

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4297
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2013
GAS PIPELINE PROJECTS
Adhi Sankar Shri

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

- (a) whether the Government had cancelled the authorisation issued to a private company to lay down gas pipelines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) has invited bids to build gas pipeline projects originally allocated to the private company, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the PNGRB had reviewed the feasibility of laying the said pipelines passing through agricultural land and forests and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;and
- (e) the names of the potential consumers which are likely to be benefited as a result of the said projects?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SMT. PANABAACA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Due to non-compliance of the terms & conditions of authorization, MoPNG on 24.09.2012 has rescinded the authorization granted to Reliance Gas Transportation Infrastructure Limited (RGTEL) for the following four natural gas pipelines:

- (i) Kakinada-Basudebpur-Howrah Pipeline
- (ii) Kakinada-Chennai Pipeline
- (iii) Chennai-Bangalore-Mangalore Pipeline
- (iv) Chennai-Tuticorin Pipeline

(c) Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) has not yet invited bids for grant of authorization to lay the above four natural gas pipelines.

(d) & (e) Based on various techno-commercial parameters optimal pipeline routes are selected by the concerned entities in accordance with the governing Acts and statutes such as Petroleum and Minerals Pipelines (P&MP) Act, 1962, Forest Conservation Act, etc. Accordingly, eco sensitive areas, forests, etc are avoided to the extent possible. The pipeline route is selected in such a way that it passes through various demand centers.