

34TH MEETING

HELD AT

HPCL, VISAKH REFINERY

ON

MARCH 23, 1996

No. J-13012/1/96-Gen.
Government of India
Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas

New Delhi, the 15th April, 1996

To

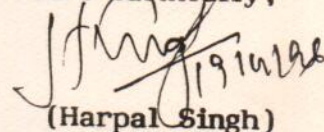
1. The members of the Scientific Advisory Committee on Hydrocarbons of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (By name)
2. The Chief Executives of Oil Companies

Sub: Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee on Hydrocarbons of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas - Circulation of the minutes

Sirs,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee on Hydrocarbons of this Ministry held at HPCL, Visakh Refinery on 23rd March, 1996, for information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,



(Harpal Singh)

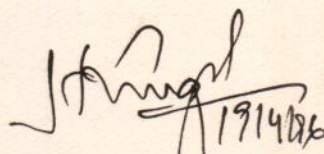
Under Secretary to
the Govt. of India
Tel.No. 3388764 (Off.)

Copy to :

Prof. M.M. Sharma, Professor of Chemical Engineering and Director of Chemical Technology, University of Bombay, Matunga, Bombay-400019.

Copy also to :

1. JS(E)/JS(R)/JS(M)/Adv.(E)/Adv.(R)/DS(CC)
2. ED, CHT, New Delhi.
3. FA&CAO, OIDB, New Delhi.
4. PS to Secretary (PNG)



(Harpal Singh)

Under Secretary to
the Govt. of India

MINUTES OF THE 34TH MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD AT HPCL-VISAKH REFINERY ON 23RD MARCH, 1996

List of participants is attached.

Shri M.A. Tankiwala, General Manager, Visakh Refinery extended warm welcome to the Chairman, the other distinguished members of the Committee and invitees and apprised them about some of the salient features of Visakh Refinery.

Prof. M.M. Sharma, Chairman, SAC thanked Shri Tankiwala and HPCL for hosting the meeting.

Shri A.P. Chaudhri, ED, CHT informed the participants that all the projects recommended by SAC except "Modification of Jatropha curcus oil for lube base stock and additives", have been approved by the Governing Council. He also informed the participants about the keen interest taken by Secretary, Petroleum & Natural Gas in the R&D projects and the expeditious manner in which these have been approved. He further stated that even though steps have been taken to obtain the approval of Governing Council expeditiously, similar urgency is not forthcoming from the R&D institutions in completing the projects in time. Even in the ongoing projects, there are delays ranging from 3 months to 2 years. He also stated that Ministry is concerned about the delays in the completion of R&D projects and requested all concerned to look into various constraints faced by them and try to overcome the same so as to complete the projects within stipulated period.

Shri K.P. Shahi, Advisor (R), MOP&NG stated that expenditure on R&D in refining sector is very poor and Secretary, P&NG is keen to increase the activities in R&D which will lead to higher expenditure. He also briefed the participants about the R&D management proposed by the Expert Committee headed by Dr. S. Ganguli for the Indian refining industry.

Prof. M.M. Sharma desired that GAIL should be requested to make a presentation on :-

- (a) utilisation/net working of natural gas,
- (b) desulphurisation of natural gas at Hazira and
- (c) availability and utilization of gas hydrates.

As there were no comments from any members of the SAC, the minutes of the 33rd meeting were taken approved as such.

The agenda items were taken up for discussion :-

34.1 Proposal of IIT, Delhi, EIL (R&D) & IOC (R&D) on "Hydrodynamics of trickle bed reactors - cold flow study"

Prof. K.D.P. Nigam of IIT, Delhi made a presentation to the Committee on the project proposal "Hydrodynamics of trickle bed reactors - cold flow study" and explained the methodology to be followed, the different phases involved in this study, the role of each institution in this study etc. This project will help in understanding the design of reactors for hydrotreaters, hydrodesulphurisation units and hydrocrackers. IIP,

34.6 Proposal of IIP on "Production of feedstock for carbon black manufacture"

The Committee recommended the proposal for approval with the observation that both Phase-I & II should be taken up together. The revised project proposal can be submitted to CHT directly.

34.7 The Chairman of SAC suggested that invitation should be sent to GAIL and ONGC for attending the next meeting.

The Chairman of SAC requested IIP to make presentations on :-

- (a) Biodegradable lube oils, and
- (b) Diesel quality requirement (including the study being carried out by IIP).

34.8 The Committee decided that the next meeting will be held at Mathura Refinery on 5th & 6th July, 1996.