

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1741
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2ND MARCH, 2020

Oil and Gas Exploration in Arctic Region

1741. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

पेट्रो लयम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) the details of Oil and Natural Gas produced by Indian Oil and Gas companies in Arctic Ocean/Region, company-wise;
- (b) the investment made by Indian Oil and Gas companies in Arctic Region for exploration and drilling till 01.01.2020;
- (c) whether the Government plans to increase investment and ongoing exploration efforts in the Arctic Region;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government is aware about the environmental impact and dangers of Oil and Gas exploration in Arctic Region; and
- (f) if so, the details of the technology and preparedness of Indian Oil and Gas companies to clean up an Oil spill in the Arctic Region in case of an accident?

ANSWER

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

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

- (a): ONGC Videsh Ltd. (OVL), Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL), Oil India Ltd. (OIL) and Bharat PetroResources Ltd. (BPRL) are partners in JSC Vankorneft project in Russia, which is bordering the Arctic Region. The cumulative share of production till December 2019 from the Vankorneft for OVL is 14.583 Million Metric Tonne (MMT) of crude oil and 5.766 Billion Cubic Metres (BCM) of natural gas; for BPRL is 4.15 MMT of crude oil and 1.91 BCM of natural gas; for OIL is 4.20 MMT of crude oil and 1.93 BCM of natural gas; and for IOCL is 4.02 MMT of crude oil and 1.93 BCM of natural gas.
- (b): Till 31st January 2020, the Indian companies have jointly invested US\$ 3,910 million in the Vankorneft project.
- (c) & (d): Indian Oil and Gas Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) continue to explore and also access opportunities for overseas oil and gas assets, including in the Arctic Region.
- (e) & (f): All activities in the JSC Vankorneft project are carried out in adherence with the prescribed environmental norms and regulations of Russia.
