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CNOOC LTD
Form 6-K
September 21, 2005

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 6-K

REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER
PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16 OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For September 21, 2005

CNOOC Limited

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

65th Floor
Bank of China Tower
One Garden Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Address of principal executive offices)

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F)

Form 20-F X Form 40-F
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(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.)

Yes No X
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(If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): N/A.)

Company Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CNOOC Limited Announces First Production From NB 35-2

(Hong Kong, September 20, 2005) - CNOOC Limited (the "Company" or "CNOOC Ltd."; NYSE "CEO", SEHK "883") is pleased to announce today that Nanbao ("NB") 35-2, an independent oil field in Bohai Bay, has commenced production successfully. The field is producing approximately 3200 barrels of oil per day via 9 wells.

NB 35-2 is located approximately 110 kilometers southwest of Tanggu in a water depth of about 12 meters in central Bohai Bay. The main development facilities include two platforms and a 29.5 kilometers subsea pipeline, etc. The flowing-in crude, after being processed in the platforms, will be transported to the FPSO of QHD 32-6 for storage and sale.

Peak production capacity of NB 35-2 is estimated to be 18600 barrels of oil per day.

Mr. Zhou Shouwei, President of the Company commented, "The successful start-up of NB 35-2 once more illustrates our commitment to deliver production growth effectively. We will continue the success with more projects to on line in the remaining days of 2005."

CNOOC Limited acts as the operator and holds 100 percent interest of the oil field.

End

Notes to Editors:

CNOOC LIMITED - BACKGROUND

CNOOC Limited (the "Company", together with its subsidiaries, the "Group", "the Company" or "CNOOC") - Incorporated in Hong Kong in August 1999, CNOOC Limited was listed on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") (code: CEO) and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the

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"HKSE") (code: 0883) on 27 and 28 February 2001, respectively. The Company was admitted as a constituent stock of the Hang Seng Index in July 2001.

The Group is China's largest producer of offshore crude oil and natural gas and one of the largest independent oil and gas exploration and production companies in the world. The Company mainly engages in offshore oil and natural gas exploration, development, production and sales.

The Company has four major oil production areas offshore China which are Bohai Bay, Western South China Sea, Eastern South China Sea and East China Sea. It is the largest offshore oil producer in Indonesia. The Group also has certain upstream assets in regions such as Australia.

As at 31 December 2004, the Company owned net proved reserves of approximately 2.2 billion barrels-of-oil equivalent and its annual daily average net production was 382,513 barrels-of-oil equivalent per day.

The Group has 2,524 employees.

CNOOC LIMITED - Relationship with its parent company, CNOOC

CNOOC Limited, incorporated in Hong Kong, is a 70.64% held subsidiary of China National Offshore Oil Corporation ("CNOOC"). CNOOC Limited is the sole vehicle through which CNOOC carries out oil and gas exploration, development, production and selling activities offshore China and internationally.

CNOOC, the parent company, is involved in the administrative, research and services functions for the People's Republic of China's offshore petroleum industry as well as other mid- or down-stream petroleum projects.

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This press release contains statements that are not historical facts, including statements about beliefs and expectations of the directors of CNOOC Limited (the "Company"). These forward-looking statements are based on current plans, estimates and projections, and therefore you should not place undue reliance on them. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and the directors of the Company undertake no obligation to update publicly any of them in light of new information or future events. Forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties. You are cautioned that a number of important factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement. Such factors include, but are not limited to, changes

in the PRC economic, political and social conditions as well as government policies.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report on Form 6-K to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

CNOOC Limited

By: /s/ Cao Yunshi

Name: Cao Yunshi
Title: Company Secretary

Dated: September 21, 2005