

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 737
TO BE ANSWERED ON 7th December, 2023

Exploration of Rare Earth Materials

737. SHRI V.K. SREEKANDAN:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) is planning to begin exploration of rare earth materials in the Kerala-Konkan basin shortly and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also true that the earlier plan of ONGC to strike oil and gas in the Kerala-Konkan basin had failed and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the ONGC is looking for rare materials such as lithium from the nineteen wells it had abandoned earlier in Kerala-Konkan basin shortly where the researchers failed to strike/hit oil and gas; and
- (d) 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) No Sir.
- (b) ONGC initiated exploration activity in the Kerala-Konkan basin with seven blocks allocated to it in the Basin. However, in absence of any exploratory success in terms of oil and gas discovery, all the blocks have since been relinquished.
- (c) & (d) No Sir.
