

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2879
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2017
Hydrocarbons in Tamil Nadu
Ramadoss Dr. Anbumani;Senthilnathan Shri PR.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to excavate Hydrocarbons from Neduvasal in Pudukottai district of Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has given environmental clearance to the said project and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether public hearing meetings has been conducted with the land owners and residents of the land marked for the project and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has received any objections/protests against the implementation of the said project and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/stand of the Government in this regard;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to cancel the project and withdraw all such Hydrocarbon exploration projects carried out in Tamil Nadu; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the stand taken by the Government on the said issue?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

- (a): The Government has approved Discovered Small Field (DSF) Policy for monetization of 69 discovered small fields of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL), which had not been put into production by these companies. Government has recently approved award of 31 contract areas including Neduvasal contract area to the successful bidders under DSF bid round 2016 for development of the field.
- (b) & (c): For starting any petroleum activity, operator has to obtain or get the requisite Mining Lease transferred from ONGC through the State Government. After the grant/transfer of lease, to start any actual operations the operators will have to get requisite environmental clearances from State Government / Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change by following the prescribed process, which may involve public hearing also.
- (d): Some local people/organizations, have submitted representations, and also filed two petitions in National Green Tribunal (NGT), Southern Zone, Chennai objecting award of some discovered small fields expressing apprehension regarding possible environmental impact. The awarded projects will be taken up after following the requisite process including obtaining environmental clearances.
- (e) & (f): No Madam.
