GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:333 ANSWERED ON:23.12.2004 IMPORT OF CRUDE OIL Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

(a) whether there has been alarming increase in the import of crude oil over the years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of crude oil imported during 2004-05 from various Organisations of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC);

(d) whether Government has taken any initiative to compensate the crude oil import by utilizing refining capacity export and energy conservation mechanism;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether India has emerged on the world energy map, as indicated in recent meeting of OPEC in Vienna; and

(g) if so, the details of the discussion held at Vienna with Indian delegation?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 333 BY SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI TO BE ANSWERED ON 23RD DECEMBER 2004 REGARDING IMPORT OF CRUDE OIL

(a) & (b): The quantities of crude oil imported into the country during the last three years are as under :

Years 2001-02 2002-03 2003-04

Quantity in Million Metric Tonne (MMT) 78.7 82.0 90.4

(c): During April - September 2004, 50.0 MMT of crude oil was imported. Out of this, 40.9 MMT was imported from OPEC countries.

(d) & (e): The present refining capacity in the country is in excess of domestic demand of petroleum products on an overall basis and as a result, we are a net exporter of petroleum products. The quantities of petroleum products exported during the last 3 years are as under :

Years 2001-02 2002-03 2003-04

Quantity in Million Metric Tonne (MMT) 10.1 10.3 14.6

As regards energy conservation measures, in addition to in house conservation efforts of oil companies, Petroleum Conservation Research Association, under the aegis of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, coordinates the efforts for promoting and

propagating petroleum conservation including conduct of energy studies, research & development, creating awareness and educating public on the importance, methods and benefits of conservation.

(f) & (g): Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Panchayati Raj, Government of India was invited to deliver a keynote address to one of the sessions in the OPEC International Seminar titled "Petroleum in an Interdependent World" held in Vienna on 16th and 17th September, 2004. In his address, he inter alia touched upon the issues of sustainable development, growing oil demand in Asian countries including India, the practice of the National Oil Companies of some countries in West Asia of having different pricing formulae for their sale of crude oil for different regions in the world, etc. On the sidelines of this seminar, the Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Panchayati Raj also had separate bilateral meetings with his counterparts from 14 countries for furthering mutual cooperation in the hydrocarbon sector.