GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FINANCE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1822 ANSWERED ON:17.07.2009 COMPLAINT AGAINST M/S HARDY OIL AND GAS COMPANY Ray Shri Rudramadhab

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hardy Oil and Gas has made unethical and premature announcement of natural gas reserves in Reliance Industries K.G. Basin Blocks;

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

(c) whether the announcement made by Hardy Oil & Gas has attracted related rules and regulations;

(d) if so, the details of rules and regulations thereof; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken against Hardy Oil & Gas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) and (b): SEBI has informed that as per information received from Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) Hardy Oil and Gas is a partner of Reliance Industries Limited with a 10 percent stake in Block D-3 and D-9. It has made a public announcement about significant hydrocarbon potential at its exploration blocks in the Krishna Godavari Basin.

(c): DGH has informed SEBI that the announcement is against the established norms and procedures of DGH and was not vetted by it.

(d) and (e): This issue is under the purview of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas which is in the process of collecting the required information.