

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:132

ANSWERED ON:02.07.2009

EXPLORATION OF GAS AT JWALAMUKHI DISTRICT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH

Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

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

- (a) whether the work of gas exploration at Jwalamukhi in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh is going on for a long time and recently there have been some indications of huge gas reserves there;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by when commercial production of gas at the site is likely to start?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) to (c) ONGC presently holds two Petroleum Exploration Licences (PELs) in Himachal Pradesh. One is a nomination block(falling in Kangra, Hamirpur, Bilaspur and Mandi Districts) for which the PEL was awarded on 10.11.1997, while another PEL was awarded, for Block HF-ONN-2001/1 under NELP-III(encompassing Sirmour, Solan and Shimla Districts), on 10.6.2003.

No commercial discoveries have been made till date in any of the Blocks.