

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4316
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2013
PROJECT SARASWATI BY ONGC
Choudhary Shri Harish

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

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) had launched Project-Saraswati to explore ground water in Rajasthan;and

(b) if so, the details and the present status thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SMT. PANABAACA LAKSHMI)

(a) and (b) Yes, Madam. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited(ONGC) had launched a project named "ONGC Project Saraswati" for exploration of deep ground water resources of the paleo river Saraswati which flowed through the States of Haryana, Western Rajasthan and North Gujarat regions of India.

One well namely 'Saraswati-I', located six Kilometers South East of Jaisalmer has already been drilled through M/s Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited (WAPCOS-A Government of India Undertaking) with whom ONGC signed a Memorandum of Undertaking(MoU) for carrying out Geophysical survey and drilling.

MoU with concerned State Government agencies of Rajasthan, Haryana and Gujarat has also been signed to carry out drilling of wells in these States under project Saraswati.