

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2682
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2010
ENERGY SECURITY
Acharia Shri Basudeb

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

- (a) whether the Government is focusing on West Asia and the extended South Asia for repository of hydrocarbons to secure energy needs of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to have access by pipeline gas from Myanmar, Turkmenistan and Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Russia and other countries; and
- (d) the other measures taken by the Government to acquire energy security of the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Government is securing energy needs of the country through various measures including enhanced domestic Exploration & Production (E&P) activities and acquisition of exploration acreages and producing properties overseas to bring in equity oil. Presently, National Oil Companies (NOCs) have their presence in about 29 countries including West Asia and South Asia. In the West Asia and South Asia region the NOCs have participating interest in E&P activities mainly in Iran, Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Myanmar & Vietnam.

(c): Import of natural gas through transnational gas pipelines is being pursued from Turkmenistan and Iran through Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline and Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) gas pipeline. Various important issues concerning the Projects are under discussions amongst the participating countries. Earlier, India had pursued the import of natural gas from A1 and A3 blocks in Myanmar through Indo-Myanmar gas pipeline. However, Myanmar decided to sell the gas to China and therefore, import of gas to India did not materialized.

(d): Other measures taken by the Government to enhance energy security of the country include:

(i) Carving out 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) Substitution of oil through use of non-conventional source of energy such as bio-diesel, ethanol etc.