

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4239
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2010
SHORTAGE OF DRILLING RIGS
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cost of oil exploration and production projects is continuously increasing due to shortage of drilling rigs;
- (b) if so, whether projects are also getting delayed due to acute shortage of trained and skilled personnel to meet the current demand;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government are proposes to formulate any scheme with a view to make them trained and skilled; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a): Due to the global shortages of offshore drilling rigs, especially deepwater rigs, during the period of high oil prices, the Operating Day Rates (ODRs) of the offshore drilling rigs increased considerably. This had resulted in increase in exploration and production costs. However, the current ODR of offshore jack-up rigs is showing decreasing trend.
- (b) to (e): Under the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) regime, no such case has been reported by the contractors.