

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:727
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2013
ONGC OFFICE AT HOUSTON
Bhagora Shri Tarachand

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

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) proposes to set up a full fledged office in Houston to explore opportunities for oil equity and M&A, technology transfers and other collaborations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the ONGC, in collaboration with United States India Business Council is planning to set up an Energy Task Force for collaboration in oil and gas sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SMT. PANABAACA LAKSHMI)

(a) and (b): ONGC Videsh Limited(OVL), the wholly owned subsidiary and overseas arm of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited(ONGC), is considering opening of an office at a suitable place in the United States of America(USA). As on date, no office has been opened at Houston or any other place in USA. The proposal is under consideration.

(c) and (d): United States(US) India Business Council(USIBC) is planning an Energy Task Force with membership of Chief Executive Officers(CEOs) of Oil and Gas Companies in India and United States of America(USA). USIBC has approached CMD, ONGC to assume its India Chair. This request has been accepted.