

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5127

ANSWERED ON:28.04.2005

NEW EXPLORATION BLOCKS

Chakraborty Shri Swadesh;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Reddy Shri Karunakara G.;Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

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

- (a) the details of oil blocks likely to be announced for exploration under the New Exploration Licensing Policy; and
- (b) the time by which the work on these oil blocks are likely to start?

Answer

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

(a) Under the Fifth Round of the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-V) Government have invited bids for exploration and production of oil and gas in 20 blocks , viz , 12 onland, 2 shallow offshore and 6 deep water blocks. The list of these blocks is annexed.

(b) The last date of submission of bids under NELP-V, is the 31st May, 2005. We expect to announce the awards by the end of July, 2005 and to sign the contracts towards the end of September or early October 2005 . Work on the blocks awarded would start thereafter.