

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3253
TO BE ANSWERED ON 9th December, 2019

Exploitation of Hydrocarbons

3253. SHRI THIRUNAVUKKARASAR SU.:

पेट्रो लयम व प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) the list of sites in Tamil Nadu choosen for exploitation of Hydrocarbons;
- (b) the current status of the projects;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to stop exploitation of Hydrocarbon wells in Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) the Government's stand in this regard after the protests from Tamil Nadu Government and Farmers' Organisations?

ANSWER

पेट्रो लयम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री धर्मन्द्र प्रधान)

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) & (b) Under Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing (HELP) policy, three bidding rounds have been finalized in which six exploration blocks have been awarded in Tamil Nadu. Under Discovered Small Field (DSF) policy, two bidding rounds have been finalized in which two contract areas have been awarded in Tamil Nadu. The contractor can commence exploration related activities after obtaining Petroleum Exploration License from State Government and other statutory clearances. Under Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs) regime, only two exploration blocks are operational in Tamil Nadu. Three hydrocarbon discoveries have been notified in these two blocks. Major portion of all these blocks falls in districts of Nagapattinam, Karaikal, Cuddalore, Thiruvavarur, Sivaganga, Ramanathapuram and Ariyalur.

(c) & (d) Some local people/organizations have represented/expressed apprehension regarding possible environmental impact. Tamil Nadu Government has intimated that it has constituted a High Level Expert Technical Committee to study the impact of hydrocarbon blocks in Cauvery delta region. The issues related to operational activities of the fields are dealt with in consultation with authorities concerned and as per applicable laws, rules/regulations, guidelines etc.
