

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2254  
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2004  
PROJECT OF LAYING PIPELINE IN SUDAN  
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

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

- (a) whether the Government has cleared the project of laying pipeline in Sudan by the ONGC Videsh Ltd.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the benefits of this project for the common man?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. On 24.6.2004 Government accorded approval to ONGC-Videsh Limited (OVL) for undertaking construction and associated works of a 12 inch diameter 741 Km. onland multiproduct pipeline from Khartoum refinery to Port-Sudan on turn-key basis, at an estimated cost not exceeding US\$ 200 million.

(c) : As per the contract with the Government of Sudan, the returns from OVL's investment in the pipeline project could be taken in the form of crude oil or cash at OVL's option, which would facilitate enhancing the oil security of the country. Also, the Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract for the pipeline project provides for an Indian component which will generate business opportunities for Indian companies.