

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4397  
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2012  
IMPORT OF LNG AND CRUDE OIL  
Sivasami Shri C.

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

- (a) whether the Government has held discussions with Persian Gulf nations for increase in supply of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and crude oil;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the sources identified by the Government for meeting the requirement of fuel and energy needs of the country?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c). Yes, Madam. As part of the Government's oil diplomacy, close diplomatic contacts are maintained with Persian Gulf countries in order to secure India's energy security needs. The refining capacity of the country has gone up from 187.33 MMTPA on 01.04.2011 to 213.06 MMTPA on 01.04.2012 making India emerge as one of the world's major refining hubs. This robust increase in the country's refining capacity requires incremental quantities of crude oil imports. Similarly, due to the significant growth in India's gas markets, larger quantities of LNG will need to be imported into the country. In this backdrop, India has been diplomatically pursuing Persian Gulf countries such as Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, U.A.E for larger quantities of crude oil, and Qatar for LNG supplies.