

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1595

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2013

EXPLORATION OF OIL AND GAS

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

- (a) the details of surveys conducted to discover/explore the oil and natural gas deposits/blocks in the country during each of the last three years and the current year along with the oil and deposits/blocks discovered and explored so far, block and State- wise;
- (b) whether the work of geological and oceanic surveys for discovering oil and gas deposits in the country including Bay of Bengal are being carried out at the desired pace;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether the Government is dependent on certain private and foreign companies/entities or carrying out exploration of oil and natural gas in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the details of oil and gas blocks being explored by these companies in the country during each of the last three years and the current year and allotted to the Public and Private sectors companies, block-wise and sector-wise?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Under the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) regime, during the last three years and the current year (2010-11 to 2012-13 & 2013-14, till date ), following geo-scientific surveys have been carried out to assess the hydrocarbon prospectively :

A total of 87,819 Line Kilometer (LKM) of 2D & 93,975 Sq. Km (SKM) of 3D seismic survey was carried out by the Contractors in the blocks awarded under the PSC regime. The block-wise and State/Area-wise details of the surveys carried given in Annexure-I. In addition, a total of 690.6 LKM of 2D seismic survey was carried out by the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) during 2010-12 in Kutch onland area.

- (b) & (c) The geo-scientific surveys in the blocks awarded under the PSC regime

(both in onland and offshore areas including Bay of Bengal) are carried out by the Contractors in line with the Committed Exploration Work Programme in the blocks. During the last three years and the current year, a total of 75,508 LKM of 2D seismic and 80,411 SKM of 3D seismic data were acquired in offshore blocks of which 38,959 LKM of 2D and 54,734 SKM of 3D data was acquired in the Eastern Offshore area (Bay of Bengal).

Further, in order to expedite acquisition of seismic surveys through speculative mode, the Government is formulating a new contract model for speculative survey.

- (d) & (e) Under the PSC regime, out of a total of 282 exploration blocks awarded under Pre-NELP and various bidding rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP), a total of 149 blocks have been awarded to Public Sector Companies (PSUs) as Operators, while 133 blocks have been awarded to Private/Foreign Companies as Operators. The details of the exploratory activities carried out under the PSC regime by PSUs and Private/Foreign Companies during the last three years and the current year, till date, is given in Annexure-I