

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding agitation against two ONGC wells in Mayiladuthurai Parliamentary Constituency of Tamil Nadu.

SHRI R.K. BHARATHI MOHAN (MAYILADUTHURAI): ONGC has erected two oil wells in Kathiramangalam Village in Thanjavur District of my Mayiladuthurai Constituency. Natural gas and condensate are being produced from these two wells. Servicing the pipelines of this project started in June 2017. On seeing this, some elements in this village falsely propagated that methane and shale gas are going to be extracted from these wells. People fear that methane and shale are inimical for ground water of this area and other agricultural related activities which provide sustenance to them. So this project met with stiff resistance from them. Further the people started agitation against ONGC and demanded the closure of wells. Conciliatory efforts were made by local government officials. Even the District Collector of this district himself tried to allay their fears but of no avail. The agitation is still going on. Similarly when the ONGC tried to erect a third well in Mathirimangalam Village in Nagapattinam of my Constituency, the people of this area agitated against this on the assumption that methane and shale gas are going to be extracted from the new well. The erection of new well has been stopped now. Hence, I request the government of India to re-assure the people that no methane or Shale project is going to be implemented in Kathiramangalam & Mathirimangalam Villages. I, also request the Government of India to take necessary steps to impress upon the ONGC to provide basic amenities, to these villages and also provide employment opportunities.