

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:392
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2010
COAL BED METHANE
Singh Shri Ijyaraj ;Sinh Dr. Sanjay

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

- (a) whether the use of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) is being popularized with a view to meeting energy requirements;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) the annual increase registered in the production Of CBM for the last three years;
- (d) whether any target has been set for the production of CBM;
- (e) if so, details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the steps taken by the Government to augment production of CBM?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.392 BY `SHRI IJYARAJ SINGH AND DR.SANJAY SINH BED METHANE.` TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.4.2010 REGARDING ` COAL BED METHANE

(a)&(b) Yes, Madam. Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Policy was approved in 1997 with a view to encourage exploitation and production of gas held in coal seams which is a non-conventional source of energy. The CBM has similar uses as natural gas and is used as industrial fuel, feedstock, domestic pipeline gas, compressed natural gas etc. In order to encourage exploration and production of CBM from coal seams, 23 CBM blocks have been awarded in the first three rounds of CBM . Two CBM blocks have been awarded through nomination basis and one through Foreign Investment Promotion Board(FIPB) route. So far, about 8.39 Trillion Cubic Feet (TCF) of CBM reserves have been established in 5 CBM blocks.

(c) Commercial production of CBM commenced in July, 2007 from Raniganj (South) block in West Bengal, operated by M/s Great Eastern Energy Corporation Limited(GEECL). The year-wise CBM production from this block during the last three years is as under;

Year 2007-08 2008-09 2009-10

CBM 14.97 19.78 38.40
Production
(MMSCM) ##

Production commenced w.e.f. 14 July, 2007

Million Standard Cubic Meter

(d) to (e) Based on the current rate of CBM production, status of ongoing and planned field developments etc., it is estimated that the CBM production in the country is likely to be about 7.41 Million Standard Cubic Meter Per Day (MMSCMD) during 2012-13.

(f) The fourth round of CBM was launched with an offer of ten blocks covering an area of 4965 Sq. Km. Bids have been received for 8 blocks.