

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4934

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2010

UTILIZATION POLICY FOR DOMESTIC NATURAL GAS

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

- (a) whether the regulator for oil and gas marketing companies have opposed the utilization policy for domestic natural gas;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure uninterrupted and adequate supply of natural gas in all parts of the country and to promote competitive markets?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No, Madam. However, Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board has suggested that commercial and industrial segments of City Gas Distribution Sector may be accorded the same priority as given to transport & domestic segments.

(c): Government has adopted a multi-pronged strategy to enhance availability of natural gas in the country, consisting inter alia of the following:-

- (i) Intensification of domestic Exploration & Production (E&P) activities through New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) rounds.
- (ii) Coal Bed Methane (CBM)
- (iii) Underground Coal Gasification
- (iv) Gas Hydrates
- (v) Import of LNG from various countries, and
- (vi) Transnational pipelines, viz., Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) pipeline and Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) pipeline. Further, Government of India has enacted the 'Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) Act, 2006' to regulate the refining, processing, storage, transportation, distribution, marketing and sale of petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas excluding production of crude oil and natural gas so as to protect the interests of consumers and entities engaged in specified activities relating to petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas and to ensure uninterrupted and adequate supply of petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas in all parts of the country and to promote competitive markets and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.