

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3692

ANSWERED ON:30.07.2009

ACQUISITION OF OIL AND GAS ASSETS FROM AFRICAN NATIONS

Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan

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

- (a) whether the Union Government had decided to turn its focus from the OPEC countries to the African nations for acquisition of oil and gas assets to meet surging requirements;
- (b) if so, whether any dialogue has been held with the African nations in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the success has been achieved in this regard so far ?

Answer

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

(a) to (c). In order to strengthen energy security of our country, Government of India is making efforts for acquisition of equity abroad wherever suitable opportunities are available. Dialogues have been held periodically with countries in Africa in this regard. At present, Indian Oil PSUs have their presence in several African countries, particularly, Sudan, Libya, Egypt and Nigeria.