

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:664
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2006
JOINT VENTURE FOR GAS EXPLORATION
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

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

- (a) whether the GAIL (India) Ltd. and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. propose to undertake joint gas exploration projects in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the oil and gas bearing blocks identified for the purpose;
- (c) the estimated gas available there;
- (d) the progress so far made in this regard;
- (e) whether the joint venture also proposes to undertake such gas exploration projects in Assam, Tripura and other States in the North-eastern regions; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken in this regard so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

- (a) GAIL (India) Ltd. and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. have signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 16th November, 2005 to jointly identify and pursue oil and gas exploration and production (E&P) opportunities in India and abroad. However, at present they do not have any proposal for gas exploration in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat.
- (b) to (d):- Does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (e) For the present, there is no proposal of gas exploration projects in Assam, Tripura and other States in the North-eastern regions.
- (f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.