GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1580 ANSWERED ON:22.03.2012 PIPELINE PROJECT OF GAIL Karunakaran Shri P.;Rajesh Shri M. B.

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

- (a) the status of implementation of the Kochi-Mangalore pipeline project of Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL);
- (b) the details of grievances/ complaints received by the Government regarding laying of this pipeline alongwith the steps taken by the Government to address such issues;
- (c) the criteria being followed for land acquisition and award of compensation to affected people for this pipeline;
- (d) whether the Government of Kerala has demanded a hike in compensation amount for the Right of Use (RoU) of land; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N SINGH)

- (a): The pipeline project consists of two phases. Laying of 40 km pipeline in Kochi region has been planned in the first phase, out of which 33.5 km of pipeline has been welded and lowered so far. The first phase is going to be commissioned in FY 2012-13. Laying of pipeline from Kochi to Bangalore / Mangalore has been planned in the second phase. So far, laying contracts have been awarded in January 2012 and mobilization of equipment and manpower is in progress. The anticipated completion of second phase is in FY 2013-14.
- (b): The grievances received by Competent Authority after publication of notification under section 3(1) of The Petroleum & Minerals Pipeline (Acquisition of Right of User in Land) Act 1962 [P&MP Act] declaring the intention to acquire RoU were heard by the Competent Authority and disposed off in accordance with the provision of the Act.
- (c): All owners of the land through which gas pipeline is proposed are given notices, inviting objections if any, after Gazette Publication of intention for acquisition of land under Section 3(1) of the P&MP Act. The Competent Authority (serving State Govt. official on deputation) responsible for acquisition of Right of User in land (RoU) holds hearing at Tehsil level where objections are heard and all efforts are made to remove doubts/ misconceptions, if any, with regard to the gas pipeline. The suggestions from land owners for rerouting of pipeline received during such hearings are also given due consideration, subject to technical feasibility. Compensation towards acquisition of Right of User in land is paid @ 10% of market value of land prevailing in the area. The market value is determined by Competent Authority based on consultations / copy of registries/ circle rate in the area. Compensation for other damages like standing crops, damages to irrigation facilities if any are also paid as determined by Competent Authority.

Before laying the line GAIL interacts with the Local administration apprising them of the passage of line and the steps taken to mitigate local problems of the villagers.

(d) & (e): The process for determination of compensation in respect of second phase has not yet begun.