

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:413
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2000
EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION OF CRUDE OIL
RATTAN LAL KATARIA

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the policy of liberalization and globalisation has caused a set-back to the exploration and production of crude oil in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the quantum of crude oil being imported every year; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to reduce import of crude oil and increase its production at optimum level?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) TO (D) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 413 REGARDING EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION OF CRUDE OIL

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c): Crude oil imports during last 3 years and the annual growth rate are as under:

Year	Crude oil imports Million Metric Tonnes (MMT)	%age growth over previous year
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1997-98	34.49	-
1998-99	39.81	15.42
1999-2000+	44.99	13.01

+ Provisional

(d): Government is taking following steps to increase the indigenous production of crude oil which would help to reduce imports:

(i) Optimizing production from existing field through better reservoir management and use of advanced and cost effective technologies.

(ii) Faster development of new discoveries.

(iii) Finding new hydrocarbon reserves through intensified exploration activities such as :

- Exploration at greater depths in existing fields.
- Extending exploration activities to deep waters and frontier areas.
- Increased private participation in exploration activities through various rounds of bidding for exploration blocks and New Exploration Licensing Policy under which 22 Production Sharing Contracts were signed on 12th April, 2000.