

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3497
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2002
ACQUISITION OF OILFIELDS IN EGYPT BY OIL INDIA LIMITED
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

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

- (a) whether Oil India Limited have expressed its interest to acquire two offshore discovered oilfields in Egypt;
- (b) if so, whether the negotiations in this regard have been finalised;
- (c) if so, the details of the terms and conditions; and
- (d) the benefit to be derived from this deal?

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) : Oil India Limited (OIL) alongwith M/s. Prize Petroleum Company Limited, a joint venture between Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Industrial Credit & Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) and Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC), submitted a non-binding bid on 13.8.2002 for acquisition of two exploration and producing properties in Gulf of Suez, Egypt offshore belonging to M/s. Devon Energy, USA. On being shortlisted, due diligence was carried out by OIL. However, considering the risk- reward scenario, no firm bid was submitted.

(c) & (d) : Do not arise in view of (a) & (b) above.