

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.137**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2018

**INDO-IRAN RELATIONSHIP**

137. SHRI RAM MOHAN NAIDU KINJARAPU:  
PROF. SAUGATA ROY:  
SHRI MUTHAMSSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI):  
SHRI ANTO ANTONY:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:  
SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:  
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:  
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:  
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:  
SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the United States of America has warned countries including India to stop buying crude oil and other products from Iran;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to take up the issue with the US administration at appropriate fora;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for cancellation of bilateral talks between India and United States;
- (e) whether India is continuing its economic relations with Iran in terms of both oil imports and the investment in Chabahar Port so that both sides can actually have satisfaction as strategic partners that they are able to address each other's sensitivities; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to make further progress in this direction?

ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) to (c) On 08 May 2018, the US announced that it would withdraw from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) with Iran and re-impose the U.S. sanctions, including on petroleum related transactions involving Iran.

India has maintained that the Iranian nuclear issue should be resolved through dialogue and diplomacy by respecting Iran's right to peaceful uses of nuclear energy as also the international community's strong interest in the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear program. All parties should engage

constructively to address and resolve issues that have arisen with respect to the JCPOA.

(d) The meeting of Ministers of External Affairs and Defense with the US Secretaries of State and Defence in 2+2 format was scheduled to be held in Washington D.C. on 06 July 2018. After informing the Indian side the meeting was postponed at the request of the US Secretary of State on account of his unavoidable and unforeseen commitments. Both sides have agreed to hold the meeting on mutually convenient dates.

(e) & (f) India's bilateral relations with Iran stand on their own and are not influenced by India's relations with any third country. High level exchanges, including the state visit of PM to Iran in May 2016 and that of Iranian President to India in February 2018 have taken place. In keeping with understandings reached during these visits, both sides are engaged in developing a long term partnership in energy; deepening of trade and investment cooperation; and an early and full operations of Shahid Beheshti Port at Chabahar.

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