

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4980
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2010
BLOWOUT GAS PIPELINE OF GAIL
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

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

- (a) whether there was a blowout between Ponnamanda-Kadali, Mandal Mamidikuduru in East Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the gas pipeline belongs to GAIL India Ltd.;
- (d) if so, the reasons behind this blowout; and
- (e) the total loss suffered by GAIL India Ltd. as a result thereof?

Answer

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

- (a): Yes, Madam.
- (b): There was a leakage and fire on 9.11.2010 in Ponnamanda-Kadali natural gas pipeline at 2.3 km chainage location from Ponnamanda. The location is in the midst of a canal and adjacent to a fish pond. The upstream and downstream isolation valves were closed immediately. Repairing of the affected portion of the pipeline has been completed on 20.11.2010 and subsequently, the canal has also been restored. Intelligent pigging from Ponnamanda-Kadali natural gas pipeline has been carried out to further establish the integrity of the pipeline.
- (c) Yes, Madam.
- (d): Apparent reason for the leakage appears to be internal corrosion of the pipeline due to corrosive substances present in the gas.
- (e): GAIL has spent about Rs. 48 Lakhs towards rectification of the blast section. The gas loss is about 26000 Standard Cubic Meters.