

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7089

ANSWERED ON:12.05.2005

GAS RESERVES IN TRIPURA

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

(a) whether ONGC has been suffering loss of about Rs. 200 crore per annum in Tripura due to its inability to sell huge recoverable gas reserves due to transportation problems;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to use this gas to avoid further loss to the company?

Answer

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

(a)&(b) : The present total production potential of the gas fields of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) in Tripura is 4.2 million standard cubic meters per day (MMSCMD) and the contracted quantity for sale through GAIL (India) Limited is only 1.47 MMSCMD, because of the lack of sufficient consumers. As a result, ONGC have been incurring losses, which are estimated (without reckoning allocation on over heads) at Rs. 29.34 cr., Rs. 55.32 cr. and Rs. 40.46 cr. (prov.) for the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05, respectively.

(c) : In order to monetize ONGC's locked up assets in terms of the isolated gas pools in the State, Government have approved ONGC's equity participation in a Joint Venture Company for setting up a 750 MW combined Cycle Gas Turbine Power plant in Tripura. In this Joint Venture, the Govt. of Tripura, ONGC and M/s. Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Limited (IL&FS) are equity partners in the ratio of 24%, 26% and 50%, respectively.