

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4547
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2009
SUPPLY OF NATURAL GAS
Swaraj Smt. Sushma

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the investment in Fertilizer plants of the country has stopped due to absence of assured supply of gas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and
- (c) the time by which the Government is likely to ensure supply of gas to the above plants?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Government has decided to give the highest priority to existing gas-based urea plants in allocation of KG D6 gas. In compliance of the decision, 15.33 million metric standard cubic metre per day (mmscmd) gas was allocated to existing gas-based urea plants to meet their existing shortfall to enable their full capacity utilization. Subsequently, allocation of 0.178 mmscmd gas has been made to the existing gas-based plant producing subsidized fertilizers other than urea.

Regarding demand emanating from de-bottlenecking of and expansion of fertilizer plants, conversion of Naphtha based and fuel oil based fertilizer plants and revival of closed fertilizer plants, it has been decided that it would be given the highest priority and will be met from production in subsequent years. Further, it has been decided that such plants would be supplied natural gas as and when they are ready to utilize the gas.