

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:861

ANSWERED ON:22.11.2007

EXPLORATION OF OIL AND GAS

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

(a) whether the Government has decided to made changes in Model production, sharing contract and to tighten laws for oil and gas exploration;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether under the provisions for the 7th round of NELP-VII, how many blocks are likely to be offered and firms to whom these will be awarded; and

(d) the manner in which the production of oil and gas is likely to increase due to awarding of blocks in the NELP-VII?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) to (d) Before every round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) is launched, consultations are held with all stakeholders to suggest and incorporate improvements. The same process is being followed for the upcoming Seventh round of NELP ( NELP-VII).

Number of blocks to be offered under NELP-VII will depend upon the blocks for which data packages are available and the data reveals promising prospects which may attract E&P companies.

The blocks would be offered through International Competitive Bidding.

The exploration activities in the respective awarded blocks may result in oil and gas discoveries. The exact quantity of production will depend on its commerciality and subsequent development plans.