

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6143  
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2013  
OPEN ACREAGE LICENSING POLICY REGIME  
Siricilla Shri Rajaiah

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to move to an Open Acreage Licensing Policy regime; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Government has planned to formulate Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) in future for award of exploration blocks. Under OALP, the exploration acreages are likely to remain open for offer round the year and prospective bidders will be able to choose areas of their interest. However, details in this regard are yet to be worked out. Actions have been initiated to establish the National Data Repository (NDR), which is a pre-requisite for launching of OALP.