

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5532
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2010
ALLOTMENT OF OIL BLOCKS UNDER NELP
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a good number of oil blocks were allotted to the public sector oil companies under phase VIII of New Exploration and Licensing Policy;
- (b) if so, the number of applications received and oil blocks selected in the said phase;
- (c) whether the application were not received for all the blocks identified by the Government;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the details of new conditions laid down for the applicants for said phase as compared to the last phase?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): Out of 70 blocks offered under the eighth bid round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-VIII), 36 blocks attracted 76 bids. Out of 36 blocks, 34 blocks are likely to be awarded.

Although bids have not been received for all the blocks in this round, the response can not be considered as poor in view of the global melt-down and also in comparison to the responses received by several other countries during recent bidding rounds. Under NELP policy, exploration blocks are offered through international competitive bidding process. The companies bid for exploration blocks based on their commercial prudence.

(e): The details of changes in terms and conditions and Bid Evaluation Criteria (BEC) in NELP-VIII vis-à-vis NELP-VII are Annexed.