

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2953
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2006
IMPORT OF LNG
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

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- (a) whether the Government has chalked out any strategy for importing liquefied natural gas (LNG);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to create LNG terminals in order to meet the increasing LNG demand ?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): In order to meet the existing shortfall and the projected demand of natural gas in the country, one of the options is to import natural gas in the form of liquefied natural gas (LNG). For encouraging import of LNG, it has been placed under Open General License (OGL) list and 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been permitted.

At present, two LNG terminals are in operation, namely, 5.0 Million Metric Tonnes per Annum (MMTPA) LNG terminal of M/s. Petronet LNG Limited (PLL) at Dahej, Gujarat and 2.5 MMTPA LNG terminal of M/s. Shell at Hazira, Gujarat have been commissioned.

Ratnagiri LNG terminal (erstwhile Dabhol LNG terminal) in Maharashtra is likely to be commissioned by April, 2007. PLL is expanding the capacity of its Dahej LNG terminal from 5 MMTPA to 10 MMTPA by the end of 2008 and has also initiated action for setting up 2.5 MMTPA LNG terminal at Kochi, Kerala, which is likely to be commissioned in the last quarter of 2009.

IOC and ONGC also have plans to set up LNG terminals at Ennore, Tamilnadu and Mangalore, Karnataka respectively.