GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4306 ANSWERED ON:19.08.2010 SETTING UP OF NATIONAL GAS HIGHWAY

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to set up a National Gas Highway covering the length and breadth of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any techno economic feasibility study has been conducted in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the difference of opinion between Ministry of Finance and Planning Commission, on the issue been resolved; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

- (a) to (f): Gas pipelines are laid according to gas availability, demand and commercial viability. With the increase in availability of natural gas, the Government is taking steps to expand natural gas transportation infrastructure in the country. Accordingly, the Government has issued authorizations for the following trunk natural gas pipelines totalling about 9000 km:-
- (i) Dadri-Bawana-Nangal Pipeline
- (ii) Chainsa-Gurgaon-Jhajjar-Hissar Pipeline
- (iii) Kochi-Koottanad-Mangalore-Bangalore Pipeline
- (iv) Dabhol-Bangalore Pipeline
- (v) Jagdishpur-Haldia Pipeline
- (vi) Kakinada-Basudebpur-Howrah Pipeline
- (vii) Vijaywada-Nellore-Chennai Pipeline
- (viii) Chennai-Tuticorin Pipeline
- (ix) Chennai-Bangalore-Mangalore Pipeline

Further, in order to encourage investment in natural gas sector, Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) Act, 2006 has been enacted and PNGRB has been constituted. The Board is responsible for inter alia giving authorizations for building natural gas trunk pipelines. PNGRB has initiated action to further expand the natural gas pipeline network by about 5000 km.

A proposal for setting up of National Gas Highway Development Authority has been under examination. The concerned Ministries/Department/Organizations, including Ministry of Finance and the Planning Commission, have commented upon the same.