

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.139
ANSWERED ON 22nd July, 2024

PIPED NATURAL GAS CONNECTION SCHEME

139 SHRI R. DHARMAR:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas be pleased to state:

- (a) the features of the piped natural gas connection scheme;
- (b) the details of the regions adequately covered by piped natural gas within the State of Tamil Nadu so far;
- (c) whether it is upto the set target;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether expansion of the piped gas network is a major focus of Government;
- (f) if so, the details thereof including Tamil Nadu; and
- (g) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

(SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a) to (g) Piped Natural Gas (domestic) is natural gas transported through pipelines or any other permitted mode in a City Gas Distribution (CGD) network for consumption by a domestic consumer. Providing Piped Natural Gas (PNG) connections are part of the development of CGD Network and the same is being carried out by the entities authorised by Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) as per their Minimum Work Programme (MWP). After authorization, the entities lay, build, operate or expand the CGD network as per the MWP and techno-commercial feasibility. After completion of 12/12A CGD bidding round, PNGRB has authorized 307 Geographical Areas (GAs) covering almost 100% of the total geographical area of the country spread over around 733 districts in 34 states/UTs for the development of CGD network with MWP target of establishing approx. 12.63 crore PNG connections across the country by 2032.

PNGRB has authorised 18 Geographical Areas (GAs) (1 GA spread over Puducherry (UT) & Tamil Nadu and 1 GA spread over Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka) covering all the districts in state of Tamil Nadu. The authorised CGD entities are required to establish 2,30,94,884 PNG (Domestic) Connections in the state of Tamil Nadu by 2030. As on 31.05.2024, the entities

have provided 41,108 PNG (Domestic) connections to households across various GAs in the State. PNGRB has informed that, for shortfall in achievement of MWP targets, the Authorized Entities have highlighted reasons inter-alia including delay in permission from the local authorities, Force Majeure events viz. Covid, high right of use and restoration charges, etc.

To promote the usage of gas in PNG (D) segment, Government has taken various measures to meet demands for Piped gas to households from cheaper domestic gas which includes diverting domestic gas from power and other non- priority sectors to meet the requirement of CNG(Transport) and PNG (Domestic) segments; declaring CNG(T)/PNG(D) sector as the first priority for allocation of domestic natural gas; priority to CNG(T)/PNG(D) sector for supply of High Pressure High temperature (HP-HT) gas in any situation requiring proportionate distribution of gas under the bidding process, etc.

Further, Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) has authorized approximately 33,478 km length of Natural Gas Pipeline Network across the Country with the aim to create a national gas grid and increase the availability of natural gas across the Country. The length of operational pipeline is 24,881 Kms in March 2024. 10,404Kms of pipeline is under construction.
