

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3882

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2001

EXPLORATION OF OIL RESERVES

A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

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

- (a) whether the Public Sector oil companies are spending huge funds for locating more oil reserves than the estimated oil reserves in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the cost of exploration of oil is rising as a result thereof;
- (c) if so, the amount out of the estimated funds spent thereon during the last two years; and
- (d) the estimated/actual amount spent on pumping out oil during the said period?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar)

(a) & (b) The two upstream National Oil Companies(NOCs), i.e.,Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) make investments as envisaged in the Plans for oil and gas discoveries in the country. The cost of finding oil and oil equivalent of gas per Metric Tonne for these NOCs during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 was in the ranges of Rs. 385-450 and Rs. 220-430 respectively.

(c) & (d): The actual expenditure of the two NOCs on exploration and production of oil and gas during the last two years is as under:-

Exploration

(Rs. in crores)

Year Actual Expenditure

1999-2000	1751
2000-2001	1722

Production

(Rs. in crores)

Year Actual Expenditure

1999-2000	6645
2000-2001	6736