

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:526

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2006

SUPPLY OF VESSELS TO ONGC

Das Gupta Shri Gurudas;Reddy Shri Suravaram Sudhakar

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

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.(ONGC) has called bids for supplying 26 vessels with modified stringent conditions and differential positioning for their offshore works during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) whether with the modified contract period of five years with substantial revision in their physical parameters, none of the Indian shipping companies will be able to bid which will result in grabbing the contract by foreign flag vessels owners; and

(d) if so, the details and the Government's reaction there to?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a): Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) have invited tender for charter hiring of 30 vessels (Anchor Handling Tug/Production Supply Vessel/Offshore Supply Vessels) with Dynamic Positioning (DP) capabilities.

(b): A total 38 tender documents have been sold. As a sequel of pre bid discussions the date of closing of tender was 19.07.06, which has been subsequently extended to 3.8.2006.

(c)&(d):. No Sir, ONGC has been constantly in touch with the Indian Ship Owners Association (INSA) to upgrade the vessels to DP-1 type to meet stringent safety standards, especially in view of expanding deep-water operations. To facilitate Indian Ship Owners, ONGC has also provided a longer charter period of 5 + 1 years as against 2 - 3 years and allowed staggered mobilization to convert vessels to DP-1. The Government supports ONGC's efforts to upgrade its safety standards, as there cannot be any compromise on this account.