

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:797

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2011

CRUDE OIL PRICES AND PRODUCTION

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

- (a) whether the international price of crude oil have been increasing during the last few years;
- (b) if so, the average cost of crude oil during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether it is necessary to lesser the dependency on import by increasing indigenous production of crude oil;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard; and
- (e) whether any action plan and time-bound target has been fixed to increase the production in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS(SHRI R. P. N. SINGH)

(a)and(b): The international price of crude oil has been on an increasing trend during the last few years. The annual average price of Indian basket of crude oil during the last three years and the current year is given below:

Year Average Crude oil price
 (Indian Basket)
 \$ per barrel

2008-09 83.57

2009-10 69.76

2010-11 85.09

2011-12 112.73
(up to 29th
July 2011)

(c)to(e): Several measures have been taken by the Government to accelerate the production of natural gas in the country, which includes the following:

(i) Carving out more and more areas for exploration for offer under various rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) and Coal Bed Methane Policy (CBM).

(ii) Quicker development of discovered reserves for enabling commencement of production.

(iii) Use of stimulation techniques for increasing production from existing fields.

(iv) Application of Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)/ Improved Oil Recovery (IOR) techniques for increasing recovery factor from existing fields.

(v) Arresting decline from ageing fields.