

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1645

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2013

OIL RESERVES

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

- (a) whether a number of oil reserves have recently been found in Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the estimated quantity of oil reserves discovered, location-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to allot the oil reserves to private companies in the State for exploration; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the rationale behind allocation of these reserves to private companies?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SMT. PANABAAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) Under the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) regime, so far oil reserves have been established in RJ-ON-90/1 block in Barmer and Jalor districts of Rajasthan. The block is operated by Cairn India Limited (CIL) with Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) as Licensee and Consortium Partner. The Field Development Plans (FDPs) of five oil discoveries in RJ-ON-90/1 block approved by the Management Committee (MC) envisage oil reserves to the tune of 457.92 Million Barrels to be recovered after commencement of production in 2009 till the end of the PSC period (i.e. May, 2020).

In addition, one oil discovery has been reported in the block RJ-ONN-2004/2 in Bikaner and Jaisalmer districts, operated by Oil India Limited (OIL) with Geoglobal Resources as Consortium Partner. The discovery is currently under evaluation and oil reserve is yet to be assessed.

Further ONGC has so far made 8 gas discoveries in Jaisalmer Basin in Rajasthan and out of a total of 5.38 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) (OEG) In-Place reserve, 2.61 MMT (OEG) reserves have been established.

(c) Under the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP), the exploration blocks are awarded through international competitive bidding process on equal terms and conditions to PSUs, Private and Foreign companies. So far, 15 exploration blocks have been awarded in Rajasthan under various rounds of NELP bidding of which 11 blocks were awarded to Central/State PSUs, 3 blocks to Private Companies and 1 block to a Foreign Company.

(d) NELP provides a level playing field to all exploration and production companies in hydrocarbon sector, without making any distinction between private or public sector companies.