

Further, considering the Hon'ble Chennai High Court judgment dated 25.11.2013 and subsequent judgment dated 2.2.2016 & order dated 1.3.2016 of Hon'ble Supreme Court, to lay the pipeline in the original route through agricultural land, it may not be feasible on the part of Central Government to withdraw the referred 3(1) and 6(1) gazette notifications published under the Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (Acquisition of Right of User) Act' 1962.

Delay in supply of cooking gas in hilly States

†362. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM and NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that consumers are facing problems due to inordinate delay in cooking gas supply in hilly States including Uttarakhand;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the demand of cooking gas increases in these States during winter season; and

(c) if so, the details of measures taken by Government to deal with this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have reported that they endeavour to meet the genuine demand of registered domestic LPG customers in hilly States of the country including Uttarakhand within 48 hours. However, delay in refill supplies may occur in the event of backlog due to non-availability of filled LPG cylinders with the distributors for unavoidable reasons like road breaches, floods, strikes, incidents of bandhs, disruption of Bulk LPG supplies, and non-availability of Trucks etc. OMCs have further reported that presently, there is no shortage of LPG in any of the hilly States of the country, including Uttarakhand, except the States of Assam, Manipur and Tripura. In these three States, backlogs took place due to frequent local bandhs, agitations by political organisations and the poor condition of National Highway. Efforts are made for clearing the backlog as and when generated by augmenting bulk LPG supplies, arranging additional imports, positioning of bulk LPG at the plants through alternate routes and operation of LPG bottling plants on Sundays/Holidays and extended hours.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The demand of domestic LPG in the Hilly States generally increases during the Winter Season.

OMCs have reported that assessment of domestic LPG demand in the country,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

including hilly States, is made by OMCs considering the seasonal variation and endeavour is made to arrange supplies in accordance with the demand. To meet the additional demand, if any, Bottling Plants are operated for extended hours and also on Sundays/Holidays.

Supply of piped gas in Uttarakhand

†363. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry will consider to formulate any plan to provide Piped Natural Gas in the cities in the plains of Uttarakhand;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry will provide PNG to Dehradun, Vikasnagar, Haridwar, Roorkee, Manglaur, Bahadrabad, Narsan, Kotdwar, Jaspur, Kashipur, Ramnagar, Udham Singh Nagar, Haldwani, Tanakpur, Khatima, Sitarganj, etc. in the State;

(c) if so, by when PNG will be provided to the said cities; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) In year 2007, Government established Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) under the PNGRB Act, 2006. Under the Act, PNGRB grants authorization to the entities for developing a City Gas Distribution (CGD) network in the specified Geographical Area (GA) of the country through a bidding process. PNGRB has envisaged a phased roll out plan for development of CGD networks in several GAs in various States including Uttarakhand. The GAs are included in bidding rounds in a phased manner depending on the natural gas pipeline connectivity/natural gas availability and feasibility for grant of authorization to develop CGD networks in the country. In the State of Uttarakhand, the work to develop CGD network (including Piped Natural Gas (PNG) network) in the Districts of Haridwar and Udham Singh Nagar has been awarded to M/s Haridwar Natural Gas Pvt. Ltd. - a JV of GAIL Gas Ltd. & Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL) and to the JV of IOCL - Adani respectively on 14.8.2015.

(c) and (d) The authorized entities have started work of development of CGD network in their respective GAs. However, no timelines have been fixed in this regard.

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