

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:388

ANSWERED ON:21.04.2005

AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIAN AND CHINESE OIL COMPANIES

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Singh Kunwar Rewati Raman

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

(a) whether ONGC (Videsh) Ltd. and Chinese National Petroleum Corporation have decided to work jointly in the international oil market;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed between them in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 388 BY SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH AND SHRI ANANDRAO V. ADSUL TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 21ST APRIL, 2005 REGARDING AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIAN AND CHINESE OIL COMPANIES.

(a) to (c): ONGC Videsh Ltd. (OVL) is a joint partner with CNPC, the National Oil Company of the People's Republic of China, in the Greater Nile Oil Project in Sudan where OVL holds 25% Participating Interest (PI) and CNPC holds 40% PI. Also, in Block CI-112 in Cote d' Ivory, OVL holds 23.5% PI and SINOPEC, another Chinese company, holds 30% PI.

Looking to the vast mutual advantages in forging cooperative relationships with Chinese oil companies in seeking acreages in third countries as also in bilateral cooperation in several areas of the hydrocarbons sector, the National oil companies of India and China keep in touch with each other to identify specific collaborative ventures. The scope of such cooperation is being explored also through Government-to-Government interaction. However, no formal agreement has as yet been signed between OVL and any Chinese oil company, or between the Governments of the two countries, to jointly bid for oil assets abroad.