

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1231

ANSWERED ON:03.03.2011

SAFETY AND SECURITY OF OFFSHORE PETROLEUM ACTIVITIES

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

- (a) whether any appropriate legal framework exists for the safety and security of the offshore petroleum activities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether monitoring system for safety regarding exploration, exploitation production, drilling and other related activities is working satisfactorily;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the proposal for extension of the protected zone upto 500 meters around the petroleum establishments has been finalized?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. `Petroleum and Natural Gas (Safety in Offshore Operations) Rules, 2008` are in force since June, 2008. These rules have been notified by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India and primarily pertain to safety aspects in offshore petroleum operations.

For security of offshore oil installations, the Indian Coast Guard undertakes surveillance. Besides, in the West Coast, `Vessel and Air traffic management System (VATMS) is in operation.

(c) & (d) Yes, Madam. Safety measures regarding exploration, production, drilling and other related activities are being monitored by Oil Industry Safety Directorate to enforce the above mentioned rules. This is being done through such measures as grant of consent to operate, conducting safety audits and verifying compliance with the requirements of `Petroleum and Natural Gas (Safety in Offshore Operations) Rules, 2008`.

(e) As per rules, safety zone extends up to 500 meters around offshore installations.