

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1318
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2006
COOPERATION IN HYDROCARBON SECTOR WITH IRAN
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Iran has sought closer cooperation in the hydrocarbon sector, particularly in developing the use of CNG as an automotive fuel in the country;
- (b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed between the two countries in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) to (c): A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Government of India and Government of Islamic Republic of Iran on 27.01.2003 for cooperation in the hydrocarbon sector including Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).

The issue of cooperation in the CNG sector was discussed in the meetings of the Joint Working Group constituted under the aforesaid MoU. GAIL and Iran Fuel Conservation Organisation (IFCO) were jointly studying the proposal to associate GAIL in the CNG implementation programme in Iran. However, GAIL did not receive adequate response from IFCO in this regard.