

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:535
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2002
EXPLORATION OF COAL BED METHANE GAS
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

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

- (a) whether the Government have signed agreements with certain private and public sector companies for the exploration and production of coal bed methane gas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the areas allotted to each company for exploration and production of coal bed methane gas in the country; and
- (d) the time by which these companies are likely to start working on the project?

Answer

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

(a) to (c):- In the first offer of blocks under Coal Bed Methane Policy (CBM-I), on 26.07.2002 the Government has signed Production Sharing Contract with Public Sector Undertakings(PSUs) and Private Companies for five blocks in the country for exploration and production of CBM. The details in this regard are as follow:-

Sl.No.	Block Name	Coalfield	State	Company
1.	RG(East)-CBM-2001/1	Raniganj	West Bengal	Essar Oil Ltd.
2.	BK-CBM-2001/1	Bokaro	Jharkhand	ONGC-IOC+
3.	NK-CBM-2001/1	North Karanpura	Jharkhand	ONGC-IOC+
4.	SP(East)-CBM-2001/1 Limited	Sohagpur	Madhya Pradesh	Reliance Industries
5.	SP(West)-CBM-2001/1	Sohagpur	Madhya Pradesh	Reliance Industries Limited

+ ONGC - Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited IOC - Indian Oil Corporation Limited

(d) : The Exploration work in Eastern and Western Sohagpur Blocks has not been started. In the remaining blocks i.e. Bokaro, North Karanpura and Eastern Raniganj, the work can be started by the awardee companies after the issue of (Petroleum Exploration Licence) PEL by the respective State Governments.