

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1726

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2013

SHALE GAS

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

- (a) Whether the Government has worked out details on shale gas exploration policy in the country with wider consultations ;
- (b) If so, the details and the outcome thereof :
- (c) the details of study conducted to estimate shale gas potential in the country ;
- (d) Whether the proposed new shale gas exploration policy offers the first right of refusal to all currently operating blocks and if so, the details thereof ;
- (e) Whether there is any discrimination between NELP and pre-NELP blocks ; and
- (f) If so, the details thereof along with the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAANKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & b): The Shale Gas and Shale Oil Policy is being formulated and finalized after wide consultations with various stakeholders. The Draft Policy was put in public domain inviting suggestions and comments from the stakeholders. Further, a meeting with existing E & P operators/stakeholders was also held in this regard.

(c): Various agencies have estimated the shale gas resource potential in selected sedimentary basins/sub- basins in India. The details are as under:

- i. M/s Schlumberger : 300 to 2100 TCF (as available in public domain)
- ii. Energy Information Administration (EIA), USA : 290 TCF in 4 basins
- iii. ONGC : 114 TCF in 3 basins
- iv. Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI) : 45 TCF in 6 sub basins.

In addition, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) has also estimated technically recoverable shale gas resources of 6.1 TCF in 3 basins. Further, USGS has indicated that these basins have also potential for shale oil.

(d),(e)&(f): The Shale Gas/Shale Oil Policy is currently under finalization and the detailed status on the issues referred in the questions would be available once the Policy is approved by the Government.