

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2576
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22nd December, 2022

Hydrogen Gas Exploration Policy

2576. SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:
SHRIMATI MALA RAJYA LAXMI SHAH:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken initiative to allocate new blocks of gas considering the review of hydrogen gas exploration policy and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is also implementing the plan to discover new gas blocks in foreign countries also so that the country's growing gas demand can be met;
- (c) whether the Government has initiated long term gas agreements with other countries so that the cost of gas import can be reduced; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(श्री रामेश्वर तेली)

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a): There is no policy for exploration of Hydrogen Gas formulated by Government. However, Government had launched Hydrocarbon Exploration Licensing Policy (HELP) in March, 2016 to explore and produce all types of hydrocarbons under a single licensing framework through Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP). So far seven bid rounds of OALP have taken place under which 134 blocks covering 2,07,691 square kilometers area have been awarded to successful bidders.

(b): Indian Oil & Gas Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) examine opportunities to invest in producing and/or under development assets in foreign countries based on techno-commercial considerations. As on 31st March 2022, Indian PSUs have invested in 51 nos. upstream assets spread across 22 countries.

(c) & (d): Currently, Indian companies have contracted to import Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) on long term basis from various countries including Qatar, USA, Australia, Russia etc.
