

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:373
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2012
ACQUISITION OF OIL FIELDS ABROAD
Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a) the efforts being made by the Government to increase the energy security of the country through acquisition of Oil and gas assets abroad and exploration of new oil and gas reserves in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the percentage increase in indigenous production of oil and gas in the country during the current year as compared to the last three years; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to increase indigenous production of oil and natural gas?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Oil Public Sector Undertaking (PSUs) are constantly making efforts for acquisition oil and gas assets abroad. At present ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) has 10 oil and gas production Assets in 8 countries. Other than OVL, Oil India Limited (OIL), GAIL (India Limited), Bharat PetroResource Limited (BPRL), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) are having Participating Interest in exploration blocks in various countries like Iran, Libya, Gabon, Nigeria, Yemen, Venezuela, Egypt, Timore Leste etc.

(c): The crude oil production in 2011-12 has increased about 1.1.% compared to previous year production while Natural Gas production has decreased by 9% in 2011-12 if compared to previous year owing to lower production from K.G. Deepwater block. The details of Crude Oil & Natural Gas production in last three years are as under:

Year Crude oil Production in Million Natural Gas Production in
Metric Tonne (MMT) Billion Cubic Meter (BCM)

2009-10	33.505	47.509
2010-11	37.685	52.221
2011-12	38.086	47.558

d) Following steps have been taken by Gol to accelerate the pace of oil and gas exploration and production in the country:

(i) Offering more and more unexplored areas for exploration through NELP bidding rounds. Total 249 blocks have been awarded under nine rounds of NELP bidding held so far. Till date, 109 oil/gas discoveries have been made in 36 NELP blocks, including the major gas discoveries in East Coast. The current oil and gas production from 6 NELP discoveries in three blocks are about 11,300 bbl/day and 29 MMSCMD respectively. Oil/gas production is likely to increase with the development of the other NELP discoveries in future. Further, Government has plan to offer more areas for exploration in future through NELP/OALP routes.

(ii) Exploring various alternate energy sources such as Coal Bed Methane (CBM), Gas Hydrate, Shale Gas and Oil Shale. Total 33 CBM blocks have been awarded so far under four rounds of CBM bidding, in addition to 3 blocks awarded earlier on Nomination basis. Current CBM production in the country is about 0.26 MMSCMD and is expected to reach to about 4 MMSCMD by 2016-17. It is planned to offer more areas for CBM exploration and exploitation through future CBM rounds as well as launch the first round of Shale oil and gas bidding, subjected to final approval of Shale oil and gas policy and availability of necessary clearances from all concerned agencies.