

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7042

ANSWERED ON:12.05.2005

ENERGY CHARTER TREATY

Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao;Shivanna Shri M

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

(a) whether the Government has been considering signing the Energy Charter Treaty that may obviate the need for multilateral agreements for various projects to import gas through pipelines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) & (b) The Energy Charter Treaty (ECT) is a multilateral instrument for promoting inter-Governmental cooperation in the energy sector. The fundamental aim of ECT is to strengthen the rule of law on energy issues by creating a level playing field of rules to be observed by all participating Governments, thus maximizing security of supply and minimizing the risks associated with energy-related investments and trade. India is not yet signatory to ECT.

The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas had organized a workshop on 6 April 2005 in New Delhi to discuss various aspects of ECT, which was also attended by the officials from the Energy Charter Secretariat. The question of signing the ECT is under the examination of Government.