

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:661
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2006
INDO- RUSSIA COOPERATION IN PETROLEUM SECTOR
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

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

(a) whether any discussions were held between India and Russia in the field of gas and oil exploration during the Prime Minister's visit to Russia recently; and

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) & (b) : Prime Minister of India visited Moscow on 4-6 December 2005 to attend the Annual Summit Meeting with Russian President. During the visit, the Prime Minister also held discussions with the Russian Energy and Industry Minister on matters relating to mutual cooperation in the energy sector, including oil and gas. During the visit, the priority tasks for further development of the Indo-Russian Strategic Partnership were identified, which included the decision to continue bilateral energy dialogue, concentrate on ways to enhance energy security, pursue opportunities for improving the process of diversification of energy supplies, and strengthening commercial energy partnerships in already identified and prospective oil and gas projects in India, Russia and third countries.