

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3310
ANSWERED ON:12.02.2014
IRAN S NUCLEAR PROGRAMME
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any deal between Iran and major world powers have come into being to end the stand off over Tehran's nuclear ambitions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether India is likely to be benefitted by this agreement and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI PRENEET KAUR)

(a) Iran and the E3+3 (China, France, Germany, Russia, UK and US) agreed on 24 November 2013 in Geneva on a Joint Plan of Action (JPA) as an interim understanding on the nuclear issue to be implemented over the next six months.

(b) Iran is to take the following voluntary measures: reduce the existing stockpile of 20% enriched uranium, stop enrichment of Uranium to 20% for six months; stop installation of new centrifuges or activation of already installed new centrifuges for uranium enrichment at Natanz and Fordow or new locations for enrichment; freeze its existing stockpile of low-enriched fuel, halt construction on the core of the Arak research reactor and not construct any reprocessing facility; and accept enhanced monitoring of its nuclear fuel cycle activity. In exchange, the EU and the US have agreed to halt imposition of additional sanctions including further curbs on oil trade and provide relief from existing sanctions in terms of access to funds, relaxation of some trade curbs in areas such as petrochemicals, precious metals and airplane and automobile components. The implementation of the JPA began on 20 January 2014 after the IAEA reported that Iran had taken the initial steps it committed to in November 2013.

(c) This agreement is consistent with India's position that the Iranian nuclear issue should be resolved peacefully through dialogue. Further, limited relief from sanctions has been offered to Iran as part of the reciprocal steps agreed in the Joint Plan of Action; this does not yet include substantive lifting of sanctions on crude oil and gas trade with Iran.