

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1923  
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2015  
DISCOVERY OF OIL  
Wanaga Shri Chintaman Navsha

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

(a) whether a delegation of fishing communities has demanded compensation for stopping fishing in Mumbai because of survey underway to discover oil: and

(b) if so . the details thereof along with steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SHR1 DHARMENDUA PRADHAN)

(a) and (b): Yes Madam. The delegations from fishing communities/ societies have demanded compensation for stopping fishing activities in Mumbai Offshore areas because of undergoing survey by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited(ONGC) to discover oil. The fishermen`s communities/societies have represented to ONGC, Commissioner of Fisheries, Maharashtra and Police Departments to stop/postpone the ongoing survey work-in this regard, four separate meetings were held between ONGC. seismic service providers. Department of Fisheries and the fishing communities/societies.

ONGC has taken the following steps to mitigate the hardships of the fishing communities on the above count:

(i) to minimize the impact of seismic surveys the survey block is divided into small sub-sectors of 15-21 days of survey work and advance intimation of schedule of survey work in each sub-sector is given to fishermen 15 days in advance through distribution of leaflets and letters.

(ii) Fishermen are also advised to fish in the adjoining areas for such short time and then come back to the original area once the survey job is completed in that small portion.

(iii) ONGC through its contractor has been compensating fisherman for their loss of fishing equipment, nets and other tools, if any, which are either lost or damaged during survey work.