

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2375  
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2007  
AWARD OF TUBE OILFIELD TO ONGC VIDESH  
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**Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether it is a fact that Iraq refused to honour award of Tube Oilfield to ONGC Videsh for exploration and production of oil; and
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

- (a) Under the old regime in Iraq, ONGC Videsh Ltd. (OVL) was under negotiation for Tuba Oilfield along with Reliance and Sonatrach of Algeria. However, in view of prevailing situation in Iraq, the contract could not be finalized or signed.
- (b) As per available information, now the oil fields would be awarded as per new petroleum law expected to be passed by Iraqi Parliament by the end of the year.

OVL will pursue the same as and when the opportunity arises.