

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1253
ANSWERED ON 31st July, 2023

USE OF NATRUAL GASES IN PLACE OF PETROLEUM

1253 SHRI SANT BALBIR SINGH:

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

- (a) whether Government is making any effort to adopt natural gases instead of petrol, considering the increasing transport in the country, petrol used in vehicles is continuously polluting environment, while on the other hand natural gas like CNG is pollution free gas, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether Government has any information on the means that have been converted from petrol to natural gas so far or the companies that have adopted natural gas; and
- (c) whether there is any policy of Government to increase the amount of use of these natural gases, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) Providing Piped Natural Gas (PNG) connections and establishment of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) station are part of the development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) Network and the same is being carried out by the entities authorised by Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB). In order to increase usage of clean fuel, thereby reducing pollution across the country, PNGRB has authorized 300 Geographical Areas (GAs) covering about 98% of the population and 88% of total geographical area of the country spread over around 630 districts in 28 states/UTs for development of CGD network across the country which also include setting up of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) stations for dispensing natural gas to vehicles.

(b) As per Vahan dashboard maintained by Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, the total number of CNG vehicles registered till 26.07.2023 were 60,03,079. As on 31.05.2023, as per data compiled by PNGRB, natural gas is being supplied by CGD entities to a total of 16,758 industrial units.

(c) Government has taken various steps for promoting usage of natural gas in the country so as to increase the share of natural gas in the primary energy mix. Various steps taken in this direction inter-alia include:

- i). Expansion of National Gas Grid to about 33,592 Km from current 23,173 Km.
- ii). Expansion of City Gas Distribution (CGD) network
- iii). Setting up of Liquefied Natural Gas Terminals.
- iv). Priority allocation of domestic gas to Compressed Natural Gas (Transport) / Piped Natural Gas (Domestic).
