

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:105
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2009
NATIONAL GAS HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Ray Shri Rudramadhab ;Satpathy Shri Tathagata

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up the National Gas Highway Development Authority;
- (b) if so, the aims and objectives thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to abolish the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) and other such agencies to enable the said authority to function free of all multiple complications;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the manner in which the Government proposes to streamline the functioning of these agencies?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 105 BY SHRI RUDRA MADHAB RAY AND SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY, MPs TO BE ANSWERED ON 26TH NOVEMBER, 2009 REGARDING NATIONAL GAS HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

(a) & (b): With the increase in availability of natural gas in the country and to ensure supply of natural gas to unserved areas of the country, Government proposes to develop an institutional mechanism for development of long-distance Gas Highways leading to a National Gas Grid. Accordingly, National Gas Highway Development Authority is proposed to be set up. It is envisaged that the Authority would plan, develop, manage and regulate the Gas Highways and concentrate on planning the development of gas pipeline infrastructure, especially in remote and under-developed regions, leading to a National Gas Grid.

(c): No Madam.

(d): Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e): Certain amendments are proposed in the Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) Act, 2006 to adequately empower PNGRB to perform the desired functions and to remove ambiguities.