(d) the current and future plans to drill all proposed CBM blocks in the financial year 2018-19?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Limited is operating in three Coal Bed Methane (CBM) blocks *i.e.* Bokaro, North Karanpura and Jharia in the State of Jharkhand. ONGC has completed exploration phase in all three blocks of Jharkhand and established commercial availability of CBM. The block-wise details of in-place volume of CBM gas reported by ONGC in three blocks are as under:–

Field	In-Place Volume of CBM Gas MMm^3
Total Jharia	22711.8
Total Bokaro	30123.4
Total North Karanpura	22928.4

Field Development Plans of all three blocks have been approved by the Steering Committee. These blocks are at Development Phase. ONGC has started selling incidentally produced CBM gas (approx. 10,000-15000 m3/day) from Jharia block.

(d) ONGC has plans to drill 30 wells each in Bokaro and North Karanpura CBM blocks during financial year 2018-19. In respect of Jharia CBM Block, ONGC plans to undertake pre-operational activities during current year.

Proposal of PNGRB to allow all entities to lay pipelines

132. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the proposal of Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) Act. 2006, Government is allowing all entities to lay pipelines including GAIL for open access of the country's gas pipeline infrastructure;

(b) if so, the present status of gas pipeline network for integrating the gas/ crude network through capacity expansion and adding new pipelines thereof; and

(c) the reasons behind the plan to split State run gas utility organisation GAIL therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) Act, 2006 provides for granting authorization to the entities to lay, build, operate or expand gas pipeline as common carrier or contract carries in the country. PNGRB has defined the eligibility criteria for the entities including GAIL to lay pipelines as common carrier or contract carrier under the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) (Authorizing Entities to Lay, Build, Operate or Expand Natural Gas Pipelines) Regulations, 2008.

(b) There is no proposal to integrate gas/crude pipeline. At present, approximately 15800 km. of trunk Natural Gas Pipeline and 10400 km. of Crude Oil pipeline are passing through various States/UTs in the country.

(c) The policy of the Government notified in year 2006 regarding development of Natural Gas Pipeline and City Gas Distribution (CGD) networks has envisaged that in the long run and with the maturing of Gas market, the authorized entity will have transportation of natural gas as their sole business activity and will not have any business interest in the gas marketing in the CGD networks.

Receipt of gas supplies from Gazprom

133. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has started receiving gas supplies from Russia's Gazprom;

(b) if so, whether import price per unit is less than other countries and is cheaper on port delivery thereof;

(c) if so, the details of rate and the import contracts with other countries thereon; and

(d) the technical feasibility to stock and distribution of imported gas in the present scenario therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The first Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Cargo of Russian natural gas under the long term contract between GAIL India Limited and Gazprom Marketing and