GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2101 ANSWERED ON:13.03.2008 USSIAN OIL AND GAS PROJECTS Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

(a) whether India has sought stake in future Russian oil and gas projects, including the prestigious Sakhalin III and IV oil fields of the Russian East Coast;

(b) if so, the response of the Russian Government thereon; and

(c) the steps taken by the India to boost the tie between the two countries in the hydrocarbon sector?

Answer

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

(a) to (c):India's strategy for securing Energy Security which has been incorporated in "Hydrocarbon Vision-2025" a document of Government of India, includes investment in equity oil abroad. The significant steps, initiated by the Government and public sector undertakings for enhancing energy security, inter alia, include equity oil & gas from abroad. This Government -to-Government dialogue and MOUs have resulted in creating a conducive environment for the companies to cooperate in acquiring assets in third countries. Oil Public Sector Enterprises

(PSEs) after examining various proposals and finding it fruitful, acquire oil and gas assets abroad.

The issue of cooperation in Sakhalin-III project and others has been a subject of discussion between India and Russia This highly prospective group of Blocks is likely to be auctioned after the Law on Subsurface is promulgated in Russia.