

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6730
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2010
EXPLORATION OF HYDRO CARBONS
Bajwa Shri Partap Singh

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

- (a) whether there are huge potential of Hydro Carbon available in the country; and
(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for exploration of above natural resource?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITEV PRASA0A)

(a). The prognosticated hydrocarbon resources in the country are estimated to be about 28 Billion Tonne, which includes 15 sedimentary basins in onland and offshore area as well as estimated resources in the deepwater area.

(b).Following steps have been taken to exploit the oil/gas resources available in the country:

Accelerating exploration activities by awarding exploration acreages through New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP).

So far, 203 exploration blocks have been awarded in onland, offshore and deepwater area under seven rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) held so far,

34 exploration blocks are likely to be awarded under eighth bid round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-VIII).

Exploring alternate sources of energy, such as Gas Hydrate, Oil Shale etc.