

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 933**  
ANSWERED ON- 08/12/2025

**NATURAL GAS AND INFRASTRUCTURE EXPANSION**

933 # SHRI MITHLESH KUMAR:  
SMT. KIRAN CHOUDHRY:  
DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE:  
SMT. REKHA SHARMA:  
SHRI MAYANKKUMAR NAYAK:  
SHRI KESRIDEVSINH JHALA:  
SHRI LAHAR SINGH SIROYA:

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

- (a) the strategy of Government for the speedy construction of the National Gas Grid Pipeline and for strengthening interconnections;
- (b) the measures being implemented to increase liquidity and transparency on the Indian Gas Exchange (IGX), and the steps being taken to encourage the participation of small market participants; and
- (c) the strategy of Government to secure long-term international LNG contracts to meet the estimated 15 per cent demand share for gas, amid the volatility of the global market?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c) Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) grants authorization to entities to lay, build, operate and expand Natural Gas Pipelines (NGPL). With the aim to increase the availability of natural gas across the Country, PNGRB has authorized approximately 34,233 km of NGPL network which include common carrier, spur line, tie-in connectivity and dedicated pipeline across the country to various entities, out of which 25,429 km have been made operational as on June 2025. 10,459 Kms length of pipelines is under various stages of construction.

In order to expedite the construction of National Gas Grid, Government continually reviews and coordinates with the concerned State Governments and executing agencies to resolve the challenges such as securing Right of Use (RoU) of land, obtaining forest and environmental

permissions, obtaining approvals for crossings such as Rivers, Canals, Railways, National Highways which include multiple authorities, etc.

Government have permitted the domestic gas producers who have been granted pricing and marketing freedom to sell domestic gas upto 500 mmscm or 10% of annual production from their contract area whichever is higher, per year through gas exchanges authorized by PNGRB.

PNGRB has also taken various measures to enhance liquidity, transparency and ease of trading on Indian Gas Exchange (IGX) which, inter-alia, includes authorizing IGX to operate six Regional Gas Hubs and additional delivery points to attract more participants; introduction of ceiling-price domestic gas and small-scale LNG (ssLNG) segments on the exchange; and approval of Long Duration Contracts of 3 and 6 months as well as Balance-of-Month contracts to improve market depth and price discovery. Further, to facilitate market access to smaller market players, the exchange facilitates trading smaller lot size of 50 MMBtu/day (1250 SCMD).

Government have placed Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) under the Open General License (OGL) category, thereby allowing companies in private as well as public sector to secure long-term LNG contracts as per their requirements on mutually agreed commercial terms with suppliers.

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