

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.294
ANSWERED ON – 05/02/2024

DEEP-SEA OIL EXTRACTION IN KRISHNA GODAVARI BASIN

294.SMT. VANDANA CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the environmental impact assessment has been conducted for the deep-sea oil extraction project in the Krishna Godavari Basin addressed potential risks to marine life and ecosystems;
- (b) the specific measures being taken to ensure the safe and sustainable operation of the project, including spill prevention and mitigation strategies; and
- (c) the details of projected economic benefits of the project for Andhra Pradesh and the country as a whole, and the manner in which these benefits will be distributed?

ANSWER

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

(a): Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) study has been conducted for the deep-sea oil extraction in Cluster-II of the KG-DWN-98/2 project in the Krishna Godavari Basin by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) in 2015 for development drilling of 45 wells. The potential risks to marine life and ecosystems have been identified and addressed in the EIA report and Environmental Clearance (EC) for the project has thereafter been received in January 2016. Whereas Cluster-II is under production stage, Cluster-I & III are under development stage and exploration/ appraisal stages respectively. EIA studies are typically undertaken upon finalization of development plan.

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(b): ONGC has taken specific measures to ensure safe and sustainable operation of the deep sea KG-DWN-98/2 project which *inter alia* include use of Low toxicity Water Based Mud (WBM) and Synthetic Oil Based Mud (SOBM), treatment of wastewater generated as per International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) and Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) guidelines, prohibition of discharge of waste oil and non-biodegradable wastes into the sea, controlled emissions from DG sets, sewage treatment at Rigs, following Oil spill contingency plan as per National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOS-DCP), 2015, implementing Health, Safety and Environmental Management System (HSEMS), etc.

(c): The projected economic benefits of the deep-sea Project KG-DWN-98/2 *inter alia* include:

- i. Addition of around 30.5 Billion Cubic Meters (BCM) of Gas and 14.24 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) of oil by the year 2036-37.
- ii. Employment of about 3000 to 3500 Indians per month on an average under various contracts for the development of this project at Offices, Fabrication Yards, Construction sites and Drill sites located in Andhra Pradesh & other parts of India.
- iii. Other tangible benefits such as fabrication of various subsea structures as part of this project for the first time in India as part of the Make in India Campaign.
- iv. In addition, fishermen livelihood compensation of over Rs. 765 crore, for development of villages of over Rs. 74 crore and Right of User (RoU) Compensation (land + crop) of over Rs. 1.63 crore have been paid for laying the Gas Export pipeline.
- v. Further, with the commencement of gas production, several underutilized gas-based industries have been revived, thereby, providing employment opportunities to local people and contributing to Nation's Economy.
