

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:78  
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2003  
BUFFER STOCK OF CRUDE OIL  
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO;MOHAN RAWALE

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

- (a) whether the Government are preparing a blue print for creating buffer stocks of crude oil;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any consultations have been held between ONGC, Engineers India Limited, IOCL and other concerned agencies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any team has visited Japan or United States for this purpose; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and time by which a final proposal is likely to be put up for approval of the Government?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK)

(a) to (f): As statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.7 SARVASHRI MOHAN RAWALE AND K.P. SINGH DEO TO BE ANSWERED ON 24TH JULY, 2003 REGARDING BUFFER S OF CRUDE OIL

(a) &(b): The Government is considering to gradually build strategic storage of crude oil to provide for 45 days cover. In phase-I, 15 days storage is proposed.

(c) & (d): Engineers India Limited has prepared detailed feasibility reports for constructing underground strategic storage of crude oil to provide for 15 days cover. The subject of strategic oil storage is being further studied by Indian Oil Corporation and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation.

(e) & (f): A delegation headed by the Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas visited the strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) at Bryan Mound site, Texas, U.S.A. on 13th June 2003.As a follow up to this visit, a technical team would visit SPR in U.S.A. shortly. Meanwhile, further action is being taken to finalize mode of financing, building and operating the storage.