

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 134
ANSWERED ON - 20/07/2026

**OBSTACLES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GAS PIPELINE PROJECTS IN BIHAR
AND THEIR SOLUTIONS**

134 # DR. DHARMSHILA GUPTA:

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

- (a) whether difficulties are being faced by GAIL (India) Limited in laying gas pipelines in urban and rural areas of the State of Bihar due to land acquisition, No Objection Certificates (NOCs), local administrative permissions, or other reasons, if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and
- (b) the steps being taken by Government to ensure the timely completion of gas pipeline projects aimed at expanding the supply of domestic Piped Natural Gas (PNG) and industrial gas in the State of Bihar?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b) Natural gas is supplied through a network of natural gas pipelines and through City Gas Distribution (CGD) Network. Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) is the authority to grant authorization to the entities to lay, build, operate or expand Gas Pipeline as per PNGRB Act, 2006. The State of Bihar is served by the Jagdishpur–Haldia–Bokaro–Dhamra–Paradip–Barauni–Guwahati Natural Gas Pipeline (JHBDPL), which was authorized to M/s GAIL (India) Limited on 29.01.2018. The pipeline traverses through the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha, and Assam, facilitating access to clean and reliable natural gas across the region. Of the total 722 km (Approx.) of pipeline network in Bihar, the entire length has been commissioned and is operational. The pipeline provides connectivity to all the authorized 14 nos Geographical Areas (GAs) within the state.

Progress of pipeline networks across the country including state of Bihar is regularly monitored. In addition, Government conducts regular interactions and meetings with State Governments for the development of natural gas pipeline network in respective States and address challenges in this regard.

Further, the Government has notified a comprehensive control order dated 24.03.2026 under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to facilitate time-bound expansion of pipeline infrastructure across the country. The Order provides a uniform framework for grant of right of way (RoW) and permissions by mandating strict timelines, enabling deemed approvals in case of delays, and prohibiting imposition of unauthorized charges by public authorities. It also addresses access issues in residential and private areas by ensuring non-discriminatory and time-bound permissions, thereby removing key bottlenecks in pipeline laying.

The Government of Bihar has also put in place a framework to expedite the implementation of piped natural gas infrastructure through high-level monitoring by the Chief Secretary, district-level coordination mechanisms, a Single Window Clearance System with deemed approvals and the Bihar CGD Policy, thereby facilitating faster approvals and inter-agency coordination.
