

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1562

ANSWERED ON:18.11.2010

PRODUCTION OF METHANE GAS

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

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any survey of the Coal Bed Methane (CBM) gas reserves in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the quantum of CBM gas produced in the country during 2009-10 alongwith the target fixed for the current year 2010-11;
- (d) the number of foreign companies involved in the production of CBM gas;
- (e) whether the Government has also exported the methane gas; and
- (f) if so, the names of the countries to which methane gas has been exported alongwith the amount of revenue earned by the Government thereby?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Based on the available geological data, Directorate General of Hydrocarbons(DGH) under Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, in consultation with Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDI), has estimated the Coal Bed Methane(CBM) resources of the country to be about 92 Trillion Cubic Feet(TCF).

(c) During the year 2009-10, the commercial CBM production from Raniganj (South) block in West Bengal operated by Great Eastern Energy Corporation Ltd(GEECL), was 38.4 Million Standard Cubic Meter (MMSCM) and the target for commercial production of CBM during 2010-11 from this block is about 33.3 MMSCM.

(d) Currently, following Foreign Companies are involved in CBM exploration in India:

British Petroleum Exploration Alpha Ltd.

Arrow Energy India Pvt. Ltd.

Geopetrol International Inc.

Coalgas Mart LLC.

(e) No, Madam.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.