

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:479

ANSWERED ON:06.08.2009

RESERVES OF COAL BED METHANE AND GAS HYDRATES

Baalu Thiru Thalikkottai Rajuthevar

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

- (a) the estimated reserves of coal bed methane and gas hydrates found in the country;
- (b) the number of blocks awarded so far for exploration and exploitation of coal bed methane indicating the names of both national and international bidders;
- (c) the achievements made so far in this regard; and
- (d) the progress made in exploration and exploitation of gas hydrates found in Krishna- Godavari (KG) basin pursuant to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) by Directorate General of Hydrocarbons with some foreign countries?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 479 BY SHRI T.R.BAALU TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.08.2009 REGARDING RESERVES OF COAL BED METHANE AND GAS HYDRATES

- (a) The estimated resources in 26 Coal Bed Methane (CBM) blocks are 1480 billion cubic meters(BCM). Initial estimated resources of gas hydrates are about 1894000 BCM.
- (b) A total of 26 CBM blocks have been awarded so far, out of which 23 blocks were awarded in the three bid rounds under CBM policy. Of the balance three blocks, two blocks were awarded on nomination basis and one block was awarded through the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) route. Details of blocks awarded to national & international companies are given in Annex-I.
- (c) The achievements made so far in CBM blocks are as under:
  - (i) 250 exploratory/pilot wells have been drilled so far.
  - (ii) 176 BCM reserves of CBM gas have been established in four CBM Blocks.
  - (iii) Commercial Production of CBM commenced from July, 2007 in Raniganj CBM block, which is currently at 100000 cubic meters per day.
- (d) Drilling of gas hydrates at 21 sites, Gas hydrate characterization study, Micro Biological study, Biochemical study and study of Physical properties of gas hydrates have been completed in Gas Hydrate Expedition-1 under the National Gas Hydrate Programme(NGHP).