

received, the contract will be awarded through an open, transparent and competitive bidding process. The EoI will be accepted throughout the year in two windows. The deadline for submission of EoI for the first window would be 15th November and for second window it would be 15th May of the respective year. The bidding process will be repeated every six months.

Steps to reduce hydrocarbon imports

443. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to focus on reducing its hydrocarbon imports by 10 per cent by 2022;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether 31 contract areas awarded recently by Government would yield 40 million tonnes of oil and 22 billion cubic metres of gas over a period of 15 years;

(d) whether these fields were discovered by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation and Oil India but could not be explored due to various hurdles, reasons such as isolated locations, small size of reserves, high development cost, technological constraints and fiscal regime, among others; and

(e) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Ministry is working in collaboration with various Central Government Ministries to achieve a goal to reduce the dependency on import in energy from oil and gas by 10% by 2021-22. The Ministry has prepared a roadmap with a five-pronged strategy which broadly comprises of:—

- (i) Increasing domestic production of oil and gas;
- (ii) Promoting energy efficiency and conservation measures;
- (iii) Giving thrust on demand substitution;
- (iv) Capitalizing untapped potential in biofuels and other alternate fuels/renewables and;
- (v) Implementing measures for refinery process improvements.

An Integrated Monitoring and Advisory Council (IMAC) has also been constituted under the chairmanship of MOS (I/C), PNG along with the representatives of other Ministries/Departments as Member of IMAC to oversee effective implementations of the roadmap proposed under the five pronged strategy.

(c) 30 contracts were awarded under the Discovered Small Fields (DSF) Policy by the Government. Total Hydrocarbon, in-place, of awarded contract areas is 24.8 MMT of Crude Oil and 19.9 BCM of Natural Gas. The actual production will depend on investment made and technology used in conducting seismic survey and drilling of wells during exploration and development phase.

(d) and (e) The fields awarded through DSF Bid Round-2016 were originally discovered by National Oil Companies (ONGC and OIL). These discoveries were identified for DSF Bid Round, as these fields had discovery vintage of more than 5 years and ONGC and OIL had not been able to develop these discoveries due to isolated locations, small size of discoveries, fiscal regimes, etc.

Clearance to ONGC for drilling wells in KG Basin

444. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC has received environmental clearance for drilling wells to explore shale gas and oil in the KG Basin in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total project cost estimated and the details of blocks in various districts of Andhra Pradesh where drilling is proposed; and

(d) to what extent, it is proposed to augment domestic requirements of gas in the country over the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has received the Environmental Clearance from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEF&CC) for drilling of 5 wells to explore shale oil/shale gas in KG basin.

(b) and (c) Details of blocks and cost of drilling of wells are as under:—

Block	Cost of drilling (₹ crore)
West Godavari, Krishna District	35
Bantumillin Extn., Krishna District	45
Suryaraopeta, West Godavari District	47
Mahadevapatnam, West Godavari District	46
Mandapeta, Eastt Godavari District	44
TOTAL	217