

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1363  
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2007  
INDO US COOPERATION IN HYDROCARBONS  
Singh Kunwar Rewati Raman;Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

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

- (a) whether India has signed an agreement with USA for cooperation in the field of hydrocarbons ;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard ;
- (c) the benefits likely to be accrued under the agreement
- (d) whether the Government has taken a final decision on the proposal of United States to participate in the Committee on Global Oil and Gas constituted by National Petroleum Council to advise the Secretary of Energy, USA on oil and natural gas matters ;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the present status thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a)to(c) : Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India and the Department of Energy, Government of United States of America signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 9.2.2006 for exchange of information relating to hydrocarbon sector. The main objective of the cooperation under the arrangement is to establish for mutual benefit, reasonably balance exchange of hydrocarbon sector information to complement existing hydrocarbon sector statistics.

The activities under the MoU will be mutually beneficial in learning from each other`s expertise in collection and analysis of data pertaining to hydrocarbon sector.

(d)to(f): Yes, Sir. Government has advised Petrofed, which is an industry body set up to protect and project the interest of Indian Petroleum Industry, to participate in the Committee on Global Oil and Gas constituted by National Petroleum Council to advise the U.S Energy Secretary on Oil & Natural Gas matters.