

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2678

ANSWERED ON:29.03.2012

SHORTAGE OF LPG

Suklabaidya Shri Lalit Mohan

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there is acute shortage of LPG in the Karimganj town of Assam ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the proposal for alternative measures to construct pipelines for supply of natural gas found in North Patharia to households ;
- (c) the time frame for setting up of such pipelines ;
- (d) whether such a project would be taken up on priority basis keeping in view the shortage of LPG and also providing employment to large number of local people ; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and other remedial measures taken by the Government ?

**Answer**

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

(a) : Yes, Madam. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) has reported a backlog of about 60 Metric Tonne (MT) LPG in Karimganj town of Assam due to shortage of LPG during the month of February 2012 and March 2012. Government has reviewed the overall backlog situation and advised IOC to liquidate it by operating the bottling plants on holidays and during extended hours.

At present, the bottling capacity in Assam is sufficient to meet the present demand. A 24 point electronic Carousel has been commissioned by IOC at their Silchar plant and related equipment for bottling operations are being upgraded to take care of the increase in future demand. In addition to this, the storage capacity is planned to be augmented.

(b) to (e) : In order to encourage investment in gas sector and trunk pipeline, the Government has set up Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) under the PNGRB Act, 2006. Under the said Act, the Board is inter-alia, responsible for giving authorization for building natural gas trunk pipelines and City Gas Distribution Projects (CGD) throughout the country. To provide natural gas to customers in the State of Assam, the Assam Gas Company Limited (AGCL), a Government of Assam enterprises is operating a gas pipeline network of 1000 km with design capacity to carry 7 MMSCMD of gas in Assam. In addition GAIL (India) Limited is also operating 8 km pipeline with design capacity of 3 MMSCMD in Assam. As on date AGCL is supplying Piped Natural Gas (PNG) to 23384 numbers of households.