

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2531**  
ANSWERED ON 11/08/2025

**NEW OIL AND GAS FIELDS**

2531. DR. AJEET MADHAVRAO GOPCHADE:

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

- (a) number and expected new oil and gas fields identified by Government during the last three years; field-wise;
- (b) efforts made by Government to explore new fields in the country, including in the State of Maharashtra;
- (c) efforts made by Government to have new research and technology in the area of oil and natural gas exploration;
- (d) new places in the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat & Uttar Pradesh identified as potential sites for oil and gas fields along with the Status of work progress, site-wise; and,
- (e) whether Government would consider possibility to find such resources in Arabian sea-basin area?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (e): Government have launched Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP) in 2016. Under this policy, Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) was started. During the last three years, total 38 exploration blocks under OALP bid Round VIII and IX covering 1,72,912.95 Square Kilometer in offshore areas and states of Gujarat, Assam and Meghalaya, have been awarded to successful bidders. Geoscientific survey of the blocks awarded under these OALP Bid Rounds indicate enhancement in country's existing resource potential. Further, OALP bid Round X offering 25 exploration blocks covering 1,91,986.21 sq. km in 6 states, including Maharashtra, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh, was launched on 15.04.2025. The State-wise list of blocks awarded during the last three years and identified for bidding in OALP Bid Round X is attached as **Annexure**.

Government have taken various reforms and policies to explore new fields, including in State of Maharashtra, and to bring new research and technology which are enumerated as below:

- i. Appraisal of Un-appraised areas in Sedimentary Basins under National Seismic Programme, 2017.
- ii. Policy Framework for exploration and exploitation of Unconventional Hydrocarbons under Existing Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs), Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Contracts and Nomination Fields, 2018.

iii. Release of about 1 Million Sq. Km. (SKM) 'No-Go' area in offshore which were blocked for exploration for decades in 2022.

iv. Government is also spending about Rs.7500 Cr. for acquisition of seismic data in onland and offshore areas and drilling of stratigraphic wells to make quality data of Indian Sedimentary Basins available to bidders. Government has approved acquisition of additional 2D Seismic data of 20,000 LKM in onland and 30,000 LKM in offshore beyond Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of India.

v. New technologies like Airborne Gravity Gradiometry and Gravity Magnetic Survey, Passive Seismic Tomography (PST), Low- Frequency Passive Seismic (LFPS) Surveys have been implemented to acquire high quality data for processing and interpretation.

vi. Government, through Directorate General of Hydrocarbons, have executed a total of 13 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with prominent institutes for research and development in the area of oil and natural gas exploration.

vii. Hydrocarbon Resource Assessment Study (HRAS 2025) has been launched on 17.07.2025 for both Conventional and Unconventional Category across all Indian sedimentary basins.

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**ANNEXURE****Details of blocks awarded under OALP Bid Round VIII and IX**

<b>Sr No</b>	<b>Block Name</b>	<b>OALP Bid Round</b>	<b>State</b>
1	AS-ONHP-2022/1	VIII	Assam
2	CB-ONHP-2022/1	VIII	Gujarat
3	KG-UDWHP-2022/1	VIII	OFFSHORE
4	MB-OSHP-2022/1	VIII	OFFSHORE
5	GK-OSHP-2022/1	VIII	OFFSHORE
6	GS-DWHP-2022/1	VIII	OFFSHORE
7	MN-UDWHP-2022/1	VIII	OFFSHORE
8	BP-OSHP-2022/1	VIII	OFFSHORE
9	KK-DWHP-2022/1	VIII	OFFSHORE
10	KK-OSHP-2022/1	VIII	OFFSHORE
11	CY-UDWHP-2022/1	IX	OFFSHORE
12	CY-UDWHP-2022/2	IX	OFFSHORE
13	CY-UDWHP-2022/3	IX	OFFSHORE
14	CB-ONHP-2022/2	IX	Gujarat
15	GS-OSHP-2022/1	IX	OFFSHORE
16	GS-OSHP-2022/2	IX	OFFSHORE
17	AS-ONHP-2022/2	IX	Meghalaya
18	AS-ONHP-2022/3	IX	Meghalaya
19	GK-OSHP-2023/1	IX	OFFSHORE
20	GS-ONHP-2023/1	IX	Gujarat
21	CY-UDWHP-2023/1	IX	OFFSHORE
22	GS-UDWHP-2023/1	IX	OFFSHORE
23	GS-UDWHP-2023/2	IX	OFFSHORE
24	GS-OSHP-2023/1	IX	OFFSHORE
25	MB-OSHP-2023/1	IX	OFFSHORE
26	CB-OSHP-2023/1	IX	OFFSHORE
27	MB-OSHP-2023/2	IX	OFFSHORE

28	GS-ONHP-2023/2	IX	Gujarat
29	GS-ONHP-2023/3	IX	Gujarat
30	CB-OSHP-2023/2	IX	Gujarat
31	CB-ONHP-2023/1	IX	Gujarat
32	CB-ONHP-2023/2	IX	Gujarat
33	CB-ONHP-2023/3	IX	Gujarat
34	MN-UDWHP-2023/1	IX	OFFSHORE
35	MN-UDWHP-2023/2	IX	OFFSHORE
36	KG-UDWHP-2023/1	IX	OFFSHORE
37	KG-UDWHP-2023/2	IX	OFFSHORE
38	MN-UDWHP-2023/3	IX	OFFSHORE

In addition to this, total 134 exploration blocks have also been awarded under OALP Bid Rounds I to VII to the successful bidders.

One block, NM-ONHP-2020/1 is partially located in onshore part of Maharashtra.

**Details of blocks offered under OALP Bid Round X**

<b>Sr No</b>	<b>Block Name</b>	<b>State</b>
1	AN-UDWHP-2024/1	OFFSHORE
2	AN-UDWHP-2024/2	OFFSHORE
3	AN-UDWHP-2024/3	OFFSHORE
4	AN-UDWHP-2024/4	OFFSHORE
5	BP-OSHP-2024/1	OFFSHORE
6	BP-UDWHP-2024/1	OFFSHORE
7	CB-ONHP-2024/1	Gujarat
8	CY-DWHP-2024/1	OFFSHORE
9	GP-ONHP-2024/1	Himachal Pradesh, Punjab
10	GS-OSHP-2024/1	OFFSHORE
11	GS-OSHP-2024/2	OFFSHORE
12	GS-UDWHP-2024/1	OFFSHORE
13	HF-ONHP-2024/1	Himachal Pradesh, Punjab & Jammu-Kashmir
14	KG-OSHP-2024/1	OFFSHORE
15	KG-UDWHP-2024/1	OFFSHORE
16	KG-UDWHP-2024/2	OFFSHORE
17	KG-UDWHP-2024/3	OFFSHORE
18	KR-ONHP-2024/1	Jammu-Kashmir
19	MB-OSHP-2024/1	OFFSHORE
20	MB-OSHP-2024/2	OFFSHORE
21	MN-UDWHP-2024/1	OFFSHORE
22	MN-UDWHP-2024/2	OFFSHORE
23	MN-UDWHP-2024/3	OFFSHORE
24	RJ-ONHP-2024/1	Rajasthan
25	VN-ONHP-2024/1	Uttar Pradesh