

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1124
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY NOVEMBER 22 2019**

STUDY ON GANGES FAN

1124. MS LOCKET CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has initiated any study related to the Ganges fan which is the earth's largest submarine fan, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government is planning to study the presence of fossil fuels in it, if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has found any way to tap these resources; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

- (a) Yes Sir, National Institute of Oceanography has carried out geological and geophysical investigations of Bengal Fan and prepared a free air gravity map.**
- (b) Yes Sir. Ministry of Earth Sciences has an ongoing program on "Studies on Gas hydrate Exploration and Technology development for its exploitation" which includes Krishna – Godavari basin and Mahanadi Basin forming western part of Ganges fan. Gas Hydrates have been identified in these basins. National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad, and National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai are involved in implementation of this program.**
- (c) No Sir. Globally Gas Hydrates resource tapping is in Research & Developmental stage and thrust of present program is on capacity building towards understanding this resource from perspective of tapping through feasibility studies.**
- (d) Does not arise.**
