

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3104**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.12.2018**

**Gas Trading Hub**

3104. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:  
SHRIMATI SANTOSH AHLAWAT:  
SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is in process of setting up a Gas Trading Hub for easy access of gas to suppliers and buyers and if so, the details thereof along with the details of its launching;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to make around 300 billion dollars investment in the energy sector and if so, the details thereof along with the details of the new projects proposed to be started with this investment in the country, State/UT-wise including Jharkhand; and
- (c) whether the Ratnagiri Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited (RRPCL) project is stopped due to the land acquisition issue and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government to speed up/expedite the said project?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

- (a) It has been agreed to establish the gas trading hub(s)/exchange(s) in the country wherein the natural gas can be freely traded and supplied through a market mechanism. In view of the administrative, legal, operational issues involved a precise timeframe for operationalizing the gas trading exchange/hub cannot be indicated at this stage.
- (b) As per draft National Energy Policy of NITI Aayog, US \$ 150 billion capital investment is needed in energy sector on an annual basis until 2040.

In order to develop the national gas grid, Government has taken a decision to provide a capital grant of Rs.5176 crore (i.e. 40% of the estimated capital cost of Rs.12,940 Crore) to GAIL for development of a 2655 Km long Jagdishpur-Haldia/Bokaro-Dhamra Gas Pipeline (JHBDPL)

project. This pipeline will transport Natural Gas to the industrial, commercial, domestic and transport sectors in the States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal and Uttar Pradesh.

In order to expand City Gas Network in the state of Jharkhand, PNGRB has authorized Bokaro, Hazaribagh & Ramgarh districts geographical area, Giridih & Dhanbad districts geographical area, Ranchi district and East Singhbhoom district at an average investment of Rs. 400 crore per district during the work plan period.

(c) Oil Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) namely Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) have decided to set up an integrated refinery-cum-petrochemical complex with a refining capacity of 60 MMTPA (Million Metric Tonnes Per Annum) at Babulwadi, Taluka Rajapur in Ratnagiri District in the state of Maharashtra.