

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1227
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2009
BIDS FOR GAS AND OIL BLOCKS IN IRAQ
Mutterwar Shri Vilas Baburao

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to explore the possibility of bidding for gas and oil blocks in Iraq;
- (b) if so, whether any talks have been held with the oil companies in Iraq to bid jointly for the blocks in Iraq;
- (c) if so, the result of the talks held and the names and numbers of blocks agree upon to be explored and the quantity of oil and gas expected to be achieved as a result thereof; and
- (d) the terms of the agreement entered into with the oil companies in Iraq, if any?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) & (b): ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL), a subsidiary of Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) is looking into the possibility of bidding for oil and gas fields in Iraq. Preliminary discussions are being held with qualified oil companies for joint bidding in Iraq. Oil India Limited (OIL) is also exploring the possibility of participation in exploration and production in Iraq.

(c) & (d): Not applicable in view of (a) and (b) above.