

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:368  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2006  
INVESTMENT AND PRODUCTION BY ONGC AND OIL IN ASSAM  
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**Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the extent of investment and production trend of Oil India Limited (OIL) and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) in Assam oil fields during last three years alongwith prospect for future in oil and gas:
- (b) the extent of flaring of gas during the period showing the figure of associated and free gas separately alongwith plan for its future control by both the companies; and
- (c) the allotment of new blocks in the North Eastern Region (NER) to these companies during last three years and future target, if any?

**Answer**

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

(a) : The details are as follows :

(i) Investments by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) in Assam oilfields during the last three years:

Investment (Rs. crores)  
Year ONGC OIL Total

2003-04	755.82	481.23	1,237.05
2004-05	598.45	660.49	1,258.94
2005-06	501.87	521.17	1,023.04

(ii) Oil and gas production by ONGC and OIL during the last three years:

Oil Production (MMT) Gas Production (MMSCM)  
Year ONGC OIL ONGC OIL

2003-04	1.621	2.969	498	1,706
2004-05	1.546	3.155	467	1,780
2005-06	1.285	3.187	400	2,003

To augment crude oil production in Assam following major steps are being taken by ONGC:-

i) ONGC has already planned to invest about Rs.3000 crores in Assam Renewal Plan for upgradation/modernization of surface facilities, pipeline, network, drilling & workover rigs etc. in addition to drilling of hitech wells, side track wells and Ultra Short Radius Drain Hole (USRDH) wells.

ii) Implementation of IOR schemes in all three major producing fields of Assam i.e. Lakwa, Rudrasagar and Geleki.

With the implementation of these projects, the oil production in Assam is expected to reach a level of 3.00 MMTPA by 2009-10.

As regards OIL, taking into consideration the old, matured and depleting nature of the producing fields in Assam, OIL will be able to maintain the present production profile of crude oil in Assam Oil Fields. Accordingly, uniform crude oil production target of 3.45 MMT per annum is projected throughout the XI Five Year Plan period.

(b): No free gas is being flared in Assam. Flaring of associated gas in Assam during the last three years is as follows :

Associated Gas (MMSCMB)

Year ONGC OIL

2003-04 0.18 0.29  
2004-05 0.18 0.36  
2005-06 0.15 0.31

The following measures have been or are being taken by ONGC, OIL and Pvt. Cos./JVs to reduce flaring of gas ;

- i) Installation of Supervisor` Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system for effective control of gas system.
- ii) Getting new fields connected to the gas network immediately.
- iii) Incorporation of capacity control in gas compressors and installation of gas holders to negate the surging effect,
- iv) Supply of low pressure gas from marginal fields directly to low pressure systems of tea gardens in the vicinity,
- v) Further de-bottlenecking of existing gas transportation lines,
- vi) Boosting of low pressure gas at isolated fields through gas compression.
- vii) Identification of small consumers near isolated fields where gas is being produced at low pressure in low quantities.
- viii) Urging consumers of natural gas to uplift committed quantity of gas as there are no fall back customers.
- ix) Installation of low pressure booster compressors,
- x) Implementation of Zero Gas Flaring Projects at Offshore installations.

(c) : During the last three years, the following blocks in the North-Eastern Region were awarded to the consortia led by ONGC and OIL under various NELP rounds:

State Block

NELP-III ONGC-led consortia

Assam AA-ONN-2001/3  
Nagaland AA-ONN-2001/4  
Tripura AA-ONN-2001/1  
Mizoram AA-ONN-2001/2

NELP-IV ONGC-led consortia

Assam AA-ONN-2002/3  
Nagaland AA-ONN-2002/4

NELP-V OIL-led consortium

Assam AA-ONN-2003/3

In the sixth round of NELP, 55 blocks have been offered for bidding.