

[English]

Oil Exploration in Barmer

3769. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shell India Production and Development Ltd. has explored oil in Barmer, Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the area of the oil field and the amount invested on drilling;

(c) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has given option to stake in the venture; and

(d) if so, the percentage of stake?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) M/s Shell India Production and Development BV Netherlands, who have been awarded contract for exploration block RJ-ON-90/1 in Barmer Basin are carrying out exploratory activities in an area of 8887 sq. kms. There is no expenditure on drilling so far.

(c) and (d) Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) has not exercised its option to take 10% participating Interest at the time of signing of Contract. However, as per the provisions of contract, ONGC has an option to take 30% of participating interest, after commercial discovery.

Activities of NSCN(M) after Cease-Fire

3770. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite the existing cease-fire between the Union Government and the Nagaland Socialist Council of Nagaland (M) the people are still suffering from kidnapping, extortion, threats and so on in the hands of the NSCN (M) cadres;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if so, the scope and jurisdiction of this existing cease-fire?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) There are reports of kidnappings and extortions committed by NSCN (I/M) cadres. Security forces have been instructed to take strict action in all such cases and to proceed against such violators under law.

The current cease-fire is between the Government of India and the NSCN(I/M) as an organisation.

It has, *inter alia*, been agreed that during the Cease-Fire, the NSCN (I/M) would not undertake offensive operations like ambush, raid, sniping, and attack leading to death/injury/damage or loss of property; there would be no parading; (either in groups or individually) of NSCN (I/M) cadres in uniform and/or with arms; there would be no blockade of roads and communications, disruption of economic or developmental activities as well as essential services by the NSCN (I/M); no safe haven or sanctuary to any armed group or elements will be maintained; and forcible collection of money on essential supplies and intimidation of individuals including Government officials would be prevented.

Petroleum Exploration

3771. SHRI PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil India Limited has undertaken half-way its targeted petroleum exploration venture in the basin of river Mahanadi and Bay of Bengal;

(b) whether no exploratory drilling is being undertaken by the company despite encouraging results of earlier drillings;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the latest position in regard to exploration project in Orissa and adjoining offshore in the Bay of Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) During the period 1978-1990, Oil India Limited (OIL) carried out about 3814 GLKM and 13943 LKM of seismic survey including processing and interpretation in Mahanadi Onshore and Mahanadi offshore and North East Coast offshore areas respectively. Additionally, aeromagnetic and deep seismic sounding were also carried out. Based on the geoscientific data several wells were drilled to probe the hydrocarbon