

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1578

ANSWERED ON:18.11.2010

EXPLORATION OF NEW OIL RESERVES

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

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to prepare any scheme or conducting any survey for the exploration of petroleum and natural gas in the country;
- (b) if so the details thereof;
- (c) Whether the survey work is being undertaken by the Government or by private companies;
- (d) the names of the places and States where survey work has been completed during the last three years and the current year and where survey has been going on, state-wise;
- (e) The total quantity of natural gas produced from different sources in the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Assam; and
- (f) The amount and rate of royalty paid to each State?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b):Yes Madam. In order to accelerate exploration of oil gas in the country, Government has formulated New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP). So far, 235 exploration blocks have been awarded through eight rounds of NELP and another 34 blocks are on offer under the recently launched NELP IX round. In addition to this survey is being conducted by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) in nomination blocks.

(c)In order to identify the prospective area for exploration, Directorate General of Hydrocarbon (DGH) has been conducting geo-scientific surveys in both onland and offshore area. In addition to the survey work carried out by DGH, the contractors of the exploration blocks (National Oil Companies, Private or Foreign), conduct various surveys in their blocks as per work programme laid down in PSCs.

(d) Survey work has been completed during last three years and current year in Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, East Coast and West Coast.

(e) & (f)There is no gas currently being produced in Maharashtra. The total quantity of natural gas produced , and the royalty paid to the States of Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Assam during the year 2009-10 is as under:

Gujarat	Andhra Pradesh	Assam			
Quantity of gas (mmscm)	Royalty (Crore Rs)	Quantity of gas (mmscm)	Royalty (Crore Rs)	Quantity of gas (mmscm)	Royalty (Crore Rs)

2444.00	72.65	1479	41.86	2703.96	37.45
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The rate of royalty is payable for natural gas is @ 10% of well-head price.