

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2628

ANSWERED ON:29.03.2012

PRESSURE ON ENERGY SECURITY

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Bhoi Shri Sanjay;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

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

- (a) whether the energy security of the country is under severe pressure:
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; and
- (c) the details of the measures being taken by the Government to relieve this sector from undue pressure?

**Answer**

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

(a) (b) & (c). Globally, net oil importing countries with high growth rates are faced with energy security challenges, inter-alia, due to the finite nature of hydrocarbon production, the lack of adequate spare capacity in the world's oil production, the high international oil prices with excessive volatility due to geopolitical factors and exchange rate variation.

To strengthen the country's energy security, following steps are being taken:

- (i) Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas keeps in close touch with oil and gas producing countries, and imports crude oil from more than 30 countries spread over different continents.
- (ii) To reduce / minimize the effect of various uncertainties our PSUs endeavour to procure crude oil and gas on long-term supply contracts.
- (iii) Oil PSUs are being encouraged to adopt a global vision in their pursuit of raw materials and raw material-producing assets abroad. Currently, Indian PSUs have oil and gas assets in 22 countries.
- (iv) To boost the domestic production of oil & gas, India is intensifying the exploratory efforts in the Indian sedimentary basin through the New Exploration License Policy which provides for a stable fiscal and contract framework for exploration & production of hydrocarbons.
- (v) The Government has also initiated steps for development of alternate sources of hydrocarbons in the unconventional areas like Shale Gas, Coal Bed Methane, Gas Hydrates etc.
- (vi) The Government is pursuing transnational pipeline project such as Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India pipeline project, which envisages transporting gas from Turkmenistan to India.
- (vii) The country is building strategic crude oil reserves of 5.5 million metric tonnes capacity.