

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:455
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2006
NEW BLOCKS OF COAL BED METHANE
Yadav Shri Mitrasen

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

- (a) whether the Government has identified certain blocks in the country for the exploration of Coal Bed Methane (CBM);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some foreign companies have also offered bids for the same;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and

Answer

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

(a)&(b):- Yes, Sir. Under the third round of Coal Bed Methane (CBM-III) Policy, the Government has invited bids for Exploration and Production (E&P) in 10 blocks. The details are at Annex.

(c)&(d):- Yes, Sir. The following eight foreign companies have submitted bids in the third round of Coal Bed Methane (CBM-III) policy:-

1. Arrow Energy, Australia.
2. CDX Gas, USA
3. MOLOPO, Australia
4. OMIMEX, USA
5. EIG, AUSTRALIA
6. BP, USA
7. GeoPetrol, France
8. Coal Gas, USA

(e) The exploration work will commence after signing of the contracts with the successful companies and issue of Petroleum Exploration License by the State Governments concerned.