

8.0 PROJECT BENEFITS

The proposed exploration program will establish hydrocarbons in the block. The development of the oil field will result in considerable growth of service sector and will also generate new industrial and business opportunities in the area. Small and medium scale industries may be developed as consequence.

The major benefits of the project include reduction of the oil import bill of the nation as well as reduction of the imbalance in oil production and consumption.

The commercial development will also lead to investment in Assam, bringing oil and gas revenues both to the State and to the Central Government. The presence of ONGC in the region will substantially improve the socio-economic conditions of the region.

In Operation phase, ONGC will require significant work force of non-technical and technical persons. Migration of persons with better education and professional experience will result in increase of population and literacy in the surrounding villages.

8.1 Improvements in the Physical Infrastructure

The beneficial impact of hydrocarbon development on the civic amenities will be substantial after the commencement of project activities. The basic requirement of the community needs will be strengthened by extending health care, educational facilities to the community, building/strengthening of existing roads in the area. ONGC will initiate the above amenities either by providing or by improving the facilities in the area, which will help in uplifting the living standards of local communities.

The construction of new roads in the project area will enhance the transportation facilities. With improved transportation facilities there is always a scope for development.

8.2 Improvement in the Social Infrastructure

- Generation of employment: The project will create opportunities for direct and indirect employment;
- Increase in purchasing power and improved standard of living of the area;
- Establishment of small and medium scale industries may be developed as consequence;
- Increased revenue to the state by way of royalty, taxes and duties;
- Regular Fund flow to local market;
- Overall Growth of the neighboring Area viz.:
 - Agriculture and Animal husbandry;
 - Health and family welfare;
 - Watershed development;
 - Sustainable livelihood and strengthening of village Self Help Groups; and
 - Infrastructure development.

In addition to above, due to increase in purchasing power of local habitants:

- There shall be significant change in the socio-economic scenario of the area;
- The proposed project shall enhance the prospects of employment;
- Recruitment for the unskilled and semiskilled workers for the proposed project will be from the nearby villages;
- The basic amenities viz., roads, transportation, electricity, proper sanitation, educational institutions, medical facilities, entertainment, etc. will be developed as far as possible; and
- Overall the proposed project will change living standards of the people and improve the socio-economic conditions of the area.

8.3 Employment Potential

The impact of the project on the economic aspects can be clearly observed. The proposed project activities will provide employment to persons of different skills and trades. The local population will be given preference to employment. The employment potential will ameliorate economic conditions of these families directly and provide employment to many other families indirectly who are involved in business and service oriented activities.

The employment of local people in primary and secondary sectors of project shall upgrade the prosperity of the region. This in-turn will improve the socio-economic conditions of the area.

- During construction phase of the project, this project will provide temporary employment to many unskilled and semi-skilled laborers in nearby villages;
- This project will also help in generation of indirect employment to those people who render their services for the personnel directly working in the project; and
- In case the hydrocarbon is established in the block, considerable number of people will be benefited by provision of services to the residents in for of employment opportunities. Thus, the direct and indirect employment generation by this project.

The present trend of out migration for employment is likely to reduce due to better economic opportunities available in the area.

During the construction phase about 500-600 people on average per day will be employed for a period of one year.

The ONGC Corporate EHS policy is given in **Annexure-X**.