

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:593  
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2003  
SICK OIL WELLS  
RAMSHETH THAKUR

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

- (a) the number of oil wells becoming sick in the country;
- (b) whether the oil is not extracted from a large number of wells;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to make these oil wells functioning; and
- (e) the loss suffered by the Government as a result of non-functioning of oil wells?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a) to (c) : In the course of the production cycle of oil wells, some wells may become sick due to subsurface changes, mechanical reasons etc., and work over operations and stimulation jobs are carried out for problem-specific remedial measures and revival of the wells for further production. While such `non producing` wells are, thus, put back to production, some other wells turn uneconomic and are abandoned, which is a continuous and dynamic process.

Information regarding the number of oil wells awaiting work over operation/stimulation jobs in the country is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) & (e) : Work over and/or stimulation jobs are carried out optimally by the oil producing companies to revive the oil wells falling sick. There is no tangible loss to Government on account of producing wells turning `non producing`, as this is a normal phenomenon in oil industry.