

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:211  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2005  
EXPLORATION BY ONGC IN MAHANADI BASIN IN ORISSA  
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**Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has any proposal to go for exploration in the Mahanadi basin in Orissa; and  
(b) if so, the details thereof; and  
(c) the time by which the production of oil is likely to start?

**Answer**

Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Panchyati Raj (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) & (b): Oil and Natural Gas Corporation are continuing their exploration activities in the Mahanadi basin in Orissa in seven exploratory blocks awarded to them or their own in consortia under New Exploration Licensing Policy(NELP). Out of these blocks, three are in shallow water and four in deep water areas of the Mahanadi basin. In addition, ONGC are also the minor partner in an onland block of the Mahanadi basin awarded under the second round of NELP, where Oil India Limited(OIL) is the operator.

The details of 2D and 3D seismic data acquisition in the blocks awarded under NELP are given below:-

Block (GLK)	2D seismic	3D seismic	(Sq. Km)
-	-	-	-
MN-OSN-97/3	1280	-	402
MN-DWN-98/3	-	1462	1250
MN-OSN/2000/1	-	500	-
MN-OSN/2000/2	-	1000	626
MN-ONN/2000/1	-	463.68	-
MN-DWN-2002/1	-	1558	-
MN-DWN-2002/2	-	2194	-
NEC-DWN-2002/2	-	-	991

#Ground Line Kilometer

At present, one well in NELP block MN-OSN-2000/2 is under drilling. OIL also plans to drill one exploratory well in block MN-ONN-2000/1 during 2006.

(c): Exploration in the ONGC held acreages is in progress and ONGC are making all efforts to make a hydrocarbon discovery in the basin. Production of oil is dependent on the success of these exploratory efforts.