

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:375
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2010
PRODUCTION OF COAL BED METHANE GAS
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) the total Coal Bed Methane(CBM) gas reserve in the country;
- (b) whether the commercial production of CBM gas is negligible as compared to the total natural gas produced in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has recently awarded blocks to private companies for production of CBM gas;
- (e) if so, the details thereof including the investment made and the time by which the production of gas is likely to commence; and
- (f) the long term measures taken to increase production of CBM? MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND 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

(f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question no. 375 for

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND 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

(f) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question no. 375 for on 19th August, 2010 regarding Production of Coal Bed Methane Gas

(a) The Coal Bed Methane (CBM) gas reserves established in the country are estimated to be about 9 Trillion Cubic Feet (TCF) in 5 CBM blocks.

(b) & (c) Yes, Madam. Currently, the commercial production of CBM has started from only one CBM block, i.e. Raniganj (South) in West Bengal operated by M/s Great Eastern Energy Corporation Limited (GEECL). The present rate of production of CBM from this block is about 0.11 Million Standard Cubic Meter Per Day(MMSCMD), which is significantly lower as compared to the current rate of gas production of about 150 MMSCMD in the country.

(d) & (e) Yes, Madam. Government has recently awarded seven CBM blocks under the fourth round of CBM (CBM- IV) to various Private, Foreign and National Oil Companies. The list of awarded blocks is at Annxe. The estimated investment on committed Work Programme in the awarded blocks is to the tune of US\$ 158.33 MM.

Since CBM Contracts have been signed on 29.07.2010 for these seven awarded blocks, exploration activities are yet to be initiated and hence no investment has so far been incurred. Further, the extent of CBM production from the blocks awarded under CBM -IV round will be known after establishment of reserves and subsequent field development plans.

(f) The measures taken to increase the CBM production in the country are:

Identifying more and more coal –bearing area for exploitation of CBM gas.

Induction of new technologies by the operators in well drilling, completion and activation to augment production of CBM.

