

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4349
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2004
HARVESTING OF METHANE FROM WASTE
Bhakta Shri Manoranjan

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

- (a) whether the Government adopted any method for harvesting Methane from wastes of landfills, coal mines and oil and gas systems in the country especially in Andaman Nicobar Island;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (c):- The Government has formulated a Coal Bed Methane (CBM) policy for exploration and production of Methane gas present in coal seams and have signed contracts with various Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs)IPvt. companies for 16 CBM blocks situated in the States of West Bengal, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhatisgarh, Rajasthan and Gujarat. As on date, there is no reported occurrence of CBM in Andaman and Nicobar Island. Coal India Ltd. (CIL) has also taken up a Research and Development (R&D) project for extraction and use of CBM in Jharia Coal field under United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) funding.

For exploration and development of Gas Hydrates, which is methane gas present in deep waters of the country, Government has formulated the National Gas Hydrates Programme (NGHP). Preliminary studies have indicated the presence of methane in the deep-water areas of the country including the Andamans.

Government has not undertaken any operational/commercial project for harvesting methane from landfill waste.