

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1287

ANSWERED ON:04.03.2010

MOU BETWEEN ONGC VIDESH LIMITED AND NATIONAL OIL COMPANY OF ANGOLA

Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Sule Supriya

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

- (a) whether Oil Natural Gas Videsh Limited (OVL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Oil Company of Angola, Sonangol for cooperation in the exploration/ hydrocarbon sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which India will be benefited by the said MoU;
- (d) whether OVL further offered to participate in the next round of bidding for exploration blocks in Angola with Sonangol;
- (e) if so, the time by which the agreement is likely to be implemented;
- (f) whether the Government has also agreed to provide training to Angolan personnel in the gas technology field like transmission, distribution and city gas projects;and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between SONANGOL, the national oil company of Angola and ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) on 27th January 2010 during the visit of a high level Indian delegation led by the Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, in January 2010.

(c): SONANGOL and OVL agreed to cooperate with each other in exploration and production of oil and gas in Angola, India and third countries as per above MOU.

(d): OVL has been qualified as Operator by Sonangol for the ongoing Angola License Round 2007/08 and is in the process of evaluating the blocks for bidding.

(e): The bid date for this License Round of 2007/08 which was scheduled for 13th March 2008, has been cancelled by Sonangol.

(f)&(g): One of the areas of cooperation envisaged in the MOU provides that OVL will endeavour to promote the improvement of human resources capability of Angola personnel in different areas like geology, geophysics, accounting, financial, auditing, telecommunications, information technology and company organization and management, oil refining, gas and petrochemical, by means of training programs to be agreed upon between the parties