

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4520
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19TH MARCH, 2026

IDENTIFICATION AND EXPLORATION OF NEW OIL AND GAS FIELDS

4520. SHRI PARSHOTTAMBHAI RUPALA:

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

- (a) the number of new oil and gas fields identified by the Government during the last three years along with their expected production capacity, field-wise;
- (b) the efforts made by the Government to explore additional new fields in the country, State/UT-wise including Gujarat;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to promote new research and technologies in the field of oil and natural gas exploration;
- (d) the fresh locations in Gujarat identified as potential sites for oil and gas fields along with the status of work progress, site-wise; and
- (e) whether the Government would consider to find such resources in the South Gujarat sea-basin areas including Hazira and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(श्री सुरेश गोपी)**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI SURESH GOPI)**

(a), (b) & (d): Government have launched Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP) in 2016. Under this policy, Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) was started. During the last three years, total 38 exploration blocks under OALP bid Round VIII and IX covering 1,72,912.95 Square Kilometer in offshore areas and states of Gujarat, Assam and Meghalaya, have been awarded to successful bidders. Out of these 38 blocks, 09 blocks are situated in Gujarat. Geoscientific survey of the blocks awarded under these OALP Bid Rounds indicate enhancement in country's existing resource potential. Further, OALP bid Round X offering 25 exploration blocks covering 1,91,986.21 sq. km in 6 states, including Gujarat, was launched on 15.04.2025. Of these blocks, one block is situated in Gujarat. The State-wise list of blocks awarded during the last three years and identified for bidding in OALP Bid Round X is attached as **Annexure I**.

Production capacity of the field is submitted by operator in Field Development Plan (FDP). As on date, as the blocks are under Exploration phase, FDP has not been submitted by the operators so expected production capacity of the fields cannot be ascertained.

(c): Government have taken various steps to bring new research and technology which are enumerated as below:

- i. Appraisal of Un-appraised areas in Sedimentary Basins under National Seismic Programme, 2017.
- ii. Policy Framework for exploration and exploitation of Unconventional Hydrocarbons under Existing Production Sharing Contracts (PSCs), Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Contracts and Nomination Fields, 2018;
- iii. Government is also spending about Rs.7500 Cr. for acquisition of seismic data in onland and offshore areas and drilling of stratigraphic wells to make quality data of Indian Sedimentary Basins available to bidders. Government has approved acquisition of additional 2D Seismic data of 20,000 LKM in onland and 30,000 LKM in offshore beyond Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of India.
- iv. New technologies like Airborne Gravity Gradiometry and Gravity Magnetic Survey, Passive Seismic Tomography (PST), Low-Frequency Passive Seismic (LFPS) Surveys have been implemented to acquire high quality data for processing and interpretation.
- v. Government, through Directorate General of Hydrocarbons, have executed Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with prominent institutes for research and development in the area of oil and natural gas exploration.
- vi. Hydrocarbon Resource Assessment Study (HRAS 2025) has been launched on 17.07.2025 for both Conventional and Unconventional Category across all Indian sedimentary basins.

(e): Government have awarded 05 blocks under OALP bid rounds in the South Gujarat sea-basin area. The blocks are currently under Exploration. The details of these blocks are placed as **Annexure-II**.

ANNEXURE I

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) (b)& (d) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4520 for 19.03.2026 asked by Shri ParshottambhaiRupalaregarding Identification and Exploration of New Oil and Gas fields:

| Sr. No. | Block Name | OALP Bid Round | State |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 1 | AS-ONHP-2022/1 | VIII | Assam |
| 2 | CB-ONHP-2022/1 | VIII | Gujarat |
| 3 | KG-UDWHP-2022/1 | VIII | OFFSHORE |
| 4 | MB-OSHP-2022/1 | VIII | OFFSHORE |
| 5 | GK-OSHP-2022/1 | VIII | OFFSHORE |
| 6 | GS-DWHP-2022/1 | VIII | OFFSHORE |
| 7 | MN-UDWHP-2022/1 | VIII | OFFSHORE |
| 8 | BP-OSHP-2022/1 | VIII | OFFSHORE |
| 9 | KK-DWHP-2022/1 | VIII | OFFSHORE |
| 10 | KK-OSHP-2022/1 | VIII | OFFSHORE |
| 11 | CY-UDWHP-2022/1 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 12 | CY-UDWHP-2022/2 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 13 | CY-UDWHP-2022/3 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 14 | CB-ONHP-2022/2 | IX | Gujarat |
| 15 | GS-OSHP-2022/1 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 16 | GS-OSHP-2022/2 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 17 | AS-ONHP-2022/2 | IX | Meghalaya |
| 18 | AS-ONHP-2022/3 | IX | Meghalaya |
| 19 | GK-OSHP-2023/1 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 20 | GS-ONHP-2023/1 | IX | Gujarat |
| 21 | CY-UDWHP-2023/1 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 22 | GS-UDWHP-2023/1 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 23 | GS-UDWHP-2023/2 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 24 | GS-OSHP-2023/1 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 25 | MB-OSHP-2023/1 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 26 | CB-OSHP-2023/1 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 27 | MB-OSHP-2023/2 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 28 | GS-ONHP-2023/2 | IX | Gujarat |
| 29 | GS-ONHP-2023/3 | IX | Gujarat |
| 30 | CB-OSHP-2023/2 | IX | Gujarat |
| 31 | CB-ONHP-2023/1 | IX | Gujarat |
| 32 | CB-ONHP-2023/2 | IX | Gujarat |
| 33 | CB-ONHP-2023/3 | IX | Gujarat |
| 34 | MN-UDWHP-2023/1 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 35 | MN-UDWHP-2023/2 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 36 | KG-UDWHP-2023/1 | IX | OFFSHORE |

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|----|-----------------|----|----------|
| 37 | KG-UDWHP-2023/2 | IX | OFFSHORE |
| 38 | MN-UDWHP-2023/3 | IX | OFFSHORE |

Details of blocks offered under OALP Bid Round X

| Sr. No. | Block Name | State |
|----------------|-------------------|---|
| 1 | AN-UDWHP-2024/1 | OFFSHORE |
| 2 | AN-UDWHP-2024/2 | OFFSHORE |
| 3 | AN-UDWHP-2024/3 | OFFSHORE |
| 4 | AN-UDWHP-2024/4 | OFFSHORE |
| 5 | BP-OSHP-2024/1 | OFFSHORE |
| 6 | BP-UDWHP-2024/1 | OFFSHORE |
| 7 | CB-ONHP-2024/1 | Gujarat |
| 8 | CY-DWHP-2024/1 | OFFSHORE |
| 9 | GP-ONHP-2024/1 | Himachal Pradesh, Punjab |
| 10 | GS-OSHP-2024/1 | OFFSHORE |
| 11 | GS-OSHP-2024/2 | OFFSHORE |
| 12 | GS-UDWHP-2024/1 | OFFSHORE |
| 13 | HF-ONHP-2024/1 | Himachal Pradesh, Punjab & Jammu-Kashmir |
| 14 | KG-OSHP-2024/1 | OFFSHORE |
| 15 | KG-UDWHP-2024/1 | OFFSHORE |
| 16 | KG-UDWHP-2024/2 | OFFSHORE |
| 17 | KG-UDWHP-2024/3 | OFFSHORE |
| 18 | KR-ONHP-2024/1 | Jammu-Kashmir |
| 19 | MB-OSHP-2024/1 | OFFSHORE |
| 20 | MB-OSHP-2024/2 | OFFSHORE |
| 21 | MN-UDWHP-2024/1 | OFFSHORE |
| 22 | MN-UDWHP-2024/2 | OFFSHORE |
| 23 | MN-UDWHP-2024/3 | OFFSHORE |
| 24 | RJ-ONHP-2024/1 | Rajasthan |
| 25 | VN-ONHP-2024/1 | Uttar Pradesh |

ANNEXURE II

Annexure referred to in reply to part (e) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4520 for 19.03.2026 asked by Shri ParshottambhaiRupala regarding Identification and Exploration of New Oil and Gas fields:

| OALP Round | Block Name | Basin Name | Nature |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| OALP-VI | CB-OSHP-2021/1 | Cambay | OFFSHORE |
| OALP-VII | CB-OSHP-2021/2 | Cambay | OFFSHORE |
| OALP-VII | CB-OSHP-2021/3 | Cambay | OFFSHORE |
| OALP-IX | CB-OSHP-2023/1 | Cambay | OFFSHORE |
| OALP-IX | CB-OSHP-2023/2 | Cambay | OFFSHORE |