

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 218

TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.11.2015

ACCIDENT IN GAIL PIPELINE

218. SHRIMATI V. SATHYA BAMA:

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

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

- (a) whether the Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) proposes to deploy Drone to guard its pipelines and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the said move follows one of the worst accidents involving the GAIL last year in its pipeline carrying natural gas exploded in Andhra Pradesh killed large number of persons; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)

(श्रीधर्मेंद्रप्रधान)

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF
PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a) to (c): GAIL (India) Limited is operating a large network of Cross country and regional pipelines for Natural Gas and LPG. The pipelines are buried underground by obtaining ROU (Right Of User). Surveillance of vast network of pipelines across the country is required to ensure the safety & reliability of pipelines and guard against sabotage, exposure, soil erosion, excavation and construction works etc. Presently, it is being achieved through regular periodic foot patrolling and air surveillance by hiring Helicopter Services on monthly basis. GAIL intends to take up aerial surveillance of inaccessible terrains through UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) on Pilot basis after obtaining requisite permissions and clearances.

The surveillance measures are being taken not due to the accident in GAIL's pipeline but

were in place even before that. GAIL and ONGC have taken steps separately to address the causes for accident in the pipeline in Andhra Pradesh last year and five Gas Dehydration Units (GDUs) have been installed.
