

**Request of ONGC for CBM Exploration**

2544. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. has applied for 560 sq. km. of area for award on nomination basis for carrying out Coal Bed Methane exploration;

(b) if so, the status of the request;

(c) whether the decision of the Ministry has been communicated to ONGC; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir. ONGC applied for an area of 560 sq. km. with effect from 1.2.1997 in Parbatpur area of Jharia Coal Field, Bihar.

(b) to (d) Govt. of Bihar accorded working permission for 3 months commencing on 6.5.1997 in the first instance. Subsequently working permission was granted on 28.7.1997 and 12.1.1998 for six months each finally valid upto 5.8.1998.

**Exploration at Ichhapur**

2545. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Ichhapur site promising: ONGC Officials" published in the Statesman (Calcutta edition), dated 21st May, 1998;

(b) the status of oil exploration at Ichhapur as on date, alongwith the detailed planning of further work at the site;

(c) whether drilling job in Bangladesh would be carried out through Central Regional Business Centre of ONGC; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The first well on Ichhapur project gave indications of liquid and gaseous hydrocarbons from an Oligocene sand. The next two wells drilled one each at Ichhapur and Shantipur went dry. In addition to the above, 3D seismic data have also been acquired over this area for processing, interpretation and integration.

At present a side-tracked well is being drilled to re-test the promising Oligocene sand encountered at Ichhapur. The well has reached a side-tracked depth of 4385 meter, and is being logged. Further action plan will be decided after integration of the results of side-tracked well and the interpretation of 3D data.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The drilling job in Bangladesh will be carried out through a separate project and the Head of the project will report to the Director (Drilling) of ONGC.

**Handing-over of oil wells to multinationals**

2546. DR. B.B. DUTTA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some oil wells had been handed-over to a few multinationals in Bombay High;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether production (exploration) has increased from these wells;

(d) if so, what has been the production prior to as well as after handing-over to the multinationals; and

(e) the details of measures taken by Government to increase oil exploration by having an aggressive participation by

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, Oil India Limited and private sector companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, two oil fields namely Panna & Mukta in Western offshore, were awarded to a Joint Venture

consortium of Enron Oil & Gas India Ltd. (EOGIL), ONGC and Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) in 1994, with the following participating interests:

EOGIL — 30% (Operator)

RIL — 30%

ONGC — 40%

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Details are as under:

	Date of Takeover by JV	Production Prior to handing over	Production as on May 1998
Panna-Mukta-	22.12.94	1420 TPD	2600 TPD

(c) Government has announced a New Exploration Licensing Policy which offers attractive fiscal and other terms for Exploration and Production sector such as:—

- Level playing field to National Oil Companies vis-a-vis Private Oil Companies.
- Freedom to contractors for marketing of crude oil and gas in domestic markets.
- Royalty payment for Oil @12.5% for onland and 10% for offshore areas with 5% for first 7 years of production for deep water areas beyond 400 m bathymetry.
- Abolition of cess.
- Exemption from payment of import duty on goods imported for petroleum operations.
- Fiscal stability of contractor during entire period of contract.

Besides, Government has given infrastructure status to E & P sector which allows 7-years tax holiday.

This is expected to attract enhanced private capital for the sector and competitive participation by ONGC & OIL.

जैसलमेर-बाड़मेर में गैस के भण्डार

2547. श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावत: क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) राजस्थान के जैसलमेर-बाड़मेर क्षेत्र में पेट्रोलियम और गैस के कुल कितने भण्डार हैं;

(ख) सरकार द्वारा प्रतिवर्ष पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस निकालने के लिए क्या लक्ष्य निर्धारित किए गए हैं; और

(ग) क्या सरकार निर्धारित लक्ष्यों के अनुसार राजस्थान में प्राकृतिक गैस और पेट्रोलियम निकाल रही है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार): (क) राजस्थान के जैसलमेर-बाड़मेर क्षेत्रों की निम्नवत् नौ संभावनाओं के अंतर्गत केवल प्राकृतिक गैस भारी मात्रा में पाई गई है:

आयल एण्ड नेचुरल गैस कारपोरेशन  
स्टेडियम टिब्बा, घोटारू, बाखरी टिब्बा, खरतम,  
बांकिया तथा साडेवाला।

आयल इंडिया लिमिटेड

इंडेवाला, तनोत तथा बागी टिब्बा।

(ख) और (ग) वर्ष 1997-98 के दौरान राजस्थान में प्राकृतिक गैस का वास्तविक उत्पादन 134.6 मिलियन