

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2500
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2013
OIL EXPLORATION BY ONGC
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has been assigned the maximum responsibility of exploring crude oil from oil reserves available in the country;
- (b) if so, the percentage of crude oil exploration works assigned to the ONGC at present;
- (c) whether the oil explored by ONGC is below the average international standard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Out of total 282 exploration blocks awarded so far under Pre-NELP and New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) bidding rounds, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has been awarded 111 exploration blocks (39%) as operators, while in another 20 exploration blocks ONGC is a Consortium Partner. Subsequently, ONGC acquired operatorship in another 4 exploration blocks. Out of the blocks operated by ONGC, 38 blocks have been relinquished. A total of 37 hydrocarbon discoveries (27 gas and 10 oil) have been made by ONGC till date under the PSC regime.

In addition ONGC has been assigned acreages of 42929.42SK as nomination PEL.

(c) & (d) The Exploration processes in ONGC are at par with international standards. The success ratio of ONGC is 1:2.4 for 2012-13.