

- (vii) On the question of unjust enrichment, the Committee concludes that the Government of India, and not ONGC, is entitled to claim restitution from RIL for the unjust benefits it received and unfairly retained. ONGC has no *locus standi* to bring a tortious claim against RIL for trespass/conversion since it does not have any ownership rights or possessory interest in the natural gas.
- (viii) The Committee also notes that the question of quantification of unfair enrichment is to be decided by the Government of India, with the principle that whatever benefit RIL received in terms of the migrated gas is liable to be returned to the Government of India.
- (ix) With respect to the royalty, the facts before the Committee—in terms of contractors' arrangement with the Government and with the consumers, and whether the royalty had been passed on to the consumers—are unclear. This issue has to be looked into the Government in greater detail.
- (x) The Committee further notes that present case is useful opportunity for Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG) and Directorate General of Hydrocarbon (DGH) to review and strengthen the disclosure system.
- (xi) The DGH must also look to become more proactive in exercising its regulatory authority, whether it is in the form of better vigilance, acquiring more incisive technical skills, or stronger enforcement powers.
- (xii) The Committee further believes that role of ONGC in the Indian Oil and natural gas sector must be assessed with greater scrutiny. The long periods of alleged inactivity on the part of ONGC in this case particularly must be examined further.
- (xiii) The Committee also notes and concurs with the recommendation made by British Petroleum Exploration (Alpha) Limited (BP) regarding the creating of a mechanism to amicably resolve disputes amongst parties, as and when they arise.

US demand to stop crude oil imports from Iran

937. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has considered the US demand to stop crude oil import from Iran in solidarity with the US sanctions on Iran;

(b) whether India is the second largest crude oil customer for Iran after China with Indian crude imports from Iran surging to about 7,00,000 barrels per day in May, 2018; and

(c) whether India has wisely widened its sourcing of crude with almost all oil producing countries including Brunei with no likelihood of disruptions during crises?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) India has taken note of the re-imposition of US Sanctions on Iran in wake of the US pullout from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action on May 8, 2018.

(b) Yes, Sir. India is the second largest importer of Iranian crude oil after China. In May, 2018 India imported 3.2 million metric tonne of crude oil from Iran.

(c) Indian oil PSUs import crude oil from diverse sources including from Brunei, mainly keeping in view the domestic requirement.

Onshore/offshore production by ONGC

938. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ever dwindling output of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has gained momentum;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of onshore and offshore production of the petroleum and gas per day by the Corporation;

(d) whether it is a fact that ONGC has pending dues to Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) ONGC's crude oil production increased from 22.249 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) in 2016-17 to 22.305 MMT in 2017-18 and natural gas production increased from 22.088 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) in 2016-17 to 23.484 BCM in 2017-18.

(c) The details of onshore and offshore production of ONGC are as under:—

	Oil Production (BBLS/Day)*	Gas Production (MMSCMD)*
Onshore	121869	14.37
Offshore	332486	50.93
TOTAL (ONGC)	454355	65.30

*Figures are provisional