

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4247

ANSWERED ON:19.08.2010

INVESTMENT BY ONGC VIDESH IN VENEZUELA

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal;Panda Shri Baijayant

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

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, Videsh Limited (OVL) and its subsidiaries have made investment in Venezuela for 30.60 lakhs tonnes of crude oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of other investment made by OVL in other petroleum producing countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the benefits likely to be accrued from these investments?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b): ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) has made an investment of USD 191.3 million and USD 55.6 million in Sancristobal Project and Carabobo-1 Project respectively in Venezuela till 31st July, 2010. OVL acquired 40% and 11% stake in San Cristobal Project and Carabobo Project 1 respectively in Venezuela. At their peak production, these projects are likely to yield per annum equity oil of 2.5 million tonnes of oil from Carabobo-1 project and 0.89 million tonnes of oil from San Cristobal project.

(c) & (d): OVL has currently presence in 15 countries, out of which 9 projects in 7 countries have oil and gas production. The Plan Outlay made by OVL till 31st March, 2010 for other producing projects are as follows: -

Project	Amount (USD in million approx.)
---------	---------------------------------

Sakhalin, Russia	3865
------------------	------

Block 6.1, Vietnam	257
--------------------	-----

GNOP, Sudan	1731
-------------	------

Block 5A, Sudan	418
-----------------	-----

Mansarovar Project, Colombia	700
------------------------------	-----

(e): The primary purpose of acquiring oil and gas exploration/producing assets abroad is to gain access to equity oil and gas from the acquisition. India imports over 70% of its requirements of crude oil. Considering the widening energy demand-supply gap in the country, acquiring more oil and gas acreages abroad is necessary for energy security. OVL's consolidated production of Oil plus Oil-Equivalent Gas (O+OEG) during the year 2009-10 was 8.870 MTOE recording highest ever oil and gas production from its overseas assets.