

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4913
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2010
ENERGY SECURITY
Mishra Shri Mahabal

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

- (a) whether oil reserves of the country are shrinking:
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase energy security of the country?

Answer

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

(a) and (b): The oil and oil equivalent gas reserves (O+OEG) in the country has been increasing over the years. On March end of 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10, the balance oil and oil equivalent gas reserves of the country have been 1657.93 Million Metric Tonne of Oil Equivalent (MMToe), 1667.38 MMToe and 1741.16 MMToe respectively

(c) Several measures have been taken to accelerate hydrocarbon exploration and production activities in order to enhance energy security of the country. These measures include:

- (i) Carving out more and more areas for exploration under various rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) and Coal Bed Methane Policy (CBM).
- (ii) Application of Enhanced Oil Recovery/Improved Oil Recovery techniques for increasing recovery factor from existing fields.
- (iii) Acquisition of exploration acreages and producing properties overseas to bring in equity oil.
- (iv) Arresting decline from ageing fields.
- (v) Substitution of oil through use of non-conventional source of energy such as bio-diesel, ethanol etc.

Apart from the above, Underground Coal Gasification and Gas Hydrates assessment are in the experimental stage.