

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:136  
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2009  
OIL EXPLORATION BY ONGC AT COCHIN HIGH  
Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) whether any drilling / exploration operations are taking place in Cochin High;
- (b) if so, the status of such drilling / exploration projects;
- (c) the number of oil wells which have been dug in Cochin High by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) for exploring oil and natural gas;
- (d) whether ONGC has decided to extend the period of oil exploration work in Cochin High;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) the details of amount being spent for digging wells in Cochin High;
- (g) whether ONGC has submitted any report to the Government in this regard; and (h) if so, the details thereof ?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Yes, madam.
- (b) Government of India has awarded 19 exploration blocks in Kerala- Konkan basin including Cochin High. Out of these, seven blocks have been relinquished. The Operators have acquired 41,282 Line Kilometer (LKM) of 2D seismic and 9920 square kilometer of 3D seismic data.
- (c) So far, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has drilled three wells in Cochin High and presently one well is under drilling.
- (d) and (e) ONGC has not decided to extend the period of oil exploration work in Cochin High.
- (f) The total expenditure upto 30.9.2009 for three wells drilled by ONGC is Rs 578.98 crore.
- (g) and (h) As per the Production Sharing Contract (PSC), the operator submits Daily Progress Report (DPR) on drilling activities to Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH). ONGC has also submitted DPR to DGH for the blocks being operated by them in Kerala Konkan Basin.