

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:835
ANSWERED ON:09.07.2009
DEMAND OF CRUDE OIL
Sule Supriya

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

- (a) whether the Government approaching the Government of Turkey for importing of crude oil;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the total quantity of crude oil will be imported from Turkey?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) : The Foreign Minister of Turkey, during his visit to India in February 2008, had outlined a proposal for cooperation between Turkey, Israel and India for transportation of crude oil from the Caspian region through the Mediterranean and Red Sea and into India. Briefly, this project envisages transport of crude oil from Ceyhan port in Turkey to Ashkelon port in Israel in the Mediterranean Sea, initially through very large crude carriers (VLCCs) and eventually by laying a sub-sea pipeline. Thereafter, crude oil will be transported through the existing Ashkelon-Eilat pipeline in Israel to Eilat port on the Red Sea. From there, crude oil may be carried to India/other parts of Asia. The project is still in a conceptual stage and requires a detailed feasibility study to establish its techno-commercial viability. A tripartite meeting between Turkey-Israel-India was held in September 2008 at Ankara to discuss conceptual features of the project. Since the project is still at the conceptual stage, the total quantity of crude oil that will be imported from Turkey, cannot be determined at this juncture.