

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1140
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2021**

Environmental Clearance for Oil/Gas Exploration Project

1140. DR. PRITAM GOPINATHRAO MUNDE:

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether the production of crude oil and natural gas in India has been going down and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government has decided to waive off environmental clearance for onshore and offshore gas as well as oil exploration projects and if so, the facts in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has assessed its consequences on Islands, fishing areas, breeding grounds and migratory routes, etc. and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to minimize the consequences of onshore and offshore gas as well as oil exploration projects?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में मंत्री

(श्री धर्मेंद्र प्रधान)

**MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a): Production of crude oil and Natural Gas in India for the last six years is as under:

Year	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Crude Oil (MMT)	37.46	36.94	36.01	35.68	34.20	32.17
Natural Gas (BCM)	33.65	32.25	31.90	32.65	32.87	31.18

Natural Decline in all aging fields and increase in water-cut in major oil/gas producing fields are the main reasons for decline in oil/gas production.

(b) to (d): MoEF&CC vide gazette Notification dated 16th January, 2020 has changed the category for onshore and offshore oil and gas exploration projects from A to B2 under EIA Notification, 2006 wherein the permissions related to Environment shall be accorded by the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has not waived off clearance for onshore and offshore gas and oil projects. Environmental concerns/safeguards are addressed while issuing the environment clearance.
