

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:602
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012
REVIEW OF OIL EXPLORATION WORK
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has reviewed the oil exploration work in the entire KG-WN 98/3 blocks;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has prepared the outline regarding 25 per cent acreage relinquishment as per the contract for the first and second exploration stages; and
- (d) the action plan prepared by the Government to come out with accurate outline of exploration area based on production sharing contract linked to the wells drilled alongwith details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) and (b): Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) under this Ministry has intimated that oil exploration work in the block KG-DWN-98/3 operated by Consortium of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) and NIKO Resources Limited (NIKO), was reviewed by the Management Committee (MC) in various meetings held during the years 2000-01 to 2010-11. The detail of Management Committee Meeting (MCM) is annexed. The Contractor(s) has carried out following exploration works:

- # Seismic Acquisition, Processing & Interpretation.
- # Drilling of 26 exploratory/appraisal wells.
- # Total 19 hydrocarbon discoveries made (18 gas and 1 oil).

Subsequently commercial oil production commenced from D-26 (MA) discovery on 17.09.2008 and gas production commenced from D1 & D3 discoveries on 01.04.2009 respectively.

(c) and (d): The contractor of the block KG-DWN-98/3, through number of letters, intimated Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) that petroleum Reserves exist and is likely to be produced in commercial quantities after an exhaustive exploratory and appraisal programme from the contract area. DGH, while taking note of the technicality of basin geological set up and the Contractor's proposal that geological plays extended to the entire Contract Area, advised the Operator to acquire additional 3D seismic data covering the entire Contract Area for additional evidence and assurance. After technical review of the additional 3D data acquired, the Management Committee (MC) agreed with the opinion of the Contractor that the prospective geological plays had continuity in the entire block and hence no block area need to be relinquished. Accordingly, the contractor's proposal of retaining the entire contract area as "Discovered Area" was accepted by the Government.