

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4760**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2019**

**Excavation of Crude Oil**

**4760. PROF. SAUGATA RAY**

पैट्रोलियम व प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) the details of ongoing excavation projects to find out new crude oil block in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any private companies had been given licenses for excavation; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान)

**MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS**  
**(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

**(a) to (d)** Currently all new oil and gas exploration blocks are awarded under Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP). In the first three bidding rounds of HELP, 87 blocks/contract areas covering about 1,20,000 sq.km. have been awarded. After the culmination of first round of HELP, one private company has been granted Petroleum Exploration License (PEL) in 8 offshore blocks/contract areas by Central Government and in 8 onland blocks/contract areas by State Government of Rajasthan.

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