GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1507
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1ST JULY, 2019

Negotiation with OPEC

1507.   SHRI M.K. RAGHAVAN:

पैट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a)   whether India had negotiated with Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) body as well as its members individually at the level of Prime Minister for a reduction of petroleum prices and if so, the details thereof along with the latest decision of reduced production by OPEC leading to price rise of petroleum products in the country;

(b)   the manner in which the Government will sustain the surging prices in petroleum products in the country; and

(c)   the expected impact on the Indian economy along with the measures taken by the Government to address these issues permanently?

ANSWER
पैट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में मंत्री (श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान)
THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) to (c): The Government, including at Prime Minister level, has been strongly taking up the issue of high crude oil price, bilaterally with crude oil producing countries as well as with the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas expressed concerns over crude oil price volatility to the OPEC Secretary General and conveyed that India will continue working with OPEC member countries on responsible oil pricing, which is beneficial to both consumers and producers.

The crude oil price fluctuation is a frequent market phenomenon, and crude oil production and price depends on several factors, including demand and supply, geo-political situation and policies of crude oil producing countries. Indian refineries import crude oil from diverse sources depending on their technical and commercial considerations and keeping in view the domestic requirement. Government has also taken steps to enhance domestic oil and gas production and to reduce reliance on imports.

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