

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2520**  
ANSWERED ON-10/08/2026

**TIME-BOUND EXPANSION OF CITY GAS DISTRIBUTION NETWORK BY  
INDRAPRASTHA GAS LIMITED**

2520 DR. M. THAMBI DURAI:

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

- (a) whether Government has reviewed the progress of City Gas Distribution (CGD) projects being implemented by Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL);
- (b) whether any time-bound action plan has been approved for expanding PNG and CNG infrastructure in uncovered urban and semi-urban areas;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, including the targets and timelines fixed for implementation; and
- (d) the monitoring mechanism in place to ensure timely completion of projects and wider access to clean fuel across the country?

**ANSWER**

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

(SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a) to (d) Providing Piped Natural Gas (PNG) connections, establishment of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) stations and laying of pipeline infrastructure are part of the development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) Networks. This is being carried out by the entities authorized by Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB). After completion of 12/12A CGD bidding round, PNGRB has authorized entities for the development of CGD network in 309 Geographical Areas (GAs), covering the entire mainland area across the country (including urban and semi-urban areas). CGD infrastructure rollout is undertaken by the authorized entities in accordance with the authorization granted by PNGRB and the approved project plan. As on 31.05.2026, the authorized entities have provided more than 1.70 crore PNG (D) connections and established 8,980 CNG stations across the country.

PNGRB has authorized total 12 Nos of Geographical Areas (GAs) to Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) with Minimum Work Programme (MWP) targets of providing 27,70,123 Domestic PNG Connections, establishing 408 CNG Stations and laying 13,525 Inch-KM of pipeline by 2030. As of 31.05.2026, IGL has provided 34,93,058 DPNG Connections, established 899 CNG Stations and laid 34,901 Inch-KM of pipeline across its authorized GAs.

PNGRB, in collaboration with CGD entities, launched the National PNG Drive 2.0 from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026. PNGRB has informed that the initiative aims to ensure optimal utilization of existing infrastructure, promote new connections and activate non-billed customers, with an overall objective to increase the usage of natural gas across the diverse user categories. Under the initiative, various measures have been implemented by the Government and authorized CGD entities, including:

- i. Expansion of PNG connectivity to households, commercial establishments and industries;
- ii. Conversion of connected households into active billed consumers;
- iii. Awareness campaigns and consumer outreach programmes;
- iv. Coordination with State Governments and local authorities for expeditious statutory permissions; and
- v. Implementation of consumer-friendly measures, including digital registration, simplified connection processes and promotional schemes offered by CGD entities.

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, especially CGD. 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 progress of CGD networks is monitored regularly through reports submitted by CGD entities (including IGL). In cases of delay or shortfall, entities are advised to take corrective measures. This includes convening progress review meetings or statutory hearings, as provided under applicable regulations, to discuss challenges and review the latest status of Minimum Work Programme (MWP) targets in their authorized GAs and issuance of notices to defaulting entities directing compliance with the terms and conditions of authorization and informing them of regulatory action, including penalties, in case of continued default. Additionally, the Government holds regular interactions and meetings with State Governments to support the development of CGD networks in their respective states and to address related challenges.

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