

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4574
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2009
ONGC DISPUTE AGAINST M S.ELECTRO STEEL CASTING
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

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

- (a) whether any dispute is pending with the Government regarding Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) for discovery of Natural gas in Telgaria - Parbatpur basin in the State of Jharkhand by allotment of over lapping coal blocks with M/s Electro steel Casting Limited;
- (b) if so, the quantum of natural gas discovered and total estimated cost likely to be spent by the ONGC therein alongwith the present status of this project;
- (c) whether commissioning of Telgaria-Parbatpur basin is constantly delayed by ONGC because of their ineffective approach to settle dispute with M/s Electro-steel Casting Limited; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the approximate date of commissioning of the project and the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

- (a) There is an issue of overlapping of mining block allocated to M/s Electro Steel Castings Ltd(ECL) and Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Block (Jharia) allocated to Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited & Coal India Limited (ONGC-CIL).
 - (b) The Initially Inplace (IIP) CBM gas in the Prabatpur sector of Jharia Block is estimated at 17.72 Billion Cubic Meter(BCM) by ONGC as on 01.04.2009.
- ONGC had submitted Development Plan to DGH for production of 4-5 BCM per day CBM for a period of 20 yrs from Prabatpur area with an estimated Capital expenditure of Rs.875 Crore. The evaluation of Development Plan is underway.
- (c) & (d) A team has been constituted comprising of concerned stakeholders for harmonious exploitation of both the resources i.e. coal & CBM effectively. The team is constantly monitoring the progress of the work in the overlapping area. Development work would commence upon approval of Development plan and conversion of Petroleum Exploration License (PEL) to Mining Lease (ML).