

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:345

ANSWERED ON:06.12.2013

AWARD OF BLOCKS UNDER NELP

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

- (a) whether the Government has finalized the award of blocks under New Exploration Licensing Policy-IX in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the criteria fixed for finalization of award of each of such blocks;
- (d) the details of blocks for which Production Sharing Contracts have been signed so far; and
- (e) the Extent to which indigenous production is likely to be increased from each of such blocks?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Under the Ninth bidding round of New Exploration and Licensing Policy (NELP –IX), a total of 34 exploration blocks were offered. Bids were received for 33 blocks. So far, Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) have been signed for 19 blocks.

(c): The NELP-IX blocks were offered through International Competitive Bidding Process with equal terms and conditions for NOCs, Private and Foreign Companies. The Bid Evaluation Criteria (BEC) had been stipulated in the Notice Inviting Offers (NIO) of NELP-IX rounds. The salient bid evaluation parameters are as under:

Biddable Work Programme

Fiscal Package

Technical Capability

Each of the above parameters contains specified weightage for onland, shallow water and deepwater blocks. The bidder earning the highest weightage and satisfying other stipulated conditions in NIO is awarded the block.

(d): The company-wise and location-wise details of blocks for which PSCs have been signed during NELP –IX bidding round is at Annexure-I

(e): All the 19 exploration blocks for which PSCs have been signed during NELP –IX bidding round are presently either under exploration phase or exploration activities are yet to be initiated. The extent of increase in indigenous oil/gas production from these blocks depends on the exploration success leading to commercial oil/gas discoveries and subsequent approval and execution of Field Development Plans (FDPs).