

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) is the authority to grant authorization to the entities for the development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) network in Geographical Areas (GAs) as per PNGRB Act, 2006. PNGRB identifies GAs for authorizing the development of CGD network in synchronization with the development of natural gas pipeline connectivity and natural gas availability. Under the 10th CGD Bidding Round, PNGRB has authorized 50 Geographical Areas (GA) spread over 124 Districts across 14 States including Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore District (Nellore) GA in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

PNGRB has authorized Consortium of AG&P LNG Marketing Pte Ltd. and Atlantic Gulf and Pacific (AG&P) for development of CGD Networks in Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore District (Nellore) in the State of Andhra Pradesh. As per the Minimum Work Program submitted to PNGRB, the entity has committed to provide 8,52,111 PNG connections to households and to set up 81 CNG stations over the work plan period.

Production of CNG from stubble

1104. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that technology of converting stubble into Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is commercially viable;

(b) if so, whether Government has any such proposal to convert stubble into CNG, a move which will provide jobs and additional income to farmers and also will help reducing pollution; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the alternate arrangements for this purpose by Government?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) can be produced from biomass and organic waste sources like paddy straw and farm stubble, agricultural residue, cattle dung, sugarcane press mud, distillery spent wash, municipal solid waste, sewage treatment plant waste, forest residue etc.

Government of India has launched Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiative on 1.10.2018 to promote CBG as an alternative, green transport fuel for efficient management of biomass and organic waste. As part of the SATAT scheme, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Gail (India) Limited and Indraprastha Gas Limited had launched an Expression of Interest (EoI) for procurement of CBG from the entrepreneurs at an assured price. The CBG shall be sold to automobiles as clean fuel in a similar way to CNG and can also be sold to domestic, industrial and commercial consumers which are using LPG and other fuels. SATAT initiative has the potential of addressing environmental problems arising from stubble burning. The viability is based on techno commercial factors.

DBTL for LPG

†1105. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount saved so far by adopting the Direct Benefit Transfer for LPG (DBTL) across the country and the State-wise details thereof;
- (b) the total amount saved by deliberately giving up of subsidy, and the State-wise details thereof; and
- (c) the total outlay of the LPG connections provided in the rural areas, the State-wise details during the years 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) As per available data, the estimated savings due to blocked /non-subsidised domestic/ GiveltUp consumers from 2014-15 to June, 2019 is ₹63,664 crore.

(c) Year-wise details of amount re-imbursed to Oil Marketing Companies in lieu of LPG connections released under Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana are as under:-

Financial Year	Fund Reimbursed (₹ in crore)
2016-17	2,500
2017-18	2,251
2018-19	3,200

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.