

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1271  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2010  
SETTING UP OF A FUND  
Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Sule Supriya

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up a fund that will aid domestic public sector companies in acquiring oil and gas assets overseas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (c): As per Presidential Address to Parliament on 04.06.2009 the Government is committed to pursue India's oil diplomacy aggressively which include consultations with concerned agencies/stake holders. Keeping in view requirements of Energy Security for the country, it has been suggested to consider the idea of creation of a sovereign fund focused on resource acquisition. Presently, the acquisition of overseas Exploration and Production (E&P) assets by oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and funding thereof is based on commercial considerations based on strategy adopted by the respective oil PSUs.