

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2819
ANSWERED ON:07.02.2014
NEW EXPLORATION LICENSING POLICY
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to put several hydrocarbon blocks under the Tenth bidding round of the New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-X);
- (b) if so, the details thereof, block-wise;
- (c) whether clearance for these blocks has been received from all agencies and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has prohibited exploration in certain oil and gas blocks in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, block-wise ?

Answer

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

a) to (c): The activities related to the offering of exploration blocks under tenth bidding round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-X) have been initiated. A total of 46 blocks (17 Onland, 15 Shallow water and 14 deep water blocks) have been identified and to be offered under NELP-X in 13 prospective sedimentary basins of India, for exploration of oil and natural gas, covering an area of 1,66,053 sq.km.

Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has secured inter-ministerial clearances for 46 blocks to be offered under NELP-X. The numbers of blocks to be offered under NELP-X may go up further, after inter-ministerial clearances are received for other blocks. Block-wise details of 46 exploration blocks offered till date under tenth round of NELP bidding (NELP-X) are placed at Annexure-1.

d) & e): In 9 exploration blocks awarded under the different NELP bidding rounds, exploration activities have been completely prohibited ("No Go") by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) due to overlapping of awarded block areas with defense activities. The details are as under:

List of blocks where Exploration activities have been completely prohibited

Sl. No	Block Name
1	KG-DWN-2004/7 Overlapping
2	NEC-DWN-2004/1 with areas
3	KG-DWN-98/1 of Defence
4	CY-PR-DWN-2001/ activities
5	PR-DWN-2001/1
6	KG-DWN-2001/1
7	KG-OSN-2005/1
8	KG-OSN-2005/2
9	KG-DWN-2009/1 (Part-A)