

on Rural Health Statistics in India (updated up to March, 2008), there are 1,46,036 sub-centres, 23,458 PHCs and 4,276 CHCs providing health care to the vulnerable sections of the society. Though health is a State subject, Government of India had launched the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in 2005 to support the State Governments in improving health services has been taken up through improvement of physical infrastructure, provision of human resources, equipment, drugs and emergency transport, etc. so as to ensure adequate health care/medical facilities to the rural population.

Allocation of Gas From KG Basin

*351. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal for the allocation of gas from the KG (Krishna Godavari) basin particularly for the small and medium enterprises;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals received, particularly from Maharashtra and Government's response thereto; and

(c) what are the strategies/policies of Government for allocation of gas from KG basin in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA) : (a) and (b) Empowered Group of Minister (EGoM) in its meeting held on 27.10.2009 has decided that allocation of 2 mmscmd (million standard cubic meter per day) of KG D6 made on fallback basis to City Gas Distribution (CGD) entities for supply to their industrial and commercial customers, whose total consumption of natural gas (including KG D6 gas) does not exceed 50,000 scmd (standard cubic meters per day). Many cities, including cities located in Maharashtra, are having City Gas Distribution Networks. The said 2 mmscmd KG D6 gas has been allotted to various CGD entities.

Maharashtra Natural Gas Limited, a Joint Venture of GAIL (India) Ltd. & Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) operating CGD network in Pune including Pimpri-Chinchwad, has been allocated 200,000 scmd for supply to its industrial and commercial customers.

(c) Allocation of natural gas from KG D6 field is being decided by Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) constituted to decide issues pertaining to, *inter-alia*, commercial utilization of gas under NELP. Since the demand to meet the shortfall of existing assets in different sectors is more than the available gas, EGoM has decided that KG D6 gas will be firstly allocated to existing plants and that there will be no reservation of gas, namely, fertilizers, power, LPG, City Gas Distribution, steel, petrochemicals, refineries and captive power. KG D6 gas is being supplied to meet the existing shortfall in these sectors.