

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:701
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2003
DEVELOPMENT OF GAS AND PETROLEUM SECTOR
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to chalk out some long term plan for the development of Gas and Petroleum sector in the country to reduce the import bill;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which the said long term plan is likely to reduce the import bill; and
- (d) the other steps taken by the Government to reduce the import bill?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. India Hydrocarbon Vision- 2025 envisages long term plans covering indigenous exploration and production of petroleum products and natural gas, which inter alia include -

- 100% exploration coverage of the Indian sedimentary basins
- leapfrog to technical superiority
- conserve resources and adopt clean technologies
- put in place abandonment practices to restore the original base line
- exploit gas hydrate reserves
- produce gas from Coal Bed Methane and through Underground Coal Gasification
- review of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) option in the light of economic, political and energy security considerations.
- develop a policy for transportation of crude and LNG preferably through Indian Flag vessels
- massive capacity expansion of the refining and marketing infrastructure
- sale of 5% ethanol-blended petrol in the entire country in two phases initially commencing in 9 major sugar producing States and 4 contiguous Union Territories.

(c) Exploration is a continuous process and the leads thus obtained from various discoveries are to be pursued to consolidate the gains and produce hydrocarbon for which no time limit can be laid down.

(d) ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL), a fully owned subsidiary of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. is actively participating in exploration and production projects abroad in Iran, Iraq, Libya, Myanmar, Russia and Sudan to enhance India's oil security.