

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2061  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2022**

**Mining of shale oil**

**2061. Shri Sujeet Kumar:**

**Will the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas be pleased to state:**

- (a) the areas where shale oil is currently being mined in India and the production from such sites in the last three years;
- (b) the environmental damage caused due to such mining in the aforementioned areas;
- (c) the details of the blocks identified by ONGC having the potential to mine shale oil; and
- (d) whether Government intends to see further exploration of shale oil, and whether any foreign companies have expressed an interest to mine shale oil?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS  
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)**

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(a) to (d): Government of India announced Policy guidelines for Exploration and Exploitation of Shale Gas and Oil on 14th October, 2013 for National Oil Companies (NOC) i.e., Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL). Under the Shale Gas Policy - 2013, 50 blocks in 4 basins viz., Assam, Krishna Godavari, Cauvery and Cambay were identified by ONGC in Phase-I of exploration which ended in April 2017. Till 2020-21, ONGC had drilled a total of 30 exploratory wells in 4 basins and OIL has drilled 4 exploratory wells in 2 basins. The prospectivity of shale oil is yet to be established for any block/ area. Hence, Shale Oil mining is not being done in India at present. No foreign companies have so far expressed interest to mine shale oil.

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