

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4410
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2004
EXTRACTION OF OIL FROM SICK WELLS
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Scientists of Institute of Power and Resources and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation have found or developed such virus which help in extraction of oil from sick wells;
- (b) if so, whether some concrete measures have been taken in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the extent to which the new technique will prove to be helpful in revival of the sick wells;
- (e) the existing number of sick wells; and
- (f) the number of wells getting the facility of this new technique?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) : Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and The Energy Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi have jointly developed three bacterial consortia which help in improving the productivity from low producing/stripper oil wells. This technique is known as Microbial Enhanced Oil Recovery (MEOR).

(d): MEOR technique is applicable for wells with low production, and is not applied for extraction of oil from sick wells.

(e) & (f): There are 477 sick wells in the operational areas of ONGC.

ONGC has tried MEOR technique on an experimental basis in more than 20 low oil producing wells of Kalol, Limbodra, North Kadi, Sobhasan Padra and Kasamba fields in Gujarat and Badarpur field in Assam.