

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1467
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2010
DEEP WATER DRILLING OF OIL/NATURAL GAS
Baal Thiru Thalikkottai Rajuthevar

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

- (a) whether deep water drilling has helped to discover natural gas finds at Krishna-Godavari Basin;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to intensify deep water drilling in Cauvery Basin;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the government proposes to review the moratorium imposed on deep water blocks under the production sharing contract regime; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

- (a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Deep water exploration in 18 blocks awarded in Krishna-Godavari (KG) Basin, has resulted in 36 gas discoveries so far. In Cauvery Basin, till date 10 exploration blocks have been awarded in Cauvery Basin deepwater area and 9 exploratory wells have been drilled, resulting in 1 oil/gas discovery.
- (d) & (e) Government has approved a proposal for granting drilling moratorium for 3 years starting 1st January, 2008 to 31st December, 2010 to thirty (30) deepwater blocks under the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) regime signed upto New Exploration & Licensing Policy (NELP)-V, where drilling commitments (except development drilling) remained unfulfilled as on 1st January, 2009. There is no proposal to review the above implemented policy.