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# ONGC wins 7 oil blocks, OIL 4 in latest bid round

SHINE JACOB

New Delhi, 22 October

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has won seven out of 11 geographical areas on offer under the fifth bid round under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OLAP). Oil India (OIL) won the remaining four blocks, upstream regulator Directorate General of Hydrocarbons said on Thursday.

OALP Round V is expected to generate immediate exploration work commitment of around \$400-450 million. The 11 blocks under this round are spread across eight sedimentary basins and include eight on-land blocks (six in Category I basin and one each in Category II and III basins), two shallow-water blocks (one each in Category I and II basins), and one ultra-deep-water block (Category I basin). The current round has opened up approximately 19,800 square (sq.) kilometres (km) for investors.

The only private bidder during the round was Invenire Energy. "But all the 11 blocks have gone to public sector players, with ONGC winning the maximum of seven blocks," said a person aware of the development.

ONGC has won blocks in Bengal-Purnea, Cambay, Gujarat Kutch, Gujarat Saurashtra, and Mumbai basins. On the other hand, OIL won two blocks each in Assam (Assam Shelf and Assam Arakkan) and Rajasthan. This is the second round of auctions in the cur-



rent year. In January, all seven blocks that were on offer under the fourth round of OALP were awarded to ONGC. The round added another 18,510 sq. km to the total exploration area of the country.

Of the seven blocks, five are located in Madhya Pradesh, while one block each in Rajasthan and West Bengal. The seven blocks are spread over three sedimentary basins, with resource potential of approximately 33 billion barrels of oil and oil equivalent gas.

An area of 136,800 sq. km has already been awarded under OALP I, II, III, and IV. The first four rounds are expected to generate an investment of approximately \$2.35 billion over the next three to four years in exploratory work alone. The expression of interest for the sixth and seventh rounds will be over by mid-November.

The Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy, under which OALP blocks are awarded, adopts the revenue-sharing contract model.

## ONGC wins 7 oil blocks, OIL 4 in latest bid round

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**  
New Delhi, October 22

**STATE-OWNED OIL AND** Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) has won seven out of the 11 oil and gas exploration blocks offered for bidding in the latest licensing round, upstream regulator Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) said Thursday. Oil India (OIL) won the remaining four blocks, it said.

The government had offered 11 blocks

for exploration and production of oil and gas in the fifth bid round under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OLAP). A total of 12 bids — seven by ONGC and four by Oil OIL — were received for the 11 blocks on offer at the close of bidding on June 30. Invenire Petrodyne was the only private bidder for one block.

While ONGC was the sole bidder for six blocks, OIL was the lone bidder in all the four blocks it bid for. ONGC won all six blocks where it was the sole bidder as

well as the one block where Invenire Petrodyne had bid.

The previous bid round, OALP-IV, too had seen just eight bids coming in for seven blocks on offer. ONGC had walked away with all the seven oil and gas blocks on offer. Prior to OALP-V, the government had awarded 94 blocks in four OALP bid rounds in the last two and a half years. These 94 blocks cover an exploratory area of about 1,36,800 sq km over 16 Indian sedimentary basins.

## ONGC, OIL win all blocks on offer in the fifth round of OALP bids

### OUR BUREAU

New Delhi, October 22

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Ltd has won seven blocks while Oil India Limited (OIL) has won four blocks that were on offer in the fifth round of bids conducted under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP). In the four earlier bid rounds, 94 blocks spread over an area of 1,36,790 sq km were awarded.

OIL won two blocks each in the Rajasthan and the Assam Shelf & Assam Arakan basins in this round. ONGC won two blocks in Cambay, one each in Bengal-Purnea, Cauvery, Gujarat Kutch, Gujarat Saurashtra and Mumbai basins. Invenire Petrodyne, the only other player that participated in bids, did not win any blocks in this round.

The 11 blocks offered in the OALP Bid Round-V are located in Western Offshore (Saurashtra & Mumbai) & Eastern Offshore (Cauvery) and also spread across the states of Rajasthan, Gujarat, West Bengal, Odisha, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam over eight sedimentary basins. In this fifth round, 11 hydrocarbon blocks covering about 19,800 square kilometres were offered for exploration.

**BIDDING UNDER OPEN ACREAGE LICENSING POLICY**

# ONGC bags 7 blocks, OIL 4 in latest round

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**ENSECONOMIC BUREAU**

NEW DELHI, OCTOBER 22

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STATE-OWNED OIL and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) and Oil India (OIL) have won all the 11 blocks offered in the latest bidding round for oil and gas exploration blocks, the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons said on Thursday.

ONGC won seven blocks while OIL won the other four blocks, with only one bid coming from the private sector from Invenire Petrodyne Ltd.

ONGC had also dominated

the previous round of bidding, winning all six of the blocks offered in the fourth round, offered under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP).

Experts have said the lack of interest from private players in recent rounds of OALP bidding has been a result of a lack of policy clarity from the government and unsuitable taxation and regulatory conditions. A proposal by the Petroleum Ministry to reduce the oil cess charge on domestic production of crude has been rejected by the Finance Ministry, according to government sources.

# ONGC wins 7 oil blocks, OIL 4 in latest bid round

**NEW DELHI:** State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) has won seven out of the 11 oil and gas exploration blocks offered for bidding in the latest licensing round, upstream regulator Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) said Thursday.

Oil India Ltd (OIL) won the remaining four blocks, it said.

The government had offered 11 blocks for exploration and production of oil and gas in the fifth bid round under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OLAP).

A total of 12 bids — seven bids by Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) and four by Oil India Ltd (OIL) — were received for the 11 blocks on offer at the close of bidding on June 30.

Invenire Petrodyne Ltd was the only private bidder for one block.

While ONGC was the sole bidder for six blocks, OIL was the lone bidder in all the four blocks it bid for.

ONGC won all six blocks where it was the sole bidder and also the one block where Invenire Petrodyne had bid.

The previous bid round, OALP-IV, too had seen just eight bids coming in for seven blocks on offer. ONGC had walked away with all the seven oil and gas blocks on offer.

Prior to OALP-V, the government had awarded 94 blocks in four OALP bid rounds in the last two and a half years. These

94 blocks cover an exploratory area of about 1,36,800 square kilometers over 16 Indian sedimentary basins. In the latest bid round, about 19,800 sq km of the area was offered for bidding, according to DGH.

OALP-IV was the first round on revamped terms approved in February 2019.

Unlike previous rounds, where blocks were awarded to companies offering a maximum share of oil and gas to the government, blocks in little or unexplored Category-II and III basins are now awarded to companies offering to do maximum exploration programme.

The 11 blocks under OALP-V are spread across eight sedimentary basins and include eight on land blocks (six in Category-I basin and one each in Category II and III basins), two shallow-water blocks (one each in Category-I and II basins) and one ultra-deepwater block (Category-I basin).

At the time of the launch of OALP-V, DGH had stated that the round is expected to “generate immediate exploration work commitment of around \$400-450 million”.

“An area of 1,36,800 sq km has already been awarded under OALP bid round I, II, III, and IV. These OALP bid round-V blocks would add a further 19,800 sq km. Overall exploration acreage of India would then increase to 2,36,600 sq km,” it had said at that time. PTI

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## OPEN ACREAGE LICENSING POLICY

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The previous bid round, OALP-IV, too had seen just eight bids coming in for seven blocks on offer.

ONGC had walked away with all the seven oil and gas blocks on offer.

Prior to OALP-V, the government had awarded 94 blocks in four OALP bid rounds in the past two and a half years. These 94 blocks cover an exploratory area of about 1,36,800 square kilometers over 16 Indian sedimentary basins. — PTI

# ONGC, Oil India pick up all oil & gas blocks on offer

These blocks have the potential to produce around \$400-450 mn

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

ALL oil and gas exploration blocks that went under the hammer in the fifth round of bidding were picked up by state-owned ONGC and Oil India Ltd (OIL). According to officials, the 11 blocks which were offered under the latest round have the potential to produce around \$400-450 million (₹3,000-3,300 crore).

Oil sector regulator Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) said in a notice on Thursday that the bidding round under India's Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OLAP) had seen ONGC winning seven blocks, while the remaining four went to OIL. The only private bidder who participated in the round-Invenire Petrodyne-did not win the bid it made for a single block, which ONGC won. The remaining ten blocks saw only one bidder each, with ONGC the sole bidder for six blocks and OIL the sole bidder for the rest. The fourth round of bidding had also seen little participation from private bidders with just eight bids received for the seven blocks that went under the hammer.



All seven had been awarded to ONGC. The 11 blocks which went under the hammer in the fifth round are spread across eight sedimentary basins-eight are land blocks (six in Category-I basin and one each in Category II and III basins), two shallow-water blocks (one each in Category-I and II basins) and one ultra-deepwater block (Category-I basin). Including the fifth round, 105 blocks have been awarded under the OALP bidding system so far. Of these, Vedanta has won 51 blocks, OIL has won 25, and ONGC 24.

However, while there had been significant private sector interest in earlier rounds, the last few have not seen the same kind of participation. So far,

the total area that has been auctioned out stands at 1.56 lakh square kilometers. The licensing policy has also been tweaked in February 2019, with blocks in little or unexplored category-II and -III basins now being awarded to companies offering to carry out maximum exploration programmes. Earlier, licenses had been awarded to companies who offered the maximum share of oil and gas to the government.

According to officials, the OALP offers bidders reduced royalty rates, no oil cess, marketing, and pricing freedom, freedom to carve out blocks they are interested in, and exploration permission for the entire contract period.



तेल, गैस क्षेत्र के लिए पांचवें चरण की बोली

# ओएनजीसी सात, ओआइएल चार ब्लॉक हासिल करने में सफल

नई दिल्ली, 22 अक्टूबर (भाषा)।

सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की ऑयल एंड नेचुरल गैस कॉर्पोरेशन (ओएनजीसी) बोली के लिए पेश किए गए नवीनतम दौर में 11 तेल व गैस खोज ब्लॉक में से सात हासिल करने में सफल रही है। उत्पादन नियामक हाइड्रोकार्बन महानिदेशालय (डीजीएच) ने गुरुवार को यह कहा। शेष चार ब्लॉक ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड ने हासिल किये। सरकार ने खुला क्षेत्र लाइसेंस नीति (ओएलएपी) के तहत पांचवें चरण की बोली में खोज व उत्पादन को लेकर 11 ब्लॉक की पेशकश की थी।

कुल 12 बोलियां प्राप्त हुईं। कुल 11 ब्लॉक के लिए सात बोलियां ओएनजीसी और चार ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड (ओआइएल) की आईं। बोली प्रक्रिया 30 जून को समाप्त हुई। इनवेनाइर पेट्रोडाइन एकमात्र निजी कंपनी थी जिसने एक ब्लॉक के लिए बोली लगाई थी।

ओएनजीसी छह ब्लॉक के लिए एकमात्र

बोलीदाता थी जबकि ओआइएल चार ब्लॉक के लिए अकेले बोली लगाने वाली कंपनी थी। ओएनजीसी को सभी छह ब्लॉक मिले। इसके अलावा उसे वह ब्लॉक भी मिला जिसके लिये इनवेनाइर ने बोली लगाई थी।

इससे पहले, ओएलपी-चौथे चरण की बोली में भी सात ब्लॉक के लिए केवल आठ बोलियां आई थीं। ओएनजीसी पेशकश किए गए सभी सात तेल और गैस ब्लॉक हासिल की थी। डीजीएच के अनुसार बोली के ताजा चरण में करीब 19,800 वर्ग किलोमीटर क्षेत्र की पेशकश की गई थी।

ओएलपी-5 के तहत 11 ब्लॉक आठ अवस-दी बेसिन में फैले हैं। इसमें आठ भूमि पर स्थित ब्लॉक हैं। दो छिछले जल क्षेत्र में और एक गहरे जल क्षेत्र में है। ओएलपी के पहले चार चरणों में 94 ब्लॉक आर्बिट किए जा चुके हैं। इसमें वेदांता ने सर्वाधिक 51 ब्लॉक हासिल किए। वहीं, ऑयल इंडिया ने 21 और ओएनजीसी ने 17 ब्लॉक हासिल किए। ओएलपी-5 के बाद ओएनजीसी के ब्लॉक की संख्या 24 और ओआइएल की 25 हो गई है।

## CIL fuel allocation under exclusive auction for non-power sector rises sixfold in H1

**STATE-OWNED** Coal India's fuel allocation under the exclusive e-auction scheme for the non-power sector rose almost sixfold to 13.44 million tonne (MT) in April-September this fiscal.

Coal India (CIL) had allocated 2.31 MT of dry fuel to the sector under the scheme in the corresponding period of the previous fiscal, according to the latest government data.

This growth comes amid CIL looking to tap the non-power sector to consume its coal. However, there was no allocation of coal by the PSU under the scheme last month, the data showed. For the entire fiscal (2019-20), the PSU's coal allocation under the scheme dropped to 8.03 MT from 11.36 MT in FY19. —PTI

## Exxon CEO underscores faith in fossil fuels, job cuts likely

EXXON MOBIL PLANS to lay off an unspecified number of employees as low oil prices force the company to delay major projects, chief executive officer Darren Woods said in an email to staff. Woods also mounted an extensive defence of fossil fuels, calling them a “higher purpose” that aids global prosperity at a time when European peers are looking at renewables as the future.

# NOTICE BOARD

CORPORATE ASSOCIATE DIARY

APPOINTMENTS, MOVEMENTS, CELEBRATIONS, HONOURS



## INAUGURATION-REC

SK Gupta, CMD, REC, inaugurated a CSR project undertaken by REC worth Rs. 1.34 Crore in NAB, New Delhi, in presence of A Choudhury, Dir. (Fin), REC, Dr. SN Srinivas, CEO, REC Foundation and others.



## RAISING DAY-PAWAN HANS LTD

Sanjeev Razdan, CMD, Pawan Hans Ltd hoisted the Company's Flag on the occasion of 36th Raising Day of Pawan Hans at CO, Noida. CMD, PHL congratulated and extended good wishes to all.



## INAUGURATION-INDIANOIL

Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister of P&NG&S, inaugurated IndianOil's compact reformer plant and launched the much-awaited trial run of Delhi's buses on (HCNG) recently at the Rajghat Bus Depot-I of DTC.



## CSR-NFL

Virendra Nath Dutt, C&MD, NFL, distributed 95 cotton plucking machines free of cost to the farmers under the company's CSR programme held in Haryana recently.



## LAUNCH-LIC

LIC of India has introduced New Jeevan Shanti plan which is a Non-Linked, Non-Participating, Individual, Single Premium, Deferred Annuity Plan. This plan can be purchased offline and online from October 21, 2020.



## MoU-EIL

Tarun Kapoor, Secy, MoP&NG and RK Sabharwal, Dir. (Comm.) with additional charge of CMD, EIL, signed the MoU for FY 2020-21, in presence of other senior officials of MoP&NG and EIL.



## MEETING-NBCC

R Chaudhari, Dir. (Comm.) accompanied by PSharma, GM (BD), called on HE Mossi Nyamale Rosette, Ambassador of DRC at Congo Embassy, to discuss NBCC's participation in upcoming infrastructure Development works in DRC.



## COLLABORATION-CRPF

CRPF has recently collaborated with IITD, DRDO, and JATC to augment its R&D capabilities and to create a pool of highly specialized technology experts from among its officers.



## OPENING-PUNJAB & SIND BANK

Punjab & Sind Bank opened 3 new branches at Ahmedabad, Surat and Vadodara in a day in Gujarat at the hands of S Krishnan, MD & CEO and AK Das, ED.

**NTPC Dadri** is striving to become the cleanest coal fired plant in the country and is complying with all the CPCB guidelines on emissions. All the emission parameters are being monitored online and transmitted to CPCB on a real-time basis. NTPC Dadri has also pioneered co-firing of Biomass pellets along with coal in the boilers. The pellets are made of husk or agro-residue which would have been burnt otherwise in the fields increasing the pollution in NCR region. More than 8000 Tons of pellets have been fired in the boilers of NTPC Dadri, which is equivalent to almost 4000 acres of farm fire avoided.

**IRCTC** has carefully revamped its SOPs and is ready with tours for train travel enthusiasts. The first in this series is the 4 nights/5 Days "Padharo Rajasthan Tour" which will start from Delhi on 18th November 2020 and cover Jodhpur and Jaisalmer, along with many other tourist attractions. IRCTC has planned the tour packages at a very competitive package cost starting from Rs. 23,350/- per person for domestic tourists.

**Russian Embassy in India** At the initiative of the Chairman of the United Russia party Dmitry A. Medvedev, supported by leaders of the main ruling parliamentary parties of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) states, the International Inter-Party Forum SCO+ is being held in a virtual format from 21 to 23 October, 2020. Main theme of the event – Economy for People. Within the Forum, there are several thematic platforms dedicated to various aspects of supporting green technologies, combating dangerous infectious diseases and their consequences, developing digital economy and digital technologies in general, socio-economic cooperation between the regions of the SCO countries and regional security issues. Total number of participants in full-time and part-time forms is expected to be about 1000 delegates from over 30 countries.

**AAI** has undertaken the construction work for a New Integrated Terminal Building at Pune Airport. With massive built up area of more than 5,00,000 sq. ft., the new terminal will be constructed at an estimated cost of Rs. 475 cr. The swanky new terminal building will be able to process 2300 passengers (1700 Domestic & 600 International) during peak hours. More than 40% of the work is completed and the new building is likely to be completed by March, 2022. The revamped terminal building will enable the airport to handle growing passenger traffic & ease the congestion inside the terminal.

**BSF** Sanjeev Kumar Singh IPS, Ex-ADG BSF left for heavenly abode on 16th October 2020. A dynamic and highly proficient IPS officer with expertise in all aspects of policing, strong leadership qualities and efficient management skills, he commanded the Eastern Command of Border Security Force with astute professional competence. His proactive approach enabled BSF Eastern Command to excel on the operational front along Indo-Bangladesh border leading to curbing of smuggling activities to a great extent. He was a highly decorated officer who had been awarded with the Indian Police Medal in 2003 and President's Police Medal in 2011 for his outstanding contributions. Director General and all ranks of BSF offer their heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family for the irreparable loss and stand by his family at this difficult time.

**Russian Embassy in India** The central theme of the 6th BRICS Parliamentary Forum, which will be held under the Russian BRICS Chairmanship on October 27 via videoconference, is BRICS Partnership for Global Stability, Shared Security and Innovative Growth: Parliamentary Dimension. Issues of strengthening of the key international institutions such as the UN and the World Health Organization along with issues of building a system of international relations on the principles of mutual respect and respect for sovereignty will also be discussed at the meeting. The Forum participants also plan to discuss issues of improving the standards and quality of life of citizens of the BRICS countries, preparing legislative initiatives to improve the healthcare systems, issues of social protection and economic recovery in the pandemic conditions, as well as the further development of parliamentary cooperation within the BRICS. The heads of the BRICS parliamentary delegations will address the Forum participants.

**IGNOU** has been awarded Five Star Rating for Innovation and Startups by the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell (MIC) for the year 2019-2020. On the basis of the performance of the various Institute's Innovation Councils (IICs), they have been evaluated following a very stringent criteria. Out of more than thousand Universities, Institutes and Colleges including Technical Institutes, only 110 have been awarded with Five Star rating. IIC at IGNOU carried out various activities aimed at promoting innovation, startups and entrepreneurship in the university by involving the faculty and the students.

# HPCL collaborates with India Army for 'Kashmir Super 30'

**MUMBAI:** HPCL has collaborated with Indian Army to implement the third batch of ambitious project – “Kashmir Super 30 (Medical)”.

The concept behind the program was to handpick the brightest minds through a selection process from the less-privileged society who exemplify grit, determination and perseverance and elevate them gradually through this process towards prosperity.

The gestation period of the project is 12-months residential coaching program, which prepares the aspirants for National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET), under overall control and guidance of Indian Army 10 Sector Rashtriya Rifles, Srinagar.

Kashmir Super 30 Project was first started in the year 2017-18.

Since then 68 students,

in the first two batches, have been part of this project. It is a matter of great pride, that all 35 Students of the first batch have cleared National Eligibility Entrance Test and received admission in Medical & Allied Courses.

The second batch of 33 Students have also secured stupendous result and are in the process of undergoing counselling for admissions this year.

The first-ever online MoU signing ceremony for Kashmir Super-30 (Medical) project was held on October 17, 2020 between Director-HR of HPCL, Pushp Joshi, and General Officer Commanding (GOC)15 Corps, Lieutenant General BS Raju, Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM), Yudh Seva Medal (YSM) in the presence of other senior officials of Indian Army and HPCL.

MPOST