

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3966

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2001

C.B.M. RESERVE

DILEEP SANGHANI;DINSHA J. PATEL;GANTA SRINIVASA RAO;GUNIPATI RAMAIAH;MADHUSUDAN DEVRAM  
MISTRY;SAVSHIBHAI MAKWANA

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

- (a) the name of States having Coal Bed Methane (CBM) reserves at present;
- (b) the area, quantity and the value of CBM found in each State during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to undertake more exploration/exploitation of CBM in the country particularly in Gujarat;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the area identified for the purpose, State-wise;
- (e) whether any bid has been invited from private companies in this regard;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether the Government of Gujarat has demanded 50 percent revenue share on production level payment of CBM found in the State; and
- (h) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b):- The available studies indicate the presence of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) resources in the States of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat. The commerciality of CBM production can be known only after exploration of these areas is carried out.

(c) to (f):- The Government of India had approved the policy for exploration and exploitation of CBM in the country. Under the first round of this policy, Government invited bids for seven blocks under the international competitive bidding; two blocks in Jharkhand, three in Madhya Pradesh, one each in Rajasthan and West Bengal. On the bid closing date of 31.08.2001, sixteen bids for six blocks were received. The process of award of the contract has not been completed.

(g) & (h):- Government of Gujarat has requested for sharing of Production Linked Payment (PLP) and the commercial discovery bonus in the ratio of 50:50 and this request is under the consideration of the Government of India.