

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3344
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2005
EXTRACTION OF METHANE FROM SEABED
Maheshwari Smt. Kiran;Varma Shri Ratilal Kalidas

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to extract methane from under the seabed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the progress made so far in this regard; and
- (d) the expenditure incurred thereon so far?

Answer

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

- (a), (b) & (c) Government of India have formulated a National Gas Hydrate Programme (NGHP) for carrying out Research and Development (R&D) in the field of exploration and development of gas hydrate resources of the country. The technology for extraction of gas (mainly methane) from gas hydrates is at present not available anywhere in the world and efforts are at the R&D stage.
- (d) An expenditure of Rs.18 crore has been incurred so far on R&D for implementation of the NGHP.