

- (a) whether activists of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) have been detained recently in the country;
- (b) if so, state-wise total number of ISIS activists arrested since last one year, along with the items seized from them;
- (c) whether these activists have joined hands with other terror organizations and are receiving financial assistance from foreign countries; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check such nexus and to curb the activities of ISIS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) A total of four Pro-ISIS activists including two from Maharashtra and one each from Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have been arrested in the country since the last one year.

(c) The investigation conducted by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and State police forces into the above cases till now has not revealed any information on foreign funding of these activists.

(d) The Government is closely monitoring the situation and has directed the intelligence and security agencies to identify such elements and keep them under surveillance. The Cyber-space is also being closely scanned in this regard. In addition, the Government has declared the Islamic State (IS)/Islamic State of Iraq and Levant (ISIL)/ Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS)/Daish as Terrorist Organization under the Schedule of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967.

Pending clearance for exploration of oil and gas blocks

1494. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some oil and gas blocks for exploration in the country are awaiting clearance during the last two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that some of the successful oil and gas exploration projects have stopped their production due to Government's delayed and pending decision on royalty and cess issues; and
- (d) if so, the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Exploration activities could not commence in 6 blocks awarded due to delay in grant of Petroleum Exploration License (PEL) by the respective State Governments in the last two years. Details are given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) No sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Details of Exploration Blocks

Sl. No.	Block Name	Operator/ Consortium	Offshore / State	Current Status of Block
Shallow Water and Deepwater Blocks				
1.	VN-ONN-2010/1	Deep Energy Llc (10%) (Op.), KGN Industries Limited (90%)		PEL Awaited
2.	VN-ONN-2010/2	Deep Energy Llc (10%) (Op.), Deep Natural Resources Limited (15%), Safal WSB Energy Private Limited (75%)	Madhya Pradesh	PEL Awaited
3.	RJ-ONN-2010/2	Focus Energy Limited 10% & Birkbeck Investments Limited 90%	Rajasthan	PEL Awaited
4.	CB-ONN-2010/3	Deep Energy Llc (10%) (Op.), KGN Oil & Gas Private Limited (90%)		PEL Awaited
5.	CB-ONN-2010/4	Pratibha Oil and Natural Gas Pvt. Ltd. (100%) (Op.)	Gujarat	PEL Awaited
6.	CB-ONN-2010/10	Sankalp Oil & Gas Resources Ltd. (100%) (Op.)		PEL Awaited