

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:59
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2007
INDO-RUSSIA CO-OPERATION IN PETROLEUM SECTOR
Oram Shri Jual;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has signed any MoU with the Russian Oil Companies to study the possibilities of mutual projects in exploration, production and the marketing sector in India, Russia and other countries;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof;
- (c) the benefits likely to accrue to India from the agreement;
- (d) whether India and Russia have also agreed upon partnership with regard to Sakhalin III and IV projects; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the shareholding of both the countries?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (e) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 59 BY SHRI JUAL ORAM AND SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1ST MARCH, 2007 REGARDING INDO-RUSSIA CO-OPERATION IN PETROLEUM SECTOR.

(a) to (c) : Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Gazprom on 21.02.2005 and with Rosneft on 25.1.2007. MoU with Gazprom envisages studying the prospects of joint participation in oil and gas projects in India, Russia and third countries. As per the MoU with Rosneft two Joint Study Groups would be formed, one for upstream and the other for downstream activities.

The two MoUs are likely to bring ONGC closer to the two National oil and gas companies of Russia resulting in joint operations and possibly acquisition of further oil and gas properties in Russia and other countries for achieving oil security of the country.

(d) : No, Sir.

(e) : Does not arise in view of (d) above.