

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5088  
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2005  
NEW GAS RESERVES IN BAY OF BENGAL  
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**Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether new gas reserves namely `Gas Hydrates` have been discovered in Bay of Bengal offshore;
- (b) if so, the details alongwith the estimated quantity thereof;
- (c) whether India has the technology to exploit this gas hydrates; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

- (a) No. Sir. The presence of Gas Hydrates in offshore Bay of Bengal has been inferred from the interpretation of seismic surveys carried out in that area. However, it is yet to be established by drilling and coring technology.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) & (d): Worldwide, the production of gas from Gas Hydrates is at the Research & Development (R&D) stage . India has also started its efforts in carrying out R&D in this area under the National Gas Hydrate Programme (NGHP).