

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3060
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21st DECEMBER, 2023

Alignment of Petroleum and Natural Gas Production

3060.SHRI JAYANT SINHA:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- a) The steps taken by the Government to align petroleum and natural gas production and exploration efforts in line with the Atmanirbhar Bharat vision;
- b) Whether the Government has done any analysis of expected benefits to India due to such steps; and
- c) If so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(श्री रामेश्वर तेली)

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

(a) to (c): Government has taken various policy initiatives to increase domestic exploration and production of petroleum and natural gas and reduce dependence on imports in line with Atmanirbhar Bharat. These, *inter-alia*, includes reforms such as Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP), Discovered Small Field (DSF) Policy, Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP), policy to promote and incentivize Enhanced Oil Recoveries (EOR), policy framework for exploration and exploitation of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) from areas under Coal Mining Lease and early monetization of CBM, etc. Efforts have been made to increase the net geographical area under exploration from 2.5 Lakh Square Kilometer (SKM) to 5 Lakh SKM. Further, Government has opened 99% of the 'No-Go' area of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) for Hydrocarbon Exploration and Development. A total of 2,07,691 Sq. Km. under OALP (till Bid Round VII) and 16,508 Sq. Km. under DSF (till Bid Round III) have been allocated so far. Furthermore, the Government has adopted a multi-pronged strategy including promoting energy efficiency and conservation measures. It has also laid thrust on demand substitution, promoting biofuels / other alternate fuels, renewable energy sources, EV charging facilities and refinery process improvements for reducing the country's oil dependence on imported crude oil.
