

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5599

ANSWERED ON:10.05.2012

REGULATING CBM

Pal Shri Jagdambika;Singh Shri Sushil Kumar;Tanwar Shri Ashok

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

- (a) the steps being taken by the Government to resolve the issue of regulating Coal Bed Methane (CBM) alongwith the initiatives being taken up to tap this new energy source;
- (b) details of the CBM blocks awarded to various companies in the fourth round of bidding, location-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to review its CBM policy; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) Coal Bed Methane (CBM) is regulated as per CBM Policy formulated by Government of India in 1997 and provisions of CBM contract signed with the awarded company/companies.

In order to harness potential of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) in the country, a total of 33 CBM blocks have been awarded so far. In-Place CBM reserve of 8.92 Trillion Cubic Feet (TCF) has so far been established in 5 blocks. The commercial production of CBM commenced in 2007 from Raniganj (South) block in West Bengal operated by Great Eastern Energy Corporatioa Limited(GEECL) In addition, small quantities of incidentally produced CBM is also being sold from Jharia block of ONGC and Raniganj (East)- CBM-2001/1 block of Essar Oil Limited. The CBM production in the country is estimated to be about 4 Million Standard Cubic Meter Per Day (MMSCMD) by the year 2016-17 as compared to the current level of production of 0.26 MMSCMD.

- (b) Details of the CBM blocks awarded to various companies in the fourth round of bidding, location-wise are Annexed.
- (c) No, Madam.
- (d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.