

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:769

ANSWERED ON:29.07.2010

PRODUCTION OF NATURAL GAS

Das Shri Ram Sundar;Joshi Dr. Murli Manohar;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma;Yadav Shri Dinesh Chandra

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

- (a) the quantum of production of natural gas in the years 2008-09, 2009-10 and till date;
- (b) whether the production of natural gas has been less in comparison to the consumption during the above period;
- (c) if so, the quantum of natural gas imported to meet the demand alongwith the names of the countries from where the same was imported, country-wise detail thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has fixed any target to make the country self-reliant in terms of production of natural gas; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

- (a) The quantum of production of natural gas in the years 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 (till June'2010) are given below:

(figures in Billion Cubic Meter (BCM))

Year	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11 (till June'10)
------	---------	---------	------------------------

Natural Gas Production	32.84	47.51	13.61
------------------------	-------	-------	-------

(b) to (c) Import of natural gas in the country is made only in the form of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). LNG is imported from various countries, which includes mainly Qatar, Malaysia, Australia, Egypt, United Arab Emirates, Russian Federation, Oman, Trinidad & Tobago, Indonesia, Guinea, Algeria and Nigeria. The amount of LNG imported was 7.96 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) in 2008-09, 8.86 MMT in 2009-10 and 1.93 MMT in 2010-11 till June'10.

(d) to (e) India being an import dependent country it is not possible to fix a target by which the country would become self-reliant in production of natural gas. However, several measures have been taken to accelerate hydrocarbon exploration and production activities to meet our maximum requirement from indigenous sources, which include the following:

- (i) Carving out more and more areas for exploration under various rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) and Coal Bed Methane Policy (CBM).
- (ii) Application of Enhanced Oil Recovery/Improved Oil Recovery techniques for increasing recovery factor from existing fields.
- (iii) Acquisition of exploration acreages and producing properties overseas to bring in equity oil.
- (iv) Arresting decline from ageing fields.
- (v) Substitution of oil through use of non-conventional source of energy such as bio-diesel, ethanol etc. Extraction of Gas from gas hydrates under National Gas Hydrates Programme (NGHP) by evolving suitable production technology.