

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1045
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08th FEBRUARY, 2024

Oil Exploration

1045. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether the Government has started oil excavation work on commercial basis in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to restart the oil exploration work at Cochin-high;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has conducted any detailed study on the outcome of the previous explorations; and
- (f) 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) & (b): Until the end of the 1970s, two National Oil Companies, i.e., Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Ltd. and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) were involved in the exploration and extraction of oil and natural gas resources in India. Thereafter, the sector was opened to private companies as well to enhance exploration efforts, with the goal of increasing domestic production. The total sedimentary basinal area in India is 33.6 lakh square kilometre (SKM), out of which active area under exploration and production activities is around 3.29 lakh SKM. Total 2P (proven and probable) in-place reserves in India is around 11,252 Million Metric Tonnes of Oil Equivalent (MMTOE) and after cumulative production of around 2650 MMTOE, balance 2P reserves is around 1100 MMTOE.

(c) & (d): No hydrocarbon discoveries have been made in Kerala-Konkan basin so far even though exploratory wells were drilled in this basin. In an effort to continue hydrocarbon exploration activities in Cochin High in the Kerala-Konkan Basin, the Government has awarded one offshore block (KK-OSHP-2018/1) to M/s OIL in Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) Round-III and two offshore blocks (KK-OSHP-2022/1 and KK-DWHP-2022/1) to M/s ONGC in the recently concluded OALP Round-VIII.

(e) & (f): A Hydrocarbon Resource Reassessment study was conducted in Kerala-Konkan basin in 1995-96. The study estimated hydrocarbon in-place resource as 660 MMTOE. Later, another Hydrocarbon Resource Reassessment study was conducted in 2017 which indicated that the total hydrocarbon in-place in Kerala-Konkan basin was 1245 MMTOE.
