

(b) whether India has good trade relations with Qatar from where it secures most of its LNG supplies through Petronet LNG; and

(c) whether India has widened its purchase base to Latin American/Caribbean oil fields apart from investing in African oil blocks?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Keeping in view India's energy security, Indian public and private companies source crude oil and LNG from diverse sources, from Australia to America, including Qatar. Qatar's breaking away from OPEC is not expected to impact our good oil and gas trade relations with that country.

Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) facility at Chandikhole

2369. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made for the proposed Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) facility at Chandikhole, Odisha; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the benefits accrued and employment generated?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Government/Cabinet has given 'in principle' approval for creation of two additional SPR facilities with total storage capacity of 6.5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) at two locations namely (i) Chandikhol in Odisha (4 MMT) and (ii) Padur in Karnataka (2.5 MMT). Government has also given 'in principle' approval for exploring public private partnership model for Phase II.

(b) As per the consumption pattern of 2017-18, 6.5 MMT SPR is estimated to provide about 11.5 days of India's crude oil requirement. The SPR will also bring other benefits to the State. The SPR in Chandikhol will generate employment of 4000 man days for the 5 year construction period. It will promote development of ancillary industries, travel and hospitality services. The enormous quantity of excavated rock (approx. 16.6 million metric tonnes) will contribute to the construction sector and in the development of ports, urban infrastructure and highways. The sale of rock will also add to royalty earnings of Odisha.

Rise in ONGC's domestic natural gas production

2370. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ONGC's natural gas production has hit an all