

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3355

ANSWERED ON:30.08.2013

SHALE GAS

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Ganeshamurthi Shri A.;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

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

- (a) whether the Government has decided to allow only the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and the Oil India Limited to explore Shale gas and has denied the same to private firms;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to have a separate Policy to deal with exploration of shale resources in blocks awarded to private firms;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has taken adequate safeguards about ecological impact and prospects of water scarcity in exploration of Shale gas; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): No, Madam.

(c) to (f): The Shale Gas and 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. The observations/ views obtained through Inter-ministerial consultations on various aspects including ecological impact and water resources in exploration of Shale gas and oil are under examination.

The Shale gas/ Oil Policy is currently under finalization.