

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 225  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2020**

**Exploration of Oil**

**225. SHRI SRIDHAR KOTAGIRI:  
SHRI N. REDDEPPA:  
SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR BELLANA:**

पेट्रो लयम व प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether with the roll out of the Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP)/Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) regime, based on the world-class National Data Repository, the Government has achieved massive enhancement of exploration acreage in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the total area under exploration since the roll out of the new HELP/OALP regime as on date and the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

पेट्रो लयम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री धर्मन्द्र प्रधान)

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

**(a)** Yes, Sir.

**(b) & (c)** Under the Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP)/Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) regime, four bidding rounds have so far been finalized in which 94 exploration blocks have been awarded covering an area of approximately 1,36,790 sq. km.

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