

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1713
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2001
EXPLORATION OF BLOCKS IN OFF-SHORE AND ONSHORE
KUMUDINI PATNAIK;PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

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

- (a) the number of blocks identified for off-shore drilling and onshore drilling exploration as on March 31, 2001;
- (b) the number of blocks out of them offered to private parties or multinationals alongwith the terms and conditions agreed for ; and
- (c) the details of companies that are interested in explorations alongwith the target fixed in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (c) :- In the second round of offer of blocks under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) ,25 exploration blocks in the country lying in onland, shallow water offshore and deep water offshore area have been offered for bidding on 18.12.2000 with bid closing date of 31.3.2001. The broad terms of offer of these blocks are in Annexure.

Since , these are exploration blocks, the hydrocarbons reserve base can be known only after exploration and hence no target can be fixed.