

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.151**  
ANSWERED ON 21/07/2025

**STATUS AND APPRAISAL TIMELINE OF OIL BLOCKS IN WEST BENGAL**

151. SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA:

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

- (a) the current status of oil exploration and development at the Asokenagar-2, Kankpul-1, Bhurkunda-1, and Ranaghat-2 oil blocks in the State of West Bengal;
- (b) the expected timeline for the completion of the appraisal phase for each of these blocks;
- (c) the hydrocarbon volume estimates for these blocks and whether any preliminary assessments have been made;
- (d) the details of ONGC's acreage holding in the State of West Bengal under OALP Blocks BP-ONHP-2018/1, BP-ONHP-2019/1, BP-ONHP-2019/2, and BP-ONHP-2021/1, covering North & South 24 Parganas, East & West Midnapore, Nadia, Murshidabad, and Burdwan districts; and
- (e) the specific exploration activities planned for these blocks?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS  
(SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a) to (c): The current status and Appraisal timeline of oil exploration and development of Asokenagar-2, Kankpul-1, Bhurkunda-1, and Ranaghat-2 of oil and gas blocks falling in NELP-VII Block WB-ONN-2005/4, operated by ONGC in West Bengal is as follows:

<b>Oil/Gas Exploratory/Discovery Well</b>	<b>Current Status</b>
Asokenagar-2	After drilling upto 3805 meters, the Exploratory Well was abandoned due to technical complications. No discovery made.
Kankpul-1	The Exploratory Well was drilled upto 2730 meters. Gas discovery notified on 25-08-2022. Appraisal phase is valid upto 19-10-2025.
Bhurkunda-1	The Appraisal Well was drilled upto 2645 meters. No discovery made.
Ranaghat-2 (gas well)	The Exploratory Well was drilled upto 2719 meters. Gas discovery notified on 10-05-2024. Appraisal Phase is valid upto 09-05-2027.

The recoverable hydrocarbon reserves based on preliminary assessment (2P, EUR) for the Block WB-ONN-2005/4 are estimated to be 0.98 million metric tonne of oil equivalent (MMTOE).

(d) & (e): The details of ONGC's acreages holding in West Bengal under OALP Blocks BP-ONHP-2018/1, BP-ONHP-2019/1, BP-ONHP-2019/2, and BP-ONHP-2021/1, covering North & South 24 Parganas, East & West Midnapore, Nadia, Murshidabad, and Burdwan districts and Exploration activities in these blocks are as under:

Sl. No	OALP Round	Block Name	Awarded Area Sq km	Year of Award	Details of Exploration Activities
1	OALP-III	BP-ONHP-2018/1	2468	2019	2D seismic survey of 1200 LKM, 3-D seismic of 2460 SKM and 7 wells.
2	OALP-IV	BP-ONHP-2019/1	3131	2020	Operator has surrendered the block.
3	OALP-V	BP-ONHP-2019/2	3170	2020	Operator has surrendered the block.
4	OALP-VI	BP-ONHP-2021/1	2873	2022	3-D seismic of 300 SKM and 2 wells.

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