

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2456

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2014

SHALE OIL AND GAS RESERVES

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

- (a) whether the Government has identified shale oil and gas reserves in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the name of companies which have discovered the said shale blocks, oil blocks/fields/ company-wise;
- (c) the quantum of oil and gas estimated to be available in the said reserves along with the estimated annual production thereof and the time by which the commercial production in said blocks is likely to be started, oil blocks/fields-wise;
- (d) whether the Indian Oil Corporation Limited proposes to make an investment in shale oil and gas projects in Canada; and
- (e) if so, the present status of shale gas exploration of the said projects along with the investment made in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SH. DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a)to (c). So far there has been no significant exploration in our country for locating the resources of shale gas. However based on the geo-scientific data collected during exploration of conventional oil and gas assessments have been made by various agencies regarding the likely potential of shale gas and oil resource in the Indian sedimentary basins.

The Government has, on 14.10.2013, notified the policy guidelines for exploration and exploitation of shale gas and oil by National Oil Companies (NOCs) in their onland PEL (Petroleum Exploration Lease) /PML (Petroleum Mining Lease) blocks awarded under the nomination regimes. Under the first phase of assessment (3 years) 55 PEL/PML blocks (ONGC 50, and OIL 5) have been awarded to NOCs. These blocks are located in the states of Assam (6 blocks), Arunachal Pradesh (1 block), Gujarat (28 blocks), Rajasthan (1 block), Andhra Pradesh (10 blocks) and Tamil Nadu (9 blocks).

ONGC has drilled one well and spudded another well in Cambay Basin, Gujarat for assessment of shale gas/shale oil potential where coring has been completed. In addition, ONGC has collected cores from another 8 wells.

(d). IOC has acquired 10% Participating Interest in shale gas in the Pacific North West integrated LNG project, located in British Columbia, Canada with effect from 1.1.2013. The other partners in the project are progress Energy Canada Ltd. (62% & operator), Sinopec (15%), Japex (10%), Petroleum Brunei (3%). The approved investment commitment for the project is of CAD 3.907 billion.

(e). A total of 383 wells have been drilled out of which 313 are shale gas/oil producers. The present gross oil and gas production from the project is 85,700 boe/d(IOC's share 10%). Total reserves of 16.88 TCF equivalents have been established. The cumulative investment made in the project as on 31.10.2014 is CAD 1244.24 million.