

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:434
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2005
DRILLING OF OIL
Baxla Shri Joachim

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

- (a) whether the rate of drilling of oil from the existing oil fields is very low in comparison to most of the oil fields of the advanced countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the drilling rate?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS & PANCHYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 434 BY SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND DECEMBER, 2005 REGARDING DRILLING OF OIL.

(a) and (b): Drilling rate depends on the subsurface lithology and formation characteristics, which are different for different areas. The data on drilling rates is not published by international companies. The average rate of drilling of wells (Commercial Speed) for Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) in last three years was as under:-

Year	Drilling rate for ONGC (M/RM) #	Drilling rate for OIL (M/RM) #
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2002-03	1197	2207
2003-04	1247	2154
2004-05	1233	2252

M/RM: Metres per Rig Month

It may be noted that comparative drilling rates in different countries and for different companies is not published in international journals.

(c) The various steps taken by oil companies to increase drilling rate include the following:-

\$ Use of premium drill bits.

\$ Use of high performance mud systems.

\$ Use of state-of-the-art rigs.

\$ Regular training of drilling crew.