

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1320

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2005

AGREEMENT WITH CHINA

Gangwar Shri Santosh Kumar;Kushwaha Shri Narendra Kumar;Patle Shri Shishupal Natthu;Shahid Shri Mohammed

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

- (a) whether any action plan has been prepared by the Government for strengthening Indo-China cooperation in petroleum sector;
- (b) if so, the details of the Indian petroleum companies which are going to sign agreements with Chinese companies; and
- (c) the benefit likely to be accrued on account of the said agreements?

Answer

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

- (a) The Government is engaging China in multilateral and bilateral talks at Government level and at the level of oil companies with a view to strengthening Sino-Indian cooperation in the petroleum sector.
- (b) IOCL, OVL, GAIL and OIL are proposing to enter into MOUs with their Chinese counterpart companies which would provide for participating in projects in each other's country, joint pursuit of international opportunities, LNG sourcing, coal gasification projects and petrochemical projects, and expansion of each other's knowledge-base through cooperation in research and development, technology transfer, conservation and efficiency, environment-friendly fuels and commercial and strategic storage.
- (c) These MOUs would provide an opportunity to India to enhance its energy security; broaden its business portfolios globally; expand the capabilities of its hydrocarbons-related organizations; and promote commercial and strategic storage.