

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2819
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2000
HELICOPTERS FOR OIL AND NATURAL GAS CORPORATION
Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

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

- (a) whether the ONGC has suffered a great deal in drilling operations due to absence of the helicopters; and
- (b) if so, the steps being taken to ensure that the drilling operations do not suffer due to non-availability of helicopters?

Answer

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

(a) Prolonged non-availability of helicopter services does have an adverse impact on ONGC's drilling operation. Helicopter services have not affected ONGC drilling operations during the fiscal year 1999-2000, so far.

(b) ONGC has already taken following measures:-

- . Vendor base has been widened.
- . Alternative modes of transportation have also been used to supplement air transport service in critical times.
- . Skid-mounted helicopters have been inducted for better service.