GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2535

ANSWERED ON- 11/08/2025

PIPELINE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

2535. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

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

- (a) the current status of pipeline infrastructure development under the National Gas Grid, including the total kilometers of pipelines completed versus the targeted timelines;
- (b) the reasons for delays in achieving the planned milestones, particularly in underserved regions;
- (c) whether Government has identified specific bottlenecks causing delays such as funding, land acquisition, or regulatory approvals, and the steps being taken to address them; and
- (d) the updated timeline for completing the National Gas Grid and ensuring equitable access to natural gas across all regions?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) is the authority to grant authorization to various entities to Lay, build, operate and expand Natural Gas Pipelines (NGPL). As on 31.03.2025, PNGRB has authorized approximately 34,233 km of NGPL networkwhich includes common carrier, spur line, tie-in connectivity and dedicated pipeline across the country to create a National Gas Grid to be completed within periods as specified in the PNGRB authorization out of which 25,429 km have been made operational.

Following bottlenecks/challenges have been identified by the entities which have caused delays in completion of NGPL projects:

- (i) Securing Right of Use (RoU) of land.
- (ii) Obtaining forest and environmental permissions.
- (iii) Obtaining approvals for crossings such as Rivers, Canals, Railways, National Highways which include multiple authorities.
- (iv) Lack of single-window clearance for getting multiple clearances.
- (v) Delay in deputation of officers by the respective State Governments as competent authority for acquisition of ROU.

Government continually reviews and coordinates with the concerned State Governments and executing agencies to resolve the challenges.
