

**Lessening dependence on Middle East countries for crude oil**

\*132 SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that supply of crude oil from Middle-East countries has become a very serious problem;

(b) if so, the details of crude oil supplying nations to the country; and

(c) the steps Government is taking so that the dependency on Middle-East countries would be lessened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Public Sector Oil Companies have term contracts for supply of crude oil for its own and associate refineries, with various National Oil Companies (NOCs) of the Middle East. Supplies of crude oil from Middle East sources have by and large been smooth. The details of major crude oil supplying nations to the country during the last year are Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Kuwait, Iran, UAE, Yemen etc.

(c) Public Sector Oil Companies have made significant efforts to diversify their crude oil supply sources from other regions as well. India's crude oil import basket is continuously expanding over last few years, with increased imports from South American and African countries. The region-wise crude oil import details are as under during 2011-12 to 2013-14:

Region	Quantity in MMT			Percentage Share		
	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 (P*)	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14 (P)
Middle East	118.6	115.4	115.9	69.1	62.4	61.2
Africa	31.1	29.6	30.4	18.1	16.0	16.1
Asia	3.4	3.3	3.4	2.0	1.8	1.8
South America	14.5	29.8	31.7	8.5	16.1	16.8
Eurasia	1.0	2.4	2.1	0.6	1.3	1.1
N. America	2.3	4.1	5.2	1.3	2.2	2.7
Europe	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.1
Australia	0.7	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.2
TOTAL	171.7	184.8	189.2	100.0	100.0	100.0

\*Provisional data

In addition to the efforts at geographical diversification of our import sources, efforts are being made to augment domestic production of oil and natural gas.