

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. 121

TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.03.2018

PIPED NATURAL GAS

*** 121. SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV:**

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

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government proposes to allow private operators on a large scale to provide Piped Natural Gas (PNG) to the houses with a view to speeding up the campaign 'Sabhi Ghar Tak Swachh Indhan' and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any private suppliers are providing PNG in Parbhani and Thane in Maharashtra; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री (श्री धर्मन्द्र प्रधान)

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.121 ASKED BY SHRI SANJAY HARIBHAU JADHAV,
MP TO BE ANSWERED ON MARCH 5, 2018**

(a) & (b): The Government has established Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) under the PNGRB Act, 2006 which is the statutory authority to grant authorization for the development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) network which includes Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) / Piped Natural Gas (PNG) network. As per PNGRB Regulations, private entities can also participate in the City Gas Distribution (CGD) bidding rounds provided they meet the eligibility bidding criteria prescribed in the PNGRB Regulations. Mahanagar Gas Limited has been authorized for development of City Gas Distribution Network in the Geographical Area (GA) of part of Thane City and adjoining contiguous areas, and Gujarat Gas Limited for development of City Gas Distribution Network in the balance Thane district. PNGRB develops GAs depending upon the natural gas pipeline connectivity/natural gas availability and techno-commercial feasibility and is in the process of finalizing 86 GAs covering 174 districts for future rounds of CGD bidding which includes 5 GAs covering 9 districts, (Nashik, Satara, Sangli, Sindhudurg, Latur, Osmanabad, Aurangabad, Ahmednagar and Dhule) in the state of Maharashtra. In respect of Parbhani, PNGRB has not authorized any entity so far, for the development of CGD network.

(c): In order to strengthen the PNG network across the country, Prime Minister in his address during Urja Sangam on 27.03.2015 made an announcement that the piped gas connections (PNG) should be increased from 25 lakhs to one crore connections in the next four years. In order to promote the expansion of City gas networks and to enhance the usage of natural gas in cities, the Government has taken following steps:

- i. Domestic gas, which is cheaper than imported gas, has been allocated to meet the entire requirement of PNG (D) and CNG (T) segments of CGD sector and it has been kept under no cut category.
- ii. Public Utility Status granted to CGD Projects by Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- iii. Ministry of Defence has issued guidelines for use of PNG in its residential areas / unit lines
- iv. Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) has issued guidelines to Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs) to have the provisions of PNG in their respective residential complexes.
- v. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has issued advisory to State Governments on following aspects, (a) to standardize the Road Restoration / permission charges along with time bound permission in accordance with the local conditions; (b) earmarking of land plot for development of CNG Stations at the planning stage of town/city and same should be specified in the revised Master Plan; and (c) relevant modification in building by-laws for providing gas pipeline infrastructure in residential & commercial buildings at architectural design stage.

- vi. Further, MoHUA has directed to CPWD & NBCC to have the provisions of PNG in all Government Residential complexes.
- vii. In the FY 2017-18 planned Capital Expenditure of Rs.3400 Crore has been planned in CGD sector, against which Rs.1308 Crore has been utilized in first three quarters of 2017-18. Further it is planned to increase the Planned Capital Expenditure to Rs.4130 Crore in the FY 2018-19.
- viii. Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) is reviewing the current regulatory framework to invite bids for development of city gas network projects.
- ix. PNGRB has identified 86 new Geographical Areas where the development of city gas networks will be awarded in coming year.

This ministry also regularly reviews the progress in the execution of CGDs. For the current year, GAIL has been assigned a target to connect 10 lakh new Households with PNG supplies through its subsidiary/JV CGD companies in MoU 2017-18.
