

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:520

ANSWERED ON:11.11.2010

STAKE OF KUWAIT IN INDIAN OIL CORPORATION

Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda;Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

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

(a): whether Kuwait has shown interest in strategic stake in the Indian Oil Corporation;

(b): if so, the details thereof;

(c): whether the Government proposes to divest Indian Oil Corporation;

(d): if so, the details thereof;

(e): whether Kuwait has also shown interest in Paradip oil refinery in Orissa and other oil fields in the country; and

(f): if so, the details thereof? ANSWER MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

Answer

(a) & (b): During the visit of the Minister of Oil & Information of Kuwait during 25th to 28th September 2010 to India, the Minister expressed the desire of Kuwait to buy a Strategic stake in Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC). However, there has been no further development in the matter

(c) & (d): The Government of India has given "in-principle" approval for 10 % issue of fresh capital along with simultaneous 10% disinvestment by the Government.

(e) & (f): The funds for Paradip Refinery have already been tied up. Hence, participation of Kuwait in the Paradip Refinery project has not been sought by IOC. However, IOC has requested Kuwait to consider investment in the proposed Petrochemical project at Paradip in future. IOC has also proposed to Kuwait to consider the possibility of joint participation in the forthcoming NELP-IX Round.