

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 144
ANSWERED ON 03/02/2025

KOCHI-KANYAKUMARI-THOOTHUKUDI NATURAL GAS PIPELINE

144 SHRI P. WILSON:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of current progress of Kochi-Kanyakumari-Thoothukudi natural gas pipeline announced by Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board, budget allocated, anticipated completion timeline, area of total land required and whether any assessment study has been conducted to analyse on environmental impact, impact on agricultural land;
- (b) whether any steps have been taken to explore the possibility of building pipelines across highways/roads to save agricultural lands; and
- (c) the details of steps taken to increase natural gas share of India's energy mix from 6 per cent to 15 per cent by 2030 as announced by Government?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
(SHRI SURESH GOPI)

- (a) Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) vide Public Notice dated 17.10.2024 has invited bids under single-stage, two-bid system for the authorization to lay, build, operate or expand Kochi-Kanyakumari-Thoothukudi natural gas pipeline (KKTPL). The last date for submission of bid is 18.02.2025. The entity so authorized, post evaluation, is required to thereafter conduct preproject activities like allocation of Budget, Route Survey, Land Right of Use (RoU) notifications and acquisition including Environmental Impact Assessment etc.
- (b) Integrated infrastructure planning, including under PM Gati Shakti, by coordinating with the concerned ministries to optimize laying pipelines along highways/roads to minimize agricultural land usage is increasingly being adopted. However, wherever the pipeline is laid through agriculture land, once the pipeline laying is completed, the land is restored to its original state and can be used for cultivation/agriculture.
- (c) Various steps taken by the Government for increasing the share of natural gas in the energy basket, *inter-alia*, include expansion of National Gas Grid Pipeline, expansion of City Gas Distribution (CGD) network, setting up of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Terminals, allocation of domestic gas to Compressed Natural Gas (Transport) / Piped Natural Gas (Domestic) CNG(T)/PNG(D) on priority, allowing marketing and pricing freedom with a ceiling price to gas produced from high pressure/high temperature areas, deep water & ultra-deep water and from coal seams, Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiative to promote Bio-CNG, etc.
