

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4187
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2012
OIL EXPLORATION IN COCHIN COAST
Dhanaplan Shri K. P.

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

- (a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) intends to resume oil exploration in the Cochin Coast after stopping it in January 2010;
- (b) if so, the reasons for stopping the exploration work earlier along with the time frame by which the exploration work is likely to be resumed by ONGC;
- (c) whether the ONGC has necessary rigs and other equipments required for exploration at about five to six thousand meters deep into sea; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) The exploration work by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) in Cochin Coast is continuing as planned.
- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c) & (d) The rigs in ONGC are being deployed as per the approved work programme. Presently ONGC is having 38 (9 owned & 29 Charter Hired) offshore drilling rigs. All the rigs are capable of drilling wells up to six thousand meter in varying water depths maximum up to 3000 meters. The details of drilling rigs of ONGC as on 9.8.2012 is given below:-

Type ONGC Owned Charter-Hired Total

Jack-up 7 19 26

Floater 2 9 11

Platform rig 0 1 1

Total 9 29 38