

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1277  
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2006  
FOREIGN COMPANIES IN OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION  
Barman Shri Hiten

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

- (a) whether oil exploration programme with the participation of foreign and private firms is facing serious problems;
- (b) if so, whether some foreign firms which have been awarded contracts have backed out from signing the deal during the last two years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons therefor, company-wise; and
- (d) the likely impact on the oil exploration programme in the country?

**Answer**

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

- (a) No Sir.
- (b) No Sir, no foreign company has backed out from signing the contract awarded under the fourth and Fifth round of New Exploration Licensing Policy, concluded in 2004 & 2005 respectively.
- (c) & (d) Does not arise in view of the above.