

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 952
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05 FEBRUARY 2026

STRENGTHENING OF SAFETY OF OIL AND GAS PIPELINES

952. SHRI PARSHOTTAMBHAI RUPALA:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any specific preventive measures to stop unauthorised digging near underground oil and gas pipelines including mandatory excavation permissions, geo-mapping, public marking and penal action in view of repeated fire accidents, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Union Government in coordination with State Governments has established or proposes to establish a dedicated monitoring and safety mechanism for protection of oil and gas pipelines, if so, the details of such mechanism and its implementation status; and
- (c) whether the Government has examined international legislations including South Korea's pipeline safety law and whether the Government proposes to adopt similar statutory provisions to strengthen pipeline safety, accountability and accident prevention in the country, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(श्री सुरेश गोपी)**

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

(a) & (b) Oil and Gas companies have implemented various measures to protect underground oil and gas pipelines from unauthorized digging which inter-alia includes Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems for real-time monitoring, regular security patrolling, Leak Detection Systems (LDS), public awareness campaigns, Pipeline Intrusion Detection Systems (PIDS), negative pressure wave leak detection systems, Geographic Information System (GIS)-based pipeline mapping, etc. The Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (P&MP) Act, 1962 restricts the construction of permanent structures or tree plantations in pipeline Right of User (ROU) areas and provide penalties, including imprisonment for damaging pipelines. Under the aegis of PM Gati Shakti program, any new project in the vicinity is notified to the utility owners using Gati Shakti portal. This aids in identification of potential for infringement. The Department of Telecommunication has developed an application CBuD (Call Before you Dig) and is being implemented by the oil and gas companies to facilitate coordination between excavation agencies and the oil and gas companies GAs (Geographical Areas) thus reducing the incidents and damage to the CGD (City Gas Distribution) infrastructure. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) are in place to identify pipeline locations, determine pipeline depth, and obtain approvals for crossing work. Thus, oil and gas companies maintain close coordination with the State and Central Government agencies to secure underground gas and oil pipelines.

(c) No.
