

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 382
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24th June, 2019
Hydrocarbon Wells

382. SHRI A. RAJA:

पैट्रोलियम व प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

(a) the details of the hydrocarbon wells to be drilled across the country, State/ UT-wise including Tamil Nadu;

(b) the details of the funds likely to be invested for these drills across the country including Tamil Nadu;

(c) whether this drilling activity is likely to affect the soil substrata and change the characteristics of the coastline especially in Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether some of the States including Tamil Nadu have objected to these drillings in their areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान)

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) & (b) The details of the hydrocarbon wells to be drilled across the country in year 2019-20, State/ UT-wise including Tamil Nadu and funds likely to be invested for these drills is as under:

State	Wells to be drilled (no.)
Andhra Pradesh	28
Assam	83
Arunachal Pradesh	2
Rajasthan	107
Madhya Pradesh	2
Gujarat	232
Tripura	21
Jharkhand	24
West Bengal	2
Tamil Nadu	23
Offshore	181
Total	705

An approximate amount of ₹31,996 crores is likely to be invested for drilling of these wells.

(c) Before carrying out any drilling activity, Environmental Clearance (EC) from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) is mandatory. The Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) is pre-condition for obtaining EC. EIA report identifies environmental aspects and impacts arising out of the proposed drilling project and proposes mitigation measures.

(d) & (e) In Tamil Nadu some local people/organizations have filed petition in National Green Tribunal (NGT) against the exploration and production activities in the area. Exploration activities are on hold in State of Nagaland in absence of permission of State Government. Government of Union Territory of Puducherry has also expressed their inability to grant permission for carrying out the Exploration activities in Puducherry and Karaikal region citing opposition of local peoples. ONGC in collaboration with local administration disseminated information through various local media to allay the fears of people about environmental degradation. Clarification to various misconceptions on Methane/Shale Gas, depletion/pollution of ground water, effect on agricultural land, intricacies of Exploration and Production (E&P) activities, technologies, statutory requirements etc. were provided to State Government and local people.
