 30 years it has become unsuitable in several ways. As early as 1903 the attention of the Government of India was drawn to the inconvenience arising from the existence in different provinces of separate sets of rules to regulate the importation, possession and transport of petroleum. The present Act does not permit the issue by the Government of India of a set of rules applicable throughout British India and the only way in which it has been possible to secure uniformity has been made by the issue by Local Governments from time to time of similar rules with the sanction of the Central Government. Local Governments, and the interests concerned were consulted on the subject of revising the Act in 1925-26 and it was agreed by all Local Governments that the rule-making power should be transferred to the Central Government. In addition a number of other changes have been proposed in the light of experience. The opportunity has been taken to rearrange the whole law. In addition to the "Preliminary" portion and the final "Supplemental" chapter the Bill contains three separate chapters. Chapter I relates to the control of petroleum and Chapter II to its testing, while Chapter III contains the necessary penal provisions and what may be described as criminal procedure."-Gaz. of Ind.. 1933, Part V, page 104.

Amending Act 31 of 1977.- The Committee on Subordinate Legislation (Fifth. Lok Sabha) in their Fourteenth Report desired that the Government should undertake a review of all Acts to find out which of them do not contain a provision for laying of rules framed thereunder before Parliament and should incorporate such a

provision in those Acts. As the Petroleum Act, 1934, does not contain such a provision, the Bill seeks to include such a provision in that Act. 2. The opportunity is availed of to change the reference to the Chief Inspector of Explosives in India and Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, into references to the Chief Controller of Explosives and Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973. respectively.- S.O.R. Guz.. of Ind., 20-7-1977. Pt. II, S. 2 Ext.. p. 417.

CHAPTER 1
PRELIMINARY

1. Short title, extent and commencement :-

(1) This Act may be called The Petroleum Act, 1934.

¹ [(2) It extends to the whole of India [* * *].]

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

1. Substituted for "any dangerous petroleum" by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1970 (24 of 1970), Section 4 (29-5-1970).

2. Definitions :-

In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,-

(a) "petroleum" means any liquid hydrocarbon or mixture of hydrocarbons, and any inflammable mixture (liquid, viscous or solid) containing any liquid hydrocarbon;

¹ [(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:]

(c) ["flash-point"] of any petroleum means the lowest temperature at which it yields a vapour which will give a momentary flash when ignited, determined in accordance with the provisions of Chapter II and the rules made thereunder:

[(d) to transport petroleum" means to move petroleum from one

place to another in India and includes moving from one place to another in India across a territory which is not part of India:]

(e) "to import" petroleum means to bring it into [India] by land, sea or air, otherwise than during the course of transport:

(f) "to store" petroleum means to keep it in any one place, but does not include any detention happening during the ordinary course of transport:

(g) "motor conveyance" means any vehicle, vessel or aircraft for the conveyance of human beings, animals or goods, by land, water or air, [in which petroleum is used to generate the motive power:

(h) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act. [* * * * *]

1. Substituted for "any dangerous petroleum" by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1970 (24 of 1970), Section 4 (29-5-1970).

CHAPTER 1A

CONTROL OVER PETROLEUM

3. Import, transport and storage of petroleum :-

(1) No one shall import, transport or store any petroleum save in accordance with the rules made under section 4 .

(2) Save in accordance with the conditions of any licence for the purpose which he may be required to obtain by rules made under section 4 , no one shall import ¹ [petroleum Class A], and no one shall transport or store any petroleum.

1. Substituted for the words 'Governor-General-in-Council' and 'Gazette of India', respectively, by A.O., 1937.

4. Rules for the import, transport and storage petroleum :-

The ¹[Central Government] may make rules²-

(a) prescribing places where petroleum may be imported and prohibiting its import elsewhere;

(b) regulating the import of petroleum;

(c) prescribing the period within which licences for the import of dangerous petroleum shall be applied for, and providing for the disposal, by confiscation or otherwise, of any ³[petroleum Class A] in respect of which a licence has not been applied for within the prescribed period or has been refused and which has not been

exported;

(d) regulating the transport of petroleum;

(e) specifying the nature and condition of all receptacles and pipelines in which petroleum may be transported;

(f) regulating the places at which and prescribing the conditions subject to which petroleum may be stored:

(g) specifying the nature, situation and condition of all receptacles in which petroleum may be stored;

(h) prescribing the form and conditions of licences for the import of ³ [petroleum Class A], and for the transport or storage of any petroleum, the manner in which applications for such licences shall be made, the authorities which may grant such licences and the fees which may be charged for such licences;

(i) determining in any class of cases whether a licence for the transport of petroleum shall be obtained by the consignor, consignee or carrier;

(j) providing for the granting of combined licences for the import, transport and storage of petroleum, or for any two of such purposes;

(k) prescribing the proportion in which any specified poisonous substance may be added to petroleum, and prohibiting the import, transport or storage of petroleum in which the proportion of any specified poisonous substance exceeds the prescribed proportion; and

(l) generally, providing for any matter which in [its] opinion is expedient for proper control over the import, transport and storage of petroleum, [including the charging of fees for any services rendered in connection with the import, transport and storage of petroleum.]

1. Substituted for the words 'Governor-General-in-Council' and 'Gazette of India', respectively, by A.O., 1937.

2. See Gaz. of Ind., 1937, Pt. I.p.631.

3. See the Petroleum Rules, 1937, by A.O., 1937, pp. 720-775.

5. Production, refining and blending of petroleum :-

(1) No one shall produce, refine or blend petroleum save in accordance with the rules made under sub-section 2).

(2) The ¹[Central Government] may make rules ²--

(a) prescribing the conditions subject to which petroleum may be produced, refined or blended; and

(b) regulating the removal of petroleum from places where it is produced, refined or blended and preventing the storage therein and removal therefrom, except as ³ [petroleum Class A], of any petroleum, which has not satisfied the prescribed tests. [* * * * *
*]

1. Substituted for the words 'Governor-General-in-Council' and 'Gazette of India', respectively, by A.O., 1937.

2. See Gaz. of Ind., 1937, Pt. I.p.631.

3. See the Petroleum Rules, 1937, by A.O., 1937, pp. 720-775.

6. Receptacles of dangerous petroleum to show a warning

:-

All receptacles containing ¹[petroleum Class A] shall have a stamped, embossed, painted or printed warning, either on the receptacle itself or where that is impracticable, displayed near the receptacle, exhibiting in conspicuous characters of the words "Petrol" or "Motor Spirit", or an equivalent warning of the dangerous nature of the petroleum : Provided that this section shall not apply to--

(a) any securely stoppered glass, stoneware or metal receptacle of less than ²[ten litres] capacity containing ³ [petroleum Class] which is not for sale, or

(b) a tank incorporated in a motor conveyance, or attached to an internal combustion engine, and containing petroleum intended to be used to generate motive power for the motor conveyance or engine, or

(c) a pipe-line for the transport of petroleum, or

(d) any tank which is wholly underground, or

(e) any class of receptacles which the [Central Government] may, by notification" in the' [Official Gazette], exempt from the operation of this section.

1. Substituted for the words 'Governor-General-in-Council' and 'Gazette of India', respectively, by A.O., 1937.

2. See Gaz. of Ind., 1937, Pt. I.p.631.

3. See the Petroleum Rules, 1937, by A.O., 1937, pp. 720-775.

7. No licence needed for transport or storage of limited quantities of petroleum Class B or petroleum Class C :-

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 liters and such petroleum is transported or stored in accordance with the rules made under S. 4.

8. No licence needed for import, transport or storage of small quantities of petroleum Class A :-

(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.]

9. Exemptions for motor conveyances and stationary engines :-

(1) The owner of a motor conveyance, who complies with the requirements of the law for the time being in force relating to the registration and licensing of such conveyance and its driver or pilot and the owner of any stationary internal combustion engine, shall not be required to obtain a licence-

(a) for the import, transport or storage of any petroleum contained in any fuel tank incorporated in the conveyance or attached to the internal combustion engine, or

(b) for the transport or storage of ¹[Petroleum class A], not exceeding ²[one hundred litres] in quantity in addition to any quantity possessed under clause (a), provided the petroleum is intended to be used to generate motive power for the motor

conveyance or engine : [Provided further that the total quantity of ³[petroleum Class A] which may be stored without a licence under clause (b) shall not exceed [one hundred litres]. notwithstanding that such owner may possess other motor conveyances or engines.]

(2) ³[Petroleum Class A] transported or stored without a licence under clause (b) [of sub- section (1)] shall be kept as provided in sub-section (2) of section 8 , and if it exceeds ³ [thirty litres] in quantity, shall be stored in an isolated place which does not communicate with any room where any person resides or works or in any room where persons assemble.

1. Substituted for the words 'Governor-General-in-Council' and 'Gazette of India', respectively, by A.O., 1937.
2. See Gaz. of Ind., 1937, Pt. I.p.631.
3. See the Petroleum Rules, 1937, by A.O., 1937, pp. 720-775.

10. No licence needed by railway administration acting as carrier :-

Notwithstanding anything contained in this Chapter, a railway administration, as defined in S.3 of the Indian Railways Act, 1890, need not obtain any licence for the import or transport of any petroleum in its possession in its capacity as carrier.

11. Exemption of heavy oils :-

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

12. General power of exemption :-

The ¹[Central Government] may, by notification ²in the ¹ [Official Gazette], exempt any petroleum specified in the notification from all or any of the provisions of this Chapter.

1. Substituted for the words 'Governor-General-in-Council' and 'Gazette of India', respectively, by A.O., 1937.
2. See Gaz. of Ind., 1937, Pt. I.p.631.

13. Inspection of places :-

(1) The ¹[Central Government] may authorize ²any officer by name or by virtue of office to enter any place where petroleum is being imported, stored, produced, refined or blended, or is under transport, and inspect all receptacles, plant and appliances used in connection with petroleum in order to ascertain if they are in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter and the rules made thereunder.

(2) The ¹ [Central Government] may make rules regulating the procedure of officers authorized under this section.

1. Substituted for the words 'Governor-General-in-Council' and 'Gazette of India', respectively, by A.O., 1937.

2. See Gaz. of Ind., 1937, Pt. I.p.631.

CHAPTER 2

TESTING OF PETROLEUM

14. Inspection and sampling of petroleum :-

(1) The ¹[Central Government] may, by notification in the ¹[Official Gazette], authorize" any officer by name or by virtue of office to enter any place where petroleum is being imported, transported, stored, produced, refined or blended and to inspect and take samples for testing of any petroleum found therein.

(2) The ¹ [Central Government] may make rules'-

(a) regulating the taking of samples of petroleum for testing,

(b) determining the cases in which payment shall be made for the value of samples taken, and the mode of payment, and

(c) generally, regulating the procedure of officers exercising powers under this section.

1. Substituted for the words "Governor-General in Council" by A.O., 1937.

15. Standard Test Apparatus :-

(1) A standard apparatus for determining the ¹[flash-point] of petroleum shall be deposited with an officer to be appointed in this behalf by the ²[Central Government], by notification in the ² [Official Gazette).

(2) Such apparatus shall be engraved with the words "Standard Test Apparatus", and shall be verified and corrected from time to time and replaced when necessary in accordance with rules made under section 21 .

(3) The Standard Test Apparatus shall, on payment of the prescribed-fee, be open to inspection at all reasonable times by any person wishing to inspect it.

1. Substituted for the words "Governor-General in Council" by A.O., 1937.

2. See the Petroleum Rules, 1937, published in Gaz. of Ind., 1937, Pt. 1. pp. 720-775.

16. Certification of other test apparatus :-

(1) The officer appointed under section 15 , shall, on payment of the prescribed fee, if any, compare with the Standard Test Apparatus any apparatus for determining the ¹ [flash-point] of petroleum which may be submitted to him for this purpose.

(2) If any apparatus is found by him to agree with the Standard Test Apparatus within prescribed limits, the officer shall engrave such apparatus with a special number and with the date of the comparison, and shall give a certificate in respect of it in the prescribed form. certifying that on the said date the apparatus was compared with the Standard Test Apparatus and was found to agree with it within the prescribed limits, and specifying any corrections to be made in the results of tests carried out with the apparatus.

(3) A certificate granted under this section shall be valid for such period as may be prescribed.

(4) A certificate granted under this section shall, during the period for which it is valid, be proof, until the contrary is proved, of any matter stated therein.

(5) The officer shall keep a register in the prescribed form of all certificates granted by him under this section.

1. Substituted for the words "Governor-General in Council" by A.O., 1937.

17. Testing officers :-

The -¹ [Central Government] may authorize any officer by name or by virtue of office to test petroleum of which samples have been taken under this Act, or which may have been submitted to him for test by any person, and to grant certificates of the results of such tests.

1. Substituted for the words "Governor-General in Council" by A.O., 1937.

18. Manner of test :-

All tests of petroleum made under this Act shall be made with a test apparatus in respect of which there is a valid certificate under section 16 , shall have due regard to any correction specified in

that certificate, and shall be carried out in accordance with rules made under section 21 .

19. Certificate of testing :-

¹[(1) The testing officer after testing samples of petroleum shall make out a certificate in the prescribed form, slating 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.]

(2) The testing officer shall furnish the person concerned, at his request., with a certified copy of the certificate, on payment of the prescribed fee, and such certified copy may be produced in any Court in proof of the contents of the original certificate.

¹ [(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.]

1. Substituted for the words "Governor-General in Council" by A.O., 1937.

20. Right to require re-test :-

(1) The owner of any petroleum.or his agent, who is dissatisfied with the result of the test of the petroleum may. within seven days From the date on which he received intimation of the result of the test apply to the officer empowered under section 14 to have fresh samples of the petroleum taken and tested.

(2) On such application and on payment of the prescribed tee, fresh samples of the petroleum shall be taken in the presence of such owner or agent or person deputed by him, and shall be tested in the presence of such owner or agent or person deputed by him.

(3) If on such re-test, it appears that the original lest was erroneous, the testing officer shall cancel the original certificate granted under section 19 , shall inake out a fresh certificate, and shall furnish the owner of the petroleum, or hi,s agent, with a certified copy thereof, free of charge.

21. Power to make rules regarding tests :-

The ¹ [Central Government] may make rules'-

(a) for the specification, verification, correction and replacement of the Standard Test Apparatus:

(b) prescribing fees for the inspection of the Standard Test Apparatus;

(c) regulating the procedure in comparing a test apparatus with the Standard Test Apparatus;

(d) prescribing the form of certificate to be given in respect of a test apparatus so compared, and the period for which such certificates shall be valid;

(e) prescribing the form of the register of such certificates;

(f) prescribing fees for comparing a test apparatus with the Standard Test Apparatus;

(g) regulating the procedure of testing officers in carrying out tests of petroleum, providing for the averaging of results where samples of the same petroleum are tested, and prescribing the variations from standard temperatures which may be allowed;

(h) prescribing the form of certificates of tests of petroleum and the fees which may be charged therefor;

(i) providing, where the results of the testing of samples raise a doubt as to the uniformity of the quality of the petroleum in any lot under test, for the division of the lot into sub-lots, and for the selection and testing of samples of each sub-lot and for the averaging of results in accordance with the results of tests of those samples;

(j) prescribing fees for re-tests under section 20 and providing for their refund where the original test was erroneous: and

(k) generally, regulating the procedure of all officers performing duties connected with the testing of petroleum, and providing for any matter incidental to such testing.

1. Substituted for the words "Governor-General in Council" by A.O., 1937.

22. Special rules for testing viscous or solid forms of petroleum :-

The ¹ [Central Government] may also make rules' providing

specially for the testing of any form of petroleum which is viscous or solid or contains sediment or thickening ingredients, and such rules may modify or supplement any of the provisions of this Chapter or of the rules made under section 21 in order to adapt them to the special needs of such tests.

1. Substituted for the words "Governor-General in Council" by A.O., 1937.

CHAPTER 3

PENALTIES AND PROCEDURE

23. General penalty for offences under this Act :-

(1) Whoever-

(a) in contravention of any of the provisions of Chapter I or of any of the rules made thereunder, imports, transports, stores, produces refines or blends any petroleum, or

(b) contravenes any rule made under section 4 or section 5 , or

¹[(c) being the holder of a licence issued under section 4 or a person for the time being placed by the holder of such licence in control or in charge of any place where petroleum is being imported or stored, or is under transport, contravenes any condition of such licence or suffers any condition of such licence to be contravened, or]

(d) being for the time being in control or in charge of any place where petroleum is being imported, stored, produced, refined or blended or is under transport, refuses or neglects to show to any officer authorized under S. 13 any receptacle, plant or appliance used in such place in connection with petroleum, or in any way obstructs or fails to render reasonable assistance to such officer during an inspection, or

(e) being for the time being in control or in charge of any place where petroleum is being imported, transported, stored, produced, refined or blended, refuses or neglects to show to any officer authorised under S. 14 any petroleum in such place, or to give him such assistance as he may require for the inspection of such petroleum, or refuses to allow him to take samples of the petroleum, or

(f) being required, under section 27 , to give information of an accident, fails to give such information as so required by that

section, shall be punishable ²[with simple imprisonment which may extend to one month or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both.]

(2) If any person, having been convicted of an offence punishable under sub-section (1), is again guilty of any offence punishable under that sub-section, he shall be punishable for every such subsequent offence ² [with simple imprisonment which may extend to three months or with fine which may, extend to five thousand rupees or with both.]

1. Inserted by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1940 (25 of 1940), S. 3 (10-4-1940).

2. Substituted for the words "this section", by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1940 (25 of 1940).

24. Confiscation of petroleum and receptacles :-

(1) In any case in which an offence under clause (a) or clause (b) or clause (c) of sub-section (1) of section 23 has been committed, the convicting Magistrate may direct that- .

(a) the petroleum in respect of which the offence has been committed, or

(b) where the offender is convicted of importing, transporting or storing petroleum exceeding the quantity he is permitted to import, transport or store, as the case may be the whole of the petroleum in respect of which the offence was committed, shall, together with the receptacles in which it is contained, be confiscated.

(2) This power may also be exercised by the High Court in the exercise of its appellate or revisional powers.

25. Jurisdiction :-

Offences punishable under this Act shall be triable, in the Presidency- towns, by a Presidency Magistrate, and elsewhere by a Magistrate of the first class, or by a Magistrate of the second class who has been specially empowered by the ¹ [Central Government] in this-behalf.

1. Inserted by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1940 (25 of 1940), S. 3 (10-4-1940).

26. Power of entry and search :-

(1) The ¹[Central Government] may, by notification in the

¹[Official Gazette], authorize ³any officer by name or by virtue of office to enter and search any place where he has reason to believe that any petroleum is being imported, transported, stored, produced, refined or blended otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder, and to seize, detain or remove any or all of the petroleum in respect of which in his opinion an offence under this Act has been committed.

(2) The provisions of ⁴ Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 relating to searches shall, so far as they are applicable, apply to searches by officers authorized under this section.

(3) The ¹ [Central Government] may make rules regulating the procedure of authorized officers in the exercise of their powers under this section subject, however, to the provisions of sub-section (2).

1. Inserted by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1940 (25 of 1940), S. 3 (10-4-1940).

3. Substituted for the words "this section", by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1940 (25 of 1940).

4. Words "in a Presidency-town" omitted by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1970 (24 of 1970), S. 16(29-5-1970).

27. Notice of accidents with petroleum :-

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 ¹ [Chief Controller of Explosives].

1. Substituted for the words "this section", by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1940 (25 of 1940).

28. Inquiries into serious accidents with petroleum :-

(1) The inquiry mentioned in ¹S.176 of Code of Criminal Procedure,

1973], shall ¹[unless section 8 of the Coroners' Act, 1871, is applicable to the circumstances] be held in all cases where any person has been killed by an accident which the Magistrate has reason to believe was the result of the ignition of petroleum, or petroleum vapour.

(2) Any Magistrate empowered to hold an inquest may also hold an inquiry under the said section into the cause of any accident which he has reason to believe was the result of the ignition of petroleum or petroleum vapour, if such accident was attended by serious injury to person or property, notwithstanding that no person was killed thereby.

(3) For the purposes of ³[sub-section(2)] a Commissioner of Police ⁴[* * *] ⁵[* * *] shall be deemed to be a Magistrate empowered to hold an inquest.

(4) The result of all inquiries held in pursuance of this ¹[and of any inquiry held by a coroner in a case to which sub-section (1) refers] shall be submitted as soon as may be to the ⁷[Central Government, ¹[the ⁹ [Chief Controller of Explosives]]] and the State Government].

1. Inserted by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1940 (25 of 1940), S. 3 (10-4-1940).

3. Substituted for the words "this section", by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1940 (25 of 1940).

4. Words "in a Presidency-town" omitted by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1970 (24 of 1970), S. 16(29-5-1970).

5. The words "or in Rangoon" were omitted by A.O., 1937(1-4-1937).

7. Substituted for the words "Local' Government", by A.O., 1937(1-4-1937).

9. Substituted for the words "Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898" and the words "Chief Inspector of Explosives in India" by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1977 (31 of 1977), S. 4 (12-8-1977).

CHAPTER 4

SUPPLEMENTAL

29. Provisions relating to rules :-

(1) In making any rules under this Act, the ⁻¹[Central Government] may-

(a) provide for any matter ancillary to such rules for which in ²[its] opinion provision is necessary to protect the public from danger

arising from the import, transport, storage, production, refining or blending of petroleum, and

(b) make special provision for the special circumstances of any [State] or place.

(2) Every power to make rules conferred by this Act is subject to the condition of previous publication.

(3) All rules made under this Act shall be published in the ¹ [Official Gazette] [* * *].

[(4) Every rule made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule, or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.]

1. Substituted for the words "Governor-General in Council" and "Gazette of India" by A.O., 1937.

2. Substituted for the word "he" by A.O., 1937 (1-4-1937).

30. Power to apply Act to other substances :-

Repealed by the Inflammable Substances Act, 1952 (20 of 1952), S. 7].

31. Power to limit powers of local authorities over petroleum :-

Where any enactment confers powers upon any local authority in respect of the transport or storage of petroleum, the ¹[Central Government] may, by notification in the ¹[Official Gazette],-

(a) limit the operation of such enactment, or

(b) restrict the exercise of such powers, in any manner ³ [it] deems fit.

1. Substituted for the words "Governor-General in Council" and "Gazette of India" by A.O., 1937.

3. Substituted for the word "he" by A.O., 1937 (1-4-1937).

32. Repeals :-

Repealed by the Repealing Act. 1938 (1 of 1938), S. 2 and Sch.]