

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:225
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2010
CRUDE OIL STORAGE
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

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

- (a) the progress made in the establishment of strategic crude oil reserves capacity in the country;
- (b) the present status of Visakhapatnam, Mangalore and Padur Projects alongwith the storage capacity thereof;
- (c) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed;
- (d) whether the Government has any plan to set up crude oil storage at Chennai;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether some oil companies including Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) have sought storage space; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (g) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFER TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 225 ASKED BY SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2010 REGARDING 'CRUDE OIL STORAGE'.

(a) to (c): The progress made in the establishment of strategic crude oil reserves at Visakhapatnam, Mangalore and Padur by the Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd. (ISPRL) is as follows:

i. Visakhapatnam Project (Storage capacity: 1.33 million metric tonnes)

The overall progress of the project, as of October 31, 2010, is 62.5 %. Out of a target of 1.9 million cubic meters of hard rock excavation, 1.7 million tons of excavation has been completed. The entire tunneling work of 6.7 kms has been completed. The aboveground works are also progressing well. The project is scheduled to be mechanically completed by October, 2011 and commissioned by January, 2012.

ii. Mangalore (Storage capacity: 1.5 million metric tonnes)

The overall progress, as of October 31, 2010, is 29.4 %. The underground civil works are being executed. 1.8 kms of tunneling work out of total 8.6 kms has been completed. The tendering for the aboveground and in-cavern process facilities is on. The project is scheduled to be mechanically completed by November, 2012 and commissioned by February, 2013.

iii. Padur (Storage capacity: 2.5 million metric tonnes)

The overall progress, as of October 31, 2010, is 20.7 %. The underground works contracts have been awarded and underground tunneling work has commenced. The tendering for the aboveground and in-cavern process works is in progress. The project is scheduled to be mechanically completed by May, 2013 and commissioned by August, 2013.

(d) & (e): There is no proposal to set up a strategic crude oil storage at Chennai, at present.

(f) & (g): Two Public Sector Oil Companies, namely Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) and Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd. (MRPL) have sought storage space in the strategic crude oil reserves at Visakhapatnam and Mangalore respectively, to enable them to receive crude oil through Very Large Crude Carriers (VLCCs), resulting in substantial savings in freight costs.