

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1358
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2006
BID FOR EXTRACTING NATURAL GAS FROM CBM BLOCKS
Singh Shri Uday

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has received bids for extracting Natural Gas from coal seams of Coal Bed Methane blocks;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to offer such blocks to private companies and ignoring to offer the same to public sector companies; and
- (d) if so, the facts and reasons therefore?

Answer

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

(a) & (b):- Yes, Sir. The Union Government under the third round of Coal Bed Methane (CBM-III) Policy has received 54 bids for undertaking exploration and production activities in 10 blocks under the third round. The details are at Annex.

(c) & (d):- The Government under Coal Bed Methane Policy has provided a level playing field wherein it invites bids from private and public sector companies and Indian as well as foreign companies under an Internationally Competitive Bidding (ICB) system. Blocks are awarded on competitive terms on the basis of the Bid Evaluation Criteria.