

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1285  
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2010  
DEVELOPMENT OF OIL RESERVES IN IRAQ  
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**Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether any decision regarding bidding for oil and gas fields in Iraq on the basis of the discussions held with the oil companies has since been taken;
- (b) if so, whether the Oil India Limited has also decided to participate in the exploration and production of oil and gas in Iraq;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the number of projects undertaken by the Public Sector Oil companies and Private Oil Companies of India to develop the vast oil reserves in Iraq during the last three years;
- (e) the number of projects likely to be undertaken by the Public Sector and private sector oil companies in Iraq during the year 2010-2011; and
- (f) the net revenue earned by these companies from these projects during the years 2005 to 2009?

**Answer**

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

- (a) to (c): ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) submitted one bid in the First Petroleum Licensing Round held in Iraq in June 2009. In the 2nd Iraqi International Bidding Round held in December, 2009 OVL had bid for Halfaya Field in partnership with Oil India Limited (OIL) & Turkiye Petrolleri Anonim Ortakligi (TAPO) and for Garraf Field in partnership with TAPO. However, the bids of OVL & OIL were not successful.
- (d): Public Sector Oil companies (PSUs) are not having any projects in Iraq. In so far as private companies are concerned, Ministry does not compile information in this regard.
- (e): Block 8 project, Iraq is being pursued by OVL for participation.
- (f): Does not arise in view of (d) and (e) above.