

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:405  
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2013  
EXPLORATION OF OIL AND GAS RESERVES  
Sardinha Shri Francisco

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

- (a) the name of Public Sector Companies which have been assigned the task for exploration of oil and gas reserves in foreign countries during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the name of countries where these companies have been awarded contracts for exploration of oil and reserves; and
- (c) the success achieved by these companies in exploration and production of oil and gas during the said period in foreign countries?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SMT. PANABAACA LAKSHMI)

(a) ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) has been allowed to pursue overseas opportunities either on a standalone basis or through joint ventures or through wholly owned subsidiaries.

Similarly, Oil India Ltd. (OIL) may form project specific Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) with Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and in the event IOC is not interested, with any other Navratna downstream oil PSU, to undertake overseas projects for the acquisition of E&P projects overseas.

No new Public Sector Companies have been assigned the task for exploration of oil and gas reserves in foreign countries during the last three years and the current year.

(b) to (c) India's oil companies are present in 25 countries viz. Australia, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, East Timor, Egypt, Gabon, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Libya, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, Russia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Timor-Leste, UK, USA, Venezuela, Vietnam, Yemen.

Only OVL is producing oil and gas from 10 projects in 7 countries viz., Russia, Sudan, Vietnam, Syria, Colombia, Venezuela and Brazil.

OVL's share in production of oil and oiS-equivalent gas was 7.26 MMTOE in 2012-13, 8.75 MMTOE in 2011-12 and 9.45MMTOE in 2010-11.