

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:991

ANSWERED ON:23.10.2008

ENERGY SECURITY

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

- (a) whether the Government and public sector oil companies have agreed to take steps to enhance energy security in the country;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by them in this regard;
- (c) the details of the explorations made under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) in different blocks so far; and
- (d) the extent to which the energy security of the country has enhanced?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Yes,Sir.The Government has taken the following steps to enhance the energy security in the country :

- i. Carving out more and more areas of exploration for offer under various rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP).
- ii. Quicker development of discovered reserves for enabling commencement of production.
- iii. Use of stimulation techniques for increasing production from existing fields.
- iv. Application of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) techniques for increasing recovery from existing fields.
- v. Arresting decline from ageing fields.
- vi. Acquisition of exploration acreages and oil producing properties overseas to bring in equity oil.
- vii. Substitution of oil in the transport sector through use of alternative fuels such as Bio-diesel,ethanol,blended-petrol etc.
- viii. Diversification of the sources for procurement of crude.The Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are now importing crude oil from about 25 countries either on term contract or through spot purchase basis.
- ix. Construction of a Strategic Storage of crude oil of 5 MMT capacity at three locations viz. Visakhapatnam,Mangalore and Padur for meeting unforeseen situations arising out of short term supply disruptions etc.

(c) & (d) : Under New Exploration Licensing Policy, 66 Oil/gas discoveries have been made so far.A total 650 MMT (oil + oil equivalent of Gas) has been accrued and development plans for 6 oil/gas discoveries have been approved.Some of the Oil & Gas discoveries are already on production.The additional production from new oil/gas discoveries under NELP will enhance the energy security of the country.