

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:434  
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2003  
OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION IN BIHAR  
DINESH CHANDRA YADAV

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

- (a) whether the Government have conducted any preliminary survey for oil and gas exploration in Bihar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken on such survey;
- (c) the number of blocks identified and the names of districts covered in preliminary survey by the Government where there is a possibility of finding petrol and gas; and
- (d) the details thereof and outcome of tenders invited to carry out intensive survey?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SMT. SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a) & (b)-National Oil companies, viz, Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) as well as Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) have carried out geoscientific surveys like Aeromagnetic, Ground Gravity-Magnetic and 2D Seismic surveys in the State of Bihar covering mainly the districts of Araria , Begusarai, Bhojpur, East and West Champaran, Darbhanga, Gopalganj, Khagaria, Kishanganj, Katihar, Madhepura, Madhubani, Muzaffarpur, Patna, Purnea, Saharsa, Sasaram, Sitamarhi, Siwan. The exploratory efforts expended in above mentioned areas are 17595 stations of gravity-magnetic, 17,500 sq kms of High Resolution Aeromagnetic Survey (HRAS) and 7766 Ground Line Kilometer (GLK) of 2D seismic survey. Based on the surveys, six exploratory wells were drilled.

(c) & (d). Under the third round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP), one exploration block, namely PA-ONN-2001/1 was offered for which no bid was received. Another exploration block, namely GV-ONN-2002/1 falling in the State of Bihar was identified and offered under fourth round of NELP for which one bid was received.