

ONGC to commence drilling to explore hydrocarbons in Ballia

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Lucknow: The Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) will kickstart drilling for hydrocarbons near the Ganga river in UP's Ballia district from the second week of Feb.

If the drilling leads to successful results then it would be a big boost to the state's fuel resources and revenue. This is the first occasion when hydrocarbon exploration is being done in Ballia.

ONGC has got environmental clearance from all requisite bodies to conduct drilling in 302 sqkm block. Its exploration licence is valid till April 2026. The corporation

will drill one well at a cost of Rs 85 crore.

The well will be drilled between NH-31 and Ganga river in Sagarpali village, which is adjacent to Vaina Rattu Chak, the home of Chittu Pandey who led the Quit India movement in Ballia.

The Ministry of Petrole-

um & Natural Gas conducted a survey under National Seismic Programme (NSP) in the Ganga-Punjab basin, following which acreage was awarded under hydrocarbon exploration and licensing policy (HELP).

► **Hydrocarbons, P 12**