

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:364  
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2002  
EQUITY STAKE IN CIS COUNTRIES  
ANANDRAO ADSUL

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

- (a) whether Government have any proposal for energy highway from Russia and Central Asia through China;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is a keen interest among global companies, including India's Oil and Natural Gas Corporation-Videsh to get equity stake in the Commonwealth Independent States (CIS) countries; and
- (d) if so, the concrete steps taken in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK)

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

Statement Referred to in reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No364 to be answered on 8.8.2002 regarding equity stake in CIS countries.

(a) & (b): Transportation of crude oil and natural gas to India by pipeline from Central Asia through China is a concept whose techno-economic feasibility has not been established so far.

(c) & (d): ONGC-Videsh Ltd. (OVL), a 100% subsidiary of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC), is active in securing equi oil abroad in various countries, including the countries comprising Confederation of Independent States like Russia, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. In 2001, OVL obtained 20% stake in Sakhalin-I project of Russia with an estimated investment of about US \$ 1.74 billion ( Rs. 8,500 crores approx.).

Note: 1\$=Rs.49.10 as of date.