LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3059

TO BE ANSWERED ON 7th August, 2025

PIPED NATURAL GAS CONNECTIONS IN BIHAR

3059. DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the connections of Piped Natural Gas in Bihar particularly in District Gopalganj, Muzzafarpur and Saran are delayed by the concerned agencies in the areas and the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the details of the total connections provided in the District Gopalganj and other surrounding areas in Bihar as on date;
- (c) whether it is a fact that the issue of not providing Piped Natural Gas (PNG) connection in Bihar particularly in District Gopalganj and other districts is causing numerous pressure on consumers and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has directed the concerned agency to complete the work at the earliest and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the concerned agencies are deliberately delaying connections of Piped Natural Gas in Bihar particularly in District Gopalganj and other surrounding districts despite commercial feasibility and if so, the details thereof along with the action to be taken in this regard?

ANSWER पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (श्री सुरेश गोपी)

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

(a) to (e) Providing Piped Natural Gas (PNG) connections is a part of development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) network and the same is carried out by the entities authorized by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB).

Gopalganjdistrict is covered under Geographical Area (GA) comprising Gopalganj, Siwan, West Champaran, East Champaran districts of Bihar &Deoria district of Uttar Pradesh.PNGRB has authorized Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) in May, 2022 for development of CGD network in the GA. As per Minimum Work Programme (MWP) target mandated by PNGRB, BPCL has to provide10,10,999 PNG connections in the Geographical Area (GA) by 2030,out of which, as on 31.05.2025, BPCL has provided 22,800 PNG connections in Gopalganj, Siwan, West Champaran, East Champaran and Deoria districts GA.

Muzzafarpur and Sarandistricts are covered under GA comprising Muzaffarpur, Vaishali, Saran and Samastipur districts. PNGRB has authorized Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) in March, 2019 for development of CGD network in the GA. As per Minimum Work Programme (MWP) target mandated by PNGRB, IOCL has to provide 10,06,975 PNG connections in the GA by 2029,out of which, as on 31.05.2025, IOCL has provided 52,775 PNG connections in Muzaffarpur, Vaishali, Saran and Samastipur districts GA.

The Governmentas well as the PNGRB monitors the progress of CGD networks. This includes calling them for progress review meetings based on reports submitted by the entities to PNGRB, field visits by officers, discussion with entities regarding challenges faced in meeting their MWP targets in their authorised GAs, statutory hearings by PNGRB under existing regulations, etc. If there are any delays or shortfalls, the entities are advised to take corrective actions.
