

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4662
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2009
AUCTION OF OIL AND GAS BLOCKS
Maharaj Shri Satpal

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to relaunch the country's largest ever auction of oil and gas blocks for exploration;
- (b) if so, the total number of blocks identified for auction , oil and gas block-wise and area- wise;
- (c) whether the auction is opened both for public and private companies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the total number of oil blocks awarded so far in New Exploration Licensing Policy-I, II, III & IV under production share contract, list-wise;
- (f) the total investment made by the contractors in each block, list-wise;
- (g) the approximate quantity of geological reserves of oil and gas in these blocks, block-wise;

Answer

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

- (a) & (b) The eighth bid round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-VIII) was launched on 09th April, 2009. 70 Exploration blocks have been offered under NELP-VIII. The details are at Annex-I.
- (c) & (d) National Oil Companies (NOCs) and Private, both Indian and Foreign companies, are required to compete with each other on an equal footing to secure Petroleum Exploration Licenses (PELs).
- (e) to (g) A Total of 90 of blocks were awarded under NELP-I, II, III & IV. The details of blocks, investment made and reserve established are at Annex-II.