

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.152
ANSWERED ON 18.12.2023

Exploration of oil and natural gas in Assam

***152.Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:**

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas be pleased to state:

- (a) the outcome of the recent oil and natural gas exploration work conducted by Oil India Ltd. in the country, especially in the State of Assam;
- (b) the details of the number of drilling and the places drilled by Oil India Ltd. during the last three years in the State of Assam; and
- (c) the outcome of the efforts made so far along with the indications received for the future and details of profit and loss of the activities made by Oil India Ltd. in the State of Assam?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI HARDEEP SINGH PURI)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) in respect of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 152 for reply on 18.12.2023 regarding Exploration of oil and natural gas in Assam asked by Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa.

(a) Oil India Limited (OIL) has been carrying out extensive hydrocarbon exploration & production activities in different states of India in the fields/ blocks allocated to OIL through Nomination Fields, New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP), Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) and Discovered Small Field (DSF) Policy.

OIL's domestic acreage under nomination regime is spread over about 4,844 sq.km in 16 oil and gas fields in the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Rajasthan wherein exploration and field development activities are being carried out.

OIL is carrying out exploration activities in its operated New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) Block in Karbi Anglong, Assam and one block in Mizoram covering an area of 3609 sq.km.

Besides, OIL has been awarded a total of 29 exploration blocks covering 53,859 sq. Km. of areas under Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) bidding Rounds I to VII under Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP), out of which 16 blocks are in North-east India (4 in Assam, 3 in Tripura, 1 in Nagaland & 8 blocks are spread across both Assam & Arunachal Pradesh), 5 in Rajasthan, 5 in Odisha, 2 in Andaman shallow offshore, and 1 in Kerala Konkan shallow offshore. The blocks are in initial stages of exploration activities wherein seismic & drilling campaigns are currently under progress. So far, OIL has drilled 7 wells in 6 OALP blocks (4 in Rajasthan, 2 in Mahanadi and 1 in Assam).

Further, OIL has 3 DSF blocks, 1 each in Tripura, Rajasthan and KG Shallow Offshore, spread over an area of 207.80 sq.km.

The year-wise new discovery from the State of Assam during the last three financial years is as follows:

Financial Year	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Number of discoveries made in Assam	1	2	1
Name of Discovery	Dinjan-1	Samdang-5 & Borhapjan-8	Sesabil-1

Source: OIL India Ltd

The production of oil and gas in Assam during last 3 years is as under:

Financial Year	Crude oil (in MMT)	Natural Gas (in MMSCM)
2020-21	2.905	2241.29
2021-22	2.957	2620.28
2022-23	3.114	2812.09

Source: OIL India Ltd, MMT: Million Metric Tonne, MMSCM: Million Metric Standard Cubic Metre

(b) The number of drillings and the places drilled by Oil India Limited during the last three (3) years in Assam are given in Table below:

Financial Year	Number of wells drilled	Places drilled in Assam
2020-21	21	Borbhuibil, Balimara, Dhakuwal, Lakwagaon, Batuya, Mahakali, Samdang, Moran, Hapjan, Jorajan, Naharkatiya, Barekuri, Kusijan & South Tinali
2021-22	23	Captain Chuk, Makum, Borhapjan, Khagorijan, South Baghjan, Matimekhena, Naharkatiya, Balimara, Hapjan, Baghjan, Kusijan & Lakwagaon
2022-23	28	South Baghjan, Dholiya, North Balijan, Balimara, Dinjan, Sesabil, Khagorijan, Sadiya, South Tinali, Baghjan, Naharkatiya, Lakwagaon, Makum & Hapjan

Source: OIL India Ltd

(c) As a result of concerted domestic exploration and development activities, OIL has been able to consistently maintain a Reserve Replacement Ratio of over 1. Further, as on 31.03.2023, OIL has accreted 69.2 Million Metric Tonne of Oil Equivalent (MMTOE) reserves during last 10 years. In order to establish more resources, OIL has extended its exploration activities to frontier areas with the objective of opening of new plays in its operating acreages spread across the different sedimentary basins of the country in which the exploration & drilling campaign is currently under progress.

The company has Oil and Gas production and sales in the states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Rajasthan and has investments in Joint Ventures (JVs) and subsidiaries located in other geographies in India and Overseas and in other business activities.

The net profit after tax of the company for the year 2022-23 was Rs.6810.40 Cr.
