

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1718
ANSWERED ON- 04/08/2025

OALP-IX BIDDING PROCESS AND ITS ROLE IN ENERGY SELF-SUFFICIENCY

1718# SMT. DARSHANA SINGH:

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted the OALP-IX bidding process under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) to promote exploration of oil and natural gas in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of exploration blocks for which bidding has been invited and number of blocks allocated so far under OALP-IX; and
- (c) the potential increase in energy self-sufficiency of the country through this process, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) Bid Round IX was launched on 03.01.2024 and offered 28 Blocks with a total acreage of 1,36,596 Sq. KM through International Competitive Bidding. The Bid Round was concluded on 03.04.2025 and Revenue Sharing Contracts for the 28 blocks have been signed with the successful bidders on 15.04.2025.

(c): Exploration and Production (E&P) activities contribute to reducing the country's dependence on imported oil and gas through various mechanisms. Geoscientific survey of the blocks awarded under OALP Bid Round-IX indicate potential to add 31.2 Billion Tonnes of Oil Equivalent resource potential to the country's existing resource potential.
