

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:303
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2012
COAL BED METHANE
Pal Shri Jagdambika

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

- (a) the estimates of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) reserves in the country alongwith the location-wise details thereof;
- (b) the status of production of CBM in the country during each of the last three years ;
- (c) the targets envisaged in the Eleventh Five Year Plan vis-À-vis the level of achievement in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government has framed the policy for efficient CBM exploration; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) So far, Coal Bed Methane (CBM) reserves have been established in 6 CBM blocks. The details of CBM reserves as on 01.04.2012 in these blocks is as under:

Block and location CBM Reserves (in BCM#)

Bokaro, Jharkhand	23.785
Sohagpur (East) , Madhya Pradesh	16.700
Sohagpur (West) , Madhya Pradesh	15.439
Raniganj (South) , West Bengal	10.604
Raniganj (East), West Bengal	27.346
Jharia (Parbatpur Sector), Jharkhand	3.670

Total 97.544

BCM-billion cubic meter

(b) The production of CBM in the country during the last three years is as under:

Year Actual CBM Production (MMSCM)

2009-10	38.402
2010-11	41.362
2011-12	84.191

Total 163.955

MMSCM-million standard cubic meter

(c) During the formulation of XI Plan (2007-08 to 2011-12), development plan was not yet approved for any CBM block as most of the awarded blocks were under initial stages of exploration. Hence, no realistic projection for CBM production was furnished during XI Plan period. However, commercial / incidental production of CBM commenced during XI Plan period and the actual CBM production during the XI Plan Period was about 197.99 MMSCM.

(d) & (e) Yes Madam. In order to harness the Coal Bed Methane (CBM) potential in the country, Government of India formulated a CBM Policy in the year 1997. The award of CBM exploration blocks under CBM Policy is totally transparent and through the international competitive bidding process which provides a level playing field to private, foreign and national oil companies. 30 CBM blocks have been awarded under four rounds of CBM bidding held so far.