

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2363
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2010
EXPLORATION IN CAUVERY OFFSHORE BASIN BY ONGC
Baal Thiru Thalikkottai Rajuthevar

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

- (a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation and other private companies have been resorting to exploration activities in Cauvery offshore basin for the past four decades;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these companies have resorted to deep water drilling;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the total production of crude oil/natural gas achieved from this basin so far?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) Yes Madam, ONGC's exploration activities in Cauvery Offshore commenced in 1964-66 when reconnaissance seismic surveys were carried out for the first time.

As on 1.1.2010, ONGC has acquired 93116 Line Kilo Metres (LKM) of 2D (32671 LKM in Shallow and 60445 LKM in Deep Water) and 3901 Square Kilo Metres of 3D (1822 SKM in Shallow and 2079 SKM in Deep Water) seismic data.

Under the PSC regime, 16 blocks have so far been awarded in Cauvery Offshore area, including 11 deep water blocks. The five (5) shallow water blocks have now been relinquished. Exploration activities are under progress in eleven deep water blocks (7 Blocks are operated by ONGC and 4 blocks are operated by RIL).

(c) and (d) The Companies ONGC and RIL have been carrying out deep water drilling in the deep water areas operated by them. ONGC has drilled four (4) deep water wells, till 1.1.2010 and RIL has also drilled four (4) deep water wells in the Block CY-DWN-2001/2.

(e) Under the PSC regime, crude oil is being produced from PY-3 field and gas is being produced from PY-1 field in Cauvery offshore. About 23 Million Barrels of Oil has been produced from PY-3 field and about 69 Million Metric Standard Cubic Meter (MMSCM) gas has been produced from PY-1 field till 10th January, 2010.