

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.805
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23rd JULY, 2018

Coal Bed Methane

805. SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI:

पेट्रो लयम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government for the solution of issue of regulation of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) and for exploitation of this new source of energy;
- (b) the details of CBM blocks allocated to various companies in the fourth round of bidding, location-wise; and
- (c) whether the Government proposes to review its CBM policy and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

पेट्रो लयम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में मंत्री (श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान)

MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) In order to harness CBM potential in the country, the Government of India formulated CBM Policy in 1997. Till date 33 CBM Blocks have been awarded after four rounds of CBM bidding under the CBM Policy. Following steps have also been taken to expedite development of CBM blocks:-

- (i) To increase the area under CBM exploration, Government has issued a notification in November, 2015 and re-notified the same on 08.05.2018, allowing Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries to exploit CBM from the coal mining lease areas held by them.
- (ii) On 08.02.2017, Government has formulated a Model Co-development Agreement for simultaneous coal mining and CBM operations in overlapping areas.
- (iii) On 11.04.2017, Government has issued Policy Framework for Early Monetization of CBM providing marketing and pricing freedom to the contractors of CBM blocks to sell the CBM at Arm's Length Price in the domestic market.

(b) The details of CBM blocks allocated to various companies in the fourth round of bidding location-wise are as under:-

S. No.	Block Name	State	Operator
1	AS-CBM-2008/IV	Assam	Dart Energy
2	MG-CBM-2008/IV	Tamil Nadu	Great Eastern Energy Company Limited
3	RM(E)-CBM-2008/IV	Jharkhand	Essar Oil and Gas Limited

4	TL-CBM-2008/IV	Odisha	Essar Oil and Gas Limited
5	IB-CBM-2008/IV	Odisha	Essar Oil and Gas Limited
6	SP(NE)-CBM-2008/IV	Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh	Essar Oil and Gas Limited
7	ST-CBM-2008/IV	Madhya Pradesh	Dart Energy

(c) Government of India reviews its policies pertaining to oil and gas exploration from time to time for intensifying exploration activity and investment therein. In the year 2016, Government has approved a new policy called Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP). Under HELP unified license is given for exploration of both conventional and unconventional oil and gas resources including CBM.