

agreements are at the Official Selling Prices (OSPs) which are declared by exporting countries and reflect the price trend prevailing in the international market.

Statement

Monthly average price of Brent (Dated) Crude during August 2003 to July 2004

	BRENT (Dated)
AUG 03	29.79
SEP 03	27.08
OCT 03	29.65
NOV 03	28.73
DEC 03	29.87
JAN 04	31.23
FEB 04	30.83
MAR 04	33.79
APR 04	33.25
MAY 04	37.80
JUNE 04	35.04
JUL 04	38.32

Overseas projects of oil companies

1418. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Libya wants Indian oil companies to upgrade their refineries and also to explore their oil resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed in this regard and if so, what are the terms and conditions; and

(d) the names of other countries which have opted for the Indian oil companies to upgrade their refineries, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) During the visit of the Indian delegation of hydrocarbon sector to Libya in June 2004, the National Oil Corporation (NOC) of Libya welcomed Indian oil companies bidding for the forthcoming offer of exploration blocks, under the fourth round of Exploration and Production Sharing Agreement (EPSA-IV), as well as for revamping and modernization of Azzawia and Ras Lanuf refineries.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Some countries have expressed interest in upgradation of their oil refineries by Indian companies. A list of these countries is given in the statement.

Statement

Refinery upgradation/revamping proposals

Sl.No.	Name of the Country	Refinery	Indian PSUs involved
1.	Algeria	Skikda & Algiers Refineries (Project Management Service)	EIL
2.	Bangladesh	Bangladesh Refinery	HPCL
3.	Iran	Tehran and Tabriz Refineries	IOC & EIL
4.	Libya	Ras Lanuf and Azzawia Refineries	IOC & EIL
5.	Myanmar	Thanlyin Refinery	IOC
6.	Sudan	Port Sudan Refinery	ONGC-Videsh
7.	Yemen	Aden Refinery	IOC

Production of Ethanol

1419. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to maximise the production of ethanol out of sugarcane as a substitute of petroleum and or diesel;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) With a view to giving a boost