

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:628  
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2010  
SETTING UP OF OIL REFINERY IN BARMER  
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

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

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to set up oil refinery in Banner district of Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is a possibility of availability of crude oil even in Bikaner in addition to Barmer district of Rajasthan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Government thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) and (b): Consequent on de-licensing of refinery sector since June, 1998, a refinery can be set up anywhere in India by a Private or Public Sector Enterprise depending on its commercial viability. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) is in consultation with the Government of Rajasthan (GoR) on the feasibility of setting up a refinery at Barmer. For this purpose GoR has set up a high level Committee on the 19th August, 2009 for the preparation of a report on the status of oil and gas sector in Rajasthan in the context of future prospects and benefits for the State.

(c) and (d): There are 4 exploration blocks under Production Sharing Contract (PSC) regime, which partly fall in Bikaner district. So far, 800 Line Kilometers (LKM) of 2D & 1858 Square Kilometers (SKM) of 3D seismic data have been acquired and 4 exploratory wells have been drilled in these blocks. No oil/gas discovery has been made so far.