

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3283
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2007
DEMAND OF OIL FIELDS FROM IRAQ
Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

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

- (a) whether the Government have demanded oil fields from Iraq in a recently held meeting of Joint Working Group constituted between India and Iraq;
- (b) if so, the complete details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have held any dialogue with regard to the implementation of agreements signed earlier;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the kind of co-operation India propose to extend in the reconstruction of Iraq ?

Answer

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

(a)to(e) Yes, Sir. In the recently concluded 16th Session of India-Iraq Joint Commission for Economic and Technical Cooperation held at New Delhi in May 2007, on a request from India, the Iraqi side agreed to consider the revalidation of contract for 8 blocks awarded to ONGC for exploration and production in the year 2001, in accordance with the new Iraqi Oil and Gas Law. Subsequently, on 3rd August 2007, a Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between Ministry of Oil, Iraq and ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL). The Iraqi side invited Indian Oil Corporation to participate in the tenders including through joint ventures with Iraqi companies, in a range of activities relating to evaluation, drilling, exploration and production of oil and gas. Besides, the Indian Oil PSUs have offered services in both upstream and downstream areas, training, operation and maintenance, gas transmission lines, LPG Plants, supply of Compressed Natural Gas to automotive sector etc.