

**THIRTY-FIFTH REPORT
COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

(Presented to Lok Sabha on 13.12.2022)



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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(i)

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Shri Harish Dwivedi - *Chairperson*

MEMBERS

2. Shri Anto Antony
3. Shri Hanuman Beniwal
4. Prof. Sanjay Sadashivrao Mandlik
5. Shri P. Ravindhranath
6. Dr. Jayanta Kumar Roy
7. Shri Arvind Ganpat Sawant
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13. Shri Rajan Baburao Vichare
14. *Vacant*
15. *Vacant*

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri T.G. Chandrasekhar - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Raju Srivastava - Director
3. Shri Tenzin Gyaltzen - Deputy Secretary

**THIRTY-FIFTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Committee on Petitions, having been authorised by the Committee to present on their behalf, this Thirty-Fifth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee to the House on the representation of Shri Tokhehe Yepthomi for increasing the capacity of LPG Bottling Plants, Compressed Natural Gas Stations in the North-Eastern States, especially in Guwahati and other important issues related therewith.

2. The Committee considered and adopted the draft Thirty-Fifth Report at their sitting held on 12 December, 2022.

3. The observations/recommendations of the Committee on the above matters have been included in the Report.

NEW DELHI;

**12 December, 2022
21 Agrahayana, 1944 (Saka)**

**HARISH DWIVEDI,
Chairperson,
Committee on Petitions.**

REPORT

REPRESENTATION RECEIVED FROM SHRI TOKHEHE YEPTHOMI FOR INCREASING THE CAPACITY OF LPG BOTTLING PLANTS, COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS STATIONS IN THE NORTH-EASTERN STATES, ESPECIALLY IN GUWAHATI AND OTHER IMPORTANT ISSUES RELATED THEREWITH.

Shri Tokhehe Yeptthomi had submitted a representation dated 28.01.2022 before the Committee on Petitions for increasing the capacity of LPG Bottling Plants, Compressed Natural Gas Stations in the North-Eastern States, especially in Guwahati and other important issues related therewith.

2. The representationist, in his representation, *inter-alia* stated that Assam is a State in the north-eastern part of the Country, sharing its border with Bhutan and Arunachal Pradesh to the North; Nagaland and Manipur to the East, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram and Bangladesh to the South and West Bengal to the West. The representationist has further stated that the State of Assam has experienced economic development over the years with Agriculture being its most important economic activity, accounting for over 70% of its economy along with other significant activities which include forestry, tourism, insurance, real estate, and miscellaneous cottage industries. The Government of India has laid emphasis on the composite development of North-Eastern States especially after the year 2014, in view of alleged continuous neglect by the previous Governments over the years. The representationist had further stated that there has been relatively slow progress regarding the availability of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) in the entire region. It is a matter of concern that at present, the LPG Bottling Plants established in the region have failed to meet the ever increasing requirement of this essential commodity due to increase in population of North-Eastern States. Besides, at present, there is also a dismal presence of CNG or H-CNG stations in the entire region, as also keeping in view the hilly and difficult terrain of the North-Eastern Region. Therefore, there is an urgent need for laying the Natural Gas Pipeline along with increasing its connectivity. The work of laying of pipeline comes under the purview of Petroleum & Natural Gas Board (PNGRB) and the three major Government controlled Oil Companies, viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), which have made efforts to increase the capacity of LPG Bottling Plants and Compressed Natural Gas Stations in the North-Eastern States, especially in Assam. However, till date, the progress is not to the satisfaction of local

populace of North Eastern States, especially, in Assam. The representationist has mentioned that with regard to the Government policies and programmes, the Government, has already given their approval towards laying of such pipeline along with sufficient funds to these Public Sector Oil Companies, but the effort which was required to be put in by these Companies while adhering to strict time schedule has been missing and as a result of it, the people who are residing in North-Eastern States have to wait for a long time to get any benefit in this regard. Now, the time has come when the Oil Companies should chalk out a clear strategy to complete various projects in a time-bound manner so that not only the domestic consumers would benefit but also the trading and industrial sectors could also flourish while reviving the economy of the North-Eastern Region. The representationist has, therefore, requested to look into the matter by examining aforementioned issues raised in his representation.

3. The Committee on Petitions (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) took up the representation of Shri Tokhehe Yephthomi for examination under Direction 95 of the Directions by the Speaker, Lok Sabha. Accordingly, the representation was referred to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for furnishing their comments on the issues raised in the representation and also, a detailed List of Points was also forwarded to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for furnishing their appropriate replies in the matter.

4. In order to have realistic assessment of the issues/points raised in the representation of Shri Tokhehe Yephthomi, the Committee undertook an on-the-spot study Visit to Guwahati on 2 June, 2022. During the said Study Visit, the Committee held informal discussion with the representative of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL).

5. The Committee desired to know the specific targets fixed by the various oil Marketing Companies (OMC's) for increasing the share of natural gas in the primary mix. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas/IOCL/HPCL/BPCL and GAIL, in a written reply, submitted:-

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

Government of India has vision of increasing natural gas share in primary energy mix from present 6% to 15% by 2030. In-line with GOI vision, Indian Oil has taken various initiatives. Some of them are as per following:-

- (i) Indian Oil has booked Regas Capacities at Dahej, Kochi terminals as well as upcoming re-gas terminals viz. Dhamra and Jafrabad terminals.
- (ii) Indian Oil has signed Long Term contracts with global LNG suppliers for import of LNG on Long Term basis. Apart from Long Term, Indian Oil also imports LNG on spot basis.
- (iii) Indian Oil is developing cross country Gas Pipelines on its own as well as through JVCs namely Gujarat India Gasnet Ltd. (GIGL), Gujarat India Transco Ltd. (GITL) and Indradhanush Gas Grid Ltd (IGGL).
- (iv) Indian Oil is developing City Gas Distribution Networks in 49 GAs on its own as well as through JVCs namely Indian Oil Adani Pvt. Ltd. (IOAGPL) and Green Gas Ltd. (GGL).
- (v) Indian Oil is supplying LNG through Tankers by road to customers not connected to gas pipelines.
- (vi) Indian Oil is also developing LNG stations along National Highways.

Indian Oil along with its two JVCs has authorizations for 49 Geographical Areas (GAs) for developing and operating CGD network. Details of entity wise authorizations are as below: -

- (i) Green Gas Limited (JV with GAIL (India) Ltd.): 4 GAs.
- (ii) Indian Oil Adani Gas Pvt. Ltd (JV with Adani Total Gas Ltd.): 19 GAs.
- (iii) Indian Oil (standalone basis) : 26 Gas.

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

The share of Natural Gas in Indian Energy Basket is currently at 6.7 per cent. Government of India intends to increase this share to 15% by 2030 and make India a gas based economy. HPCL is focussed to establish itself as a credible player in the gas value chain in India covering re-gasification infrastructure, city gas distribution networks, cross country pipelines and marketing to downstream customers. On standalone basis, HPCL has been awarded the authorisation of 14 GAs (including

those awarded under the 11th/11A round) by PNGRB in 8 states covering 37 districts. Along with JV partners, HPCL has presence in 23 GAs covering 12 states and 48 districts on pan-India basis. Targets for CGD entities are as per the authorisation given by PNGRB in terms of the Minimum Work Program, PNG Connections, CNG stations, Creation of Steel Pipe Grid which are fixed for a specified period. The target given to HPCL for the current GAs where work is progressing are, as under:-

Figures in Nos.

State	District	8 th year target		
		Total PNG Domestic Connections (Nos)	Steel Pipeline (Inch-km)	Total No. of CNG stations
Haryana	Jind Sonipat	98000	1183	38
Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly pilibhit Rampur	145000	1200	140
Uttar Pradesh	Eta Farukkabad Hardoi	98000	1200	75
Uttar Pradesh	Mainpuri and Kannauj	60000	972	45
Uttar Pradesh	Shahjahanpur and Budaun	125000	950	75
Uttar Pradesh/ Uttarakhand	Bijnor and Nainital*	300000	NA	91
West Bengal	Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri Uttar Dinajpur *	690000	NA	125
West Bengal	Howrah Hooglee	575000	900	100
West Bengal	Nadia, North 24 Paraganas	625000	1543	110
West Bengal	South 24 Paraganas	300000	1552	65

*MWP period for two GAs i.e. Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri Uttar Dinajpur and Nainital Bijnor GA is 10 years and there is no target for Steel pipeline laying (InchKM).

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) is mandated to authorize entities to lay, build, operate or expand city or local natural gas distribution network (CGD Network) for which it calls for the bids from entities for laying, building, operating or expansion of CGD networks. The Bidding is done on 5 parameters, where entities must quote for the proposed infrastructure and transportation rate:

- (i) PNG (D) connections to be achieved within 8 contract years
- (ii) Number of CNG Stations within 8 contract years
- (iii) Inch-kilometer of steel pipeline to be laid within 8 contract years
- (iv) Transportation rate for CGD

(v) *Transportation rate for CNG.*

For CGD, the quoted numbers by successful entity becomes the Target which are monitored by Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB). BPCL and BGRL (wholly owned subsidiary) have been awarded authorization for development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) Networks by Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) for 25 GAs. The state wise details of the GAs authorized to BPCL & BGRL are given below:-

S. No	Name of Geographical Area Authorized	State
1	Saharanpur District	Uttar Pradesh
2	Amethi, Pratapgarh & Raebareli Districts	
3	Rupnagar District	Punjab
4	Bilaspur, Hamirpur & Una Districts	Himachal Pradesh
5	Yamunanagar District	Haryana
6	Rohtak District	
7	Satna & Shahdol Districts	Madhya Pradesh
8	Siddhi & Singhrauli Districts	
9	Ahmednagar & Aurangabad Districts	Maharashtra
10	Sangli & Satara Districts	
11	Ballari & Gadag Districts	Karnataka
12	Bidar District	
13	Angul & Dhenkanal Districts	
14	Jajpur & Kendujhar Districts	Odisha
15	Bargarh, Debagarh & Sambalpur Districts	
16	Jagatsinghpur & Kendrapara Districts	
17	Palamu & Chatra Districts	Jharkhand
18	Darbhanga, Madhubani, Supaul, Sitamarhi and Sheohar Districts	Bihar
19	Gopalganj, Siwan, West Champaran, East Champaran and Deoria Districts	Uttar Pradesh & Bihar
20	Fazilka (part), Ganganagar and Hanumangarh Districts	Punjab & Rajasthan
21	The Nilgiris and Erode Districts	Tamil Nadu
22	Purulia and Bankura Districts	West Bengal
23	Alipurduar and Cooch Bihar Districts	
24	Lakhimpur Kheri, Sitapur, Bahraich, Shrawasti, Balrampur, Siddharth Nagar & Maharajganj districts	(Uttar Pradesh)
25	Koriya, Surajpur, Balrampur and Sarguja districts	(Chhattisgarh)

In addition to above, BPCL has been authorized for development of CGD network in 25 additional GAs through its 6 JV Companies. Apart from the development of the CGD Network, BPCL is present in complete value chain of Natural Gas which will support in increasing the share of Natural Gas in Primary energy Mix. BPCL has a target to market 1521 TMT of Natural Gas including its refinery consumption and release 1.3 lakhs PNG connections during 2022-23. Some of the issues/points related to development of CGD network are as follows:-

- (i) Co-promoter of Petronet LNG Limited (PLL) which has 2 LNG import terminals at Kochi & Dahej.*
- (ii) BPCL has booked Regas Capacity at PLL & SWAN Terminal & we regularly import LNG cargoes.*
- (iii) Presence in Kaveri Basin with ONGC for indigenous production.*
- (iv) BPRL is partner in Mozambique LNG project.*
- (v) Long term LNG contract with upstream suppliers like Ras Gas, Exxon Mobile, etc.*
- (vi) Co-promoter in two Natural Gas Pipeline JV companies, i.e., GIGL & GITL.*

Gas Authority of India Ltd.

As per BP World Energy Stats-2021, share of natural gas in Indian primary energy consumption basket is 6.7 % and share of natural gas in global energy mix is 24.7%. Natural gas is accepted globally as a cost-efficient, environment friendly and low carbon alternative for clean energy transition. Especially, in the context of grid balancing capabilities, natural gas-based power has inherent benefits of quick ramp-up and ramp-down and thus helping integration of increasing renewable sources across the world. As per US Energy Information Administration (EIA), natural gas emits ~ 46% less CO₂ than coal and ~28% less CO₂ than liquid fuels viz. diesel and petrol per million British thermal units (MMBTU) of released energy. Thus, Govt. is making efforts to shift towards a gas-based economy to increase the share of natural gas from the current ~6.7% to 15% by 2030 by developing the nation-wide gas grid and other gas infrastructure, including city gas distribution and LNG regasification terminals. Various steps have been taken through policy interventions and monetary support, by the Govt., to promote use of natural gas in Upstream, Midstream and downstream sectors. Details related to the same are as below:-

Up-stream Sector

- (i) *Introduction of Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP)/Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) replacing NELP/PSC.*
- (ii) *Policy Framework to Promote and Incentivize Enhanced Recovery Methods for Oil and Gas: fiscal incentives and an enabling ecosystem to improve productivity of existing fields and enhance overall production of domestic hydrocarbons.*
- (iii) *Introduction of Discovered Small Field Policy (DSF) Policy for early monetization of un-monetized discoveries of National Oil Companies (NoCs). In DSF Round-I launched in 2016 and so far, 02 DSF bidding rounds have been conducted and 3rd round is under progress.*
- (iv) *National Seismic Programme of Un-appraised areas: proposal for conducting 2D seismic survey for data Acquisition, Processing and Interpretation (API).*
- (v) *Introduction of New Domestic Natural Gas Pricing Guidelines, 2014 to market link price of domestic natural gas to the international prices.*
- (vi) *Marketing freedom including pricing freedom for the gas produced from discoveries in High Pressure-High Temperature (HPHT), Deepwater & Ultra Deepwater in 2016 subject to a ceiling price on the basis of landed alternative fuel.*
- (viii) *Pricing and marketing freedom to producers of natural gas from coal seams (CBM) in 2017;*

Mid-stream Sector

- (i) *Government of India has identified the requirement of development of additional ~17500 Km of Gas Pipeline and various pipeline sections in addition to existing ~18700 kms of natural gas pipeline to complete the Gas Grid. GAIL currently operates ~13700 km gas pipeline and is executing additional ~5800 km. long pipeline projects.*
- (ii) *Construction of Natural Gas Grid & 40% Capital Subsidy for construction of Jagdishpur-Haldia-Bokaro-Dhamra pipeline (JHBDPL) – project popularly*

known as Urja Ganga. Extension of JHBDPL to Guwahati (BGPL) connecting NE India to national gas grid.

- (iii) Formation of a Joint Venture (JV) company, named Indradhanush Gas Grid Ltd, to develop North East India Gas Grid of about 1656 Km in a phased manner at an estimated cost of about Rs. 9265 Crore. Capital grant of 60% (Rs. 5559 Cr.) approved for North East India Gas Grid.

Down-stream Sector

- (i) Policy for pooling of Gas in Fertilizer (Urea) Sector.
- (ii) PNGRB has completed allotment of authorization for the development of CGD network in under the 11 A bidding round. After the completion of 11th-A city gas distribution (CGD) round, approximately 88% of the country's area would be authorized for development of CGD Network to provide access of natural gas to approximately 98% of country's population.
- (iii) Government of India is working closely with Oil & Gas companies along with its Joint Venture/ subsidiary CGD companies who have firmed up plans to expand the coverage of PNG network to achieve additional 1 Crore PNG households by 2024 (from Oct. 2019 level).
- (iv) Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas vide guidelines dated 14.11.2013, 03.02.2014 & 20.08.2014 ensured no cut in gas allocation/supply to city gas distribution (CGD) entities for PNG (Domestic) and CNG (Transport) purpose.

All the above policy measures across upstream, midstream and downstream sectors will also ensure adequate availability of natural gas by a mix of domestic gas and imports through integrated development of natural gas grid and LNG import terminals. Currently there are six LNG import terminals in India with combine import capacity of ~40 MMTPA. These terminals are at Dahej, Hazira, Dabhol, Kochi, Ennore and Mundra. Additional ~22 MMTPA import capacity is under development at Dhamra, Chhara, Jaigarh, Jafrabad and Dabhol (Expansion). Further, the following steps have been taken by government to augment the availability of Natural gas through unconventional routes viz. Bio-fuels, coal gasification, hydrogen production etc. leading to wider adoption of gas by end users:-

- (i) SATAT Scheme has been initiated to promote Bio-CNG assuring fixed price for compressed Bio Gas producers by PSU OMCs and GAIL. Ministry of

Petroleum & Natural Gas has issues guidelines for synchronisation of CBG produced by plants under SATAT scheme in the CGD network. The scheme envisages the share of co-mingled CBG in the total domestic gas supplied to CNG (T) and PNG (D) segment of CGD sector reach up to 10%.

- (ii) *Talcher Fertilizers Limited a Joint Venture Company (JVC) promoted by GAIL, CIL, RCF and FCIL was formed to revive FCIL's Talcher fertilizer unit in the Angul district of Odisha. The project will have an output of 1.27 MMTPA of 'Neem' coated prilled urea using coal as feedstock by employing coal gasification technology. Project is expected to be commissioned by September-2023.*

Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas is also working on Hydrogen Mission, wherein the focus is on greater use of hydrogen in the energy mix. Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas through various OMCs is undertaking pilot projects of Grey hydrogen and Green hydrogen for both blending in CNG and direct usage as a transportation fuel. GAIL is also setting up a 10MW electrolyser for production of green hydrogen as a complementary option for natural gas.

6. On being asked to furnish a brief note on 'Primary Energy Mix', the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas/IOCL/HPCL/BPCL and GAIL, in a written reply, submitted:-

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

The energy mix is a group of different primary energy sources which are used as such directly in certain sectors and secondary energy for direct use is produced , such as electricity. India Primary Energy Consumption by Fuel: 2020(Primary Energy Comprises commercially-traded fuels, including modern renewables used to generate electricity).

(Million Tonnes Oil Equivalent)

<i>Oil</i>	<i>Natural Gas</i>	<i>Coal</i>	<i>Nuclear Energy</i>	<i>Hydro Electricity</i>	<i>Renewables</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>215.5</i>	<i>51.2</i>	<i>418.9</i>	<i>9.5</i>	<i>34.7</i>	<i>34.2</i>	<i>763.9</i>

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

Energy is one of the major inputs for the economic development of any country. Primary energy sources are those that are either found or stored in nature. Common primary energy sources are coal, oil, natural gas, biomass, nuclear energy, thermal energy etc. In the case of India, the energy sector assumes a critical importance in view of the ever-increasing energy needs requiring huge investments to meet them. Energy consumption in the country has more than doubled since 2000, propelled

upwards by a growing population and rapid economic growth. India Primary Energy Consumption for the year 2020 is given below:-

	Exajoule	Share (%)
Coal	17.5	54.8
Oil	9.02	28.2
Natural Gas	2.15	6.7
Nuclear	0.4	1.3
Hydro	1.45	4.5
Other renewables	1.43	4.5
Total:	31.95	100

Over 80% of India's energy needs is met by three fuels viz. coal, oil and solid biomass. India is the second largest producer of coal in the world and coal's dominant use is in power generation followed by industry. Oil's share in primary energy mix is about 28%. Transport sector is the largest user of oil. Share of natural gas in India's primary energy mix is about 6.7%. Fertilizer sector is the largest user of gas in the country. Traditional biomass – primarily fuel wood but also animal waste and charcoal – was the largest energy source in India in 2000 after coal. Overall energy demand has doubled since then, but the share of traditional biomass in the energy mix has been declining largely due to the efforts to improve access to modern cooking fuels, in particular LPG.

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

Energy is one of the major inputs for the economic development of any country. Primary energy sources are those that are either found or stored in nature. Common primary energy sources are coal, oil, natural gas, and biomass (such as wood). Other primary energy sources available include nuclear energy from radioactive substances, thermal energy stored in earth's interior, and potential energy due to earth's gravity. In the case of India, the energy sector assumes a critical importance in view of the ever-increasing energy needs requiring huge investments to meet them. Energy consumption in the country has more than doubled since 2000, propelled upwards by a growing population and rapid economic growth. Over 80% of India's energy needs are met by three fuels: coal, oil and solid biomass. Coal has played a significant role in India's economic development while also contributing to air pollution and growing GHG emissions. Traditional biomass – primarily fuel wood but also animal waste and charcoal – was the largest energy source in India in 2000 after coal, constituting about one-fourth of the primary energy mix. Overall energy demand has doubled since then, but the share of traditional biomass in the energy mix has been declining largely as a result of efforts to improve access to modern

cooking fuels, in particular LPG. India's Primary Energy Consumption, 2020 is given below:-

	Unit (Mtoe)	Oil	Natural Gas	Coal	Nuclear Energy	Hydro-electricity	Renewables	Total
Percentage share	%	27.63	6.76	55.27	1.25	4.58	4.51	100
Per Capita consumption	Toe	0.15	0.04	0.30	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.55

Note: Mtoe - Million Tonnes of oil equivalent.

Oil demand has more than doubled since 2000 as a result of growing vehicle ownership and road transport use. LPG has also contributed to the growth of oil demand, in part because its use in cooking applications has been subsidized and promoted by the Government.

Gas Authority of India Ltd.

As per BP World Energy Stats-2020, share of natural gas in Indian primary energy consumption basket is 6.7 %. Consumption of various energy source (in Mtoe) and their share in primary energy mix in India is as per table below:-

Year- 2020	Oil	Natural Gas	Coal	Nuclear energy	Hydro electric	Renewables	Total
India	216	51	419	9	35	34	764
Share in Energy basket	28.2%	6.7%	54.8%	1.2%	4.5%	4.5%	100.0%

7. On the aspect of strategies being adopted by Oil Marketing Companies for expanding the city gas distribution network through establishment of CNG stations and providing piped natural gas to households, industries and commercial establishments in the North Eastern region of the country, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas/IOCL/HPCL/BPCL and GAIL, in a written reply, submitted:-

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

Indian Oil and its JVCs have no authorization for CGD in North-Eastern States of India. CNG is marketed by City Gas Distribution (CGD) companies through existing retail outlets offered either by OMCs or through their own standalone CNG stations set up by them. CNG facility is provided at existing IOCL Retail Outlet if the same is found feasible by the CGD Company, subject to grant of approval/statutory permissions for CNG facility addition. IOCL is keen on increasing its presence in

CNG stations at its Retail Outlets in the Northeastern region of the country through offering space at its existing Retail Outlets to the authorized CGD companies which have been allotted Geographical Areas (GAs) in the North Eastern region. As on 01.04.2022, number of IOCL Retail Outlets in NE States including Sikkim State, having CNG facility is given here below:-

Number of IOCL ROs having CNG facility as on 01.04.2022		
S. No.	NE State	No of ROs
1	Assam	0
2	Tripura	14
3	Nagaland	0
4	Mizoram	0
5	Arunachal Pradesh	0
6	Meghalaya	0
7	Manipur	0
8	Sikkim	0
	Total NE States incl. Sikkim	14

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is marketed by City Gas Distribution (CGD) companies through existing retail outlets offered either by OMCs or through their own standalone CNG stations set up by them. CNG facility is provided at existing HPCL Retail Outlet if the same is found feasible by the CGD Company, subject to grant of approval/statutory permissions for CNG facility addition. As on 01.04.2022, number of HPCL Retail Outlets in NE States including Sikkim, having CNG facility is given below:-

S.No	NE State	Number of HPC ROs having CNG facility
1	Assam	0
2	Tripura	2
3	Nagaland	0
4	Mizoram	0
5	Arunachal Pradesh	0
6	Meghalaya	0
7	Manipur	0
8	Sikkim	0
	Total NE States incl Sikkim	2

As on date, HPCL does not have any authorisation by PNGRB in North- eastern Region for CGD operations.

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

Setting up of CNG stations & providing Piped Natural Gas (PNG Connection) to households in a particular area falls within the purview of the CGD Company which has been allotted the respective Geographical Area (GA) by PNGRB. CGD Company sets up CNG stations (i) independently on standalone basis or (ii) in existing Retail Outlets of OMC and also provides PNG Connections to household in the Geographical Area authorized to them. BPCL or its wholly owned subsidiary BGRL (Bharat Gas Resources Ltd) has not been allotted any Geographical Area(GA) in North Eastern States. However, CNG facilities are set up at existing BPCL Retail Outlets based on feasibility study by the CGD Company having authorization from PNGRB which is further subject to grant of approval/ permissions for CNG facilities addition by Statutory Authorities. BPCL has 2 CNG Operating Stations in Tripura (Tripura Natural Gas Company Ltd.) at its retail outlets and has offered another 19 Retail outlet sites in North Eastern States, out of which 6 Retail outlets in Guwahati have been approved by authorized CGD Company M/s AGCL (Assam Gas Company Ltd.)

Gas Authority of India Ltd.

- (i) Purba Bharati Gas Private Limited (PBGPL), a Joint Venture Company (JVC) of Assam Gas Company Limited (AGCL), Oil India Limited (OIL), and GAIL Gas Limited has been authorized by PNGRB in the 9th CGD Bidding Round for development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) projects in the Geographical Areas (GAs) of Cachar, Hailakandi & Karimganj districts and Kamrup & Kamrup metropolitan districts. As per information provided by PBGPL the following is submitted:
- (ii) Natural Gas will be supplied to Kamrup and Kamrup metropolitan districts GA through GAIL (India) Limited's Barauni-Guwahati pipeline (BGPL), which is still under construction and is expected to be commissioned by middle of 2023. In the absence of Gas source, PBGPL is currently working on area survey and route survey for MDPE pipelines. Additionally, PBGPL has already procured several necessary equipment required for CNG stations viz. – Cascades, Booster Compressors, Online Compressors, etc. Work Contract for Construction of CNG station under Composite Work tender has already been awarded and Steel pipe laying tender is under review by EPMC M/s Mecon Ltd. For Cachar, Hailakandi & Karimganj districts GA, PBGPL is currently purchasing Natural Gas through GAIL from ONGC, and has already started selling Piped Natural gas to around 382 households.

- (iii) *Tripura Natural Gas Company Limited (TNGCL), a JVC between GAIL (India) Limited, Tripura Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. (A Govt. of Tripura Undertaking) and Assam Gas Company Limited (A Govt. of Assam Undertaking), is authorized by PNGRB for the GAs of Agartala, Gomati, and West Tripura. As per information provided by TNGCL it has established a total of 24 CNG stations in the aforementioned 3 GAs. In addition to this, TNGCL is also providing PNG to 54,724 domestic household that includes 44,738 households in Agartala and 9,986 households in West Tripura district. The development of steel network and PNG connectivity at Gomati district is yet to be started as TNGCL is yet to receive PNGRB specified dry gas required for CGD expansion. After getting the dry gas, the work of DPNG connections at Gomati District will commence and TNGCL will provide 11,514 DPNG connections in Gomati district as per Minimum Work Program (MWP) committed to PNGRB.*

8. On a pertinent query regarding the role of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board for the development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) Network in the North Eastern region of the country, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas/IOCL/HPCL and BPCL, in a written reply submitted:-

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

IOCL and its JVCs have no authorization for CGD in North-Eastern States of India.

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

HPCL: Government has taken many steps to reduce dependency on Oil and Petroleum products. Government has taken a target to increase the share of Natural Gas in the Energy basket to 15% by the year 2030. It will lead to reduction in Carbon emission as well solve the over-dependency of India on Oil and Coal. Accordingly, The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) authorises the CGD networks, Natural gas pipelines, determines tariff, lays down the technical and safety standards etc. Government's main focus is to create infrastructure to support higher consumption of Natural Gas, create a transparent and vibrant Natural Gas market and balance the interests of consumers, transporters and producers of Natural Gas.

Bharat Petroleum Of India Ltd.

The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) is mandated to authorize entities to lay, build, operate or expand city or local natural gas distribution network (CGD Network) for which it calls for the bids from entities for laying, building, operating or expansion of CGD networks. The area is earmarked which is called as Geographical Area (GA) for which PNGRB invites the competitive bidding, the successful entity receives the authorization with Physical exclusivity for 25 Years for Development of CGD Network in this GA.

9. The Committee further desired to know as to what extent there is a convergence of CGD with various Oil Marketing Companies for setting up and operating CNG stations in the country, especially in the North Eastern region of the country. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas/IOCL/HPCL/BPCL and GAIL, in a written reply, submitted:-

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

Indian Oil and its JVCs have no authorization for CGD in North-Eastern States of India. IOCL is collaborating with CGD companies, offering its Retail Outlet sites, for expansion/setting of CNG stations. Through convergent collaboration with CGD firms, 1488 CNG stations have been created at IOCL Retail Outlets across the country as on 01.04.2022 including 14 CNG Stations at IOCL Retail Outlets in North Eastern States.

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

HPCL is collaborating with CGD companies, offering its Retail Outlet sites for expansion of CNG stations. Through convergent collaboration with CGD firms, CNG facility has been provided at 1087 retail outlets of HPCL across the country as on 01.04.2022. HPCL has 2 retail outlets in Tripura State of North Eastern India where CNG facility has been provided as on 1.4.2022. As on date, HPCL does not have any authorisation by PNGRB in North- eastern Region for CGD operations.

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

BPCL is collaborating with CGD companies, offering its Retail Outlet sites, for expansion of CNG stations. In collaboration with CGD firms, 1132 CNG stations have been established at BPCL Retail Outlets across the country as on 01.04.2022. BPCL has 2 CNG Operating Stations in Tripura (Tripura Natural Gas Company Ltd.)

at its retail outlets. Further, BPCL has offered 19 locations in North-eastern region for putting up of CNG facilities.

Gas Authority of India Ltd.

PBGPL has currently come in agreement with IOCL for construction of 7 CNG station under Retail Outlet (RO) model and an agreement with HPCL for construction of CNG stations under RO model is in its final stage. Similarly, as per information provided by TNGCL, they have signed CNG agreements with IOCL, BPCL and HPCL for setting up CNG stations at their ROs. Presently, TNGCL has completed 17 CNG stations in its authorized GAs at the ROs of aforementioned OMCs. Out of these 17 CNG Stations, 12 are set up at IOCL ROs, 3 at BPCL ROs and 2 at HPCL ROs.”

10. On a pointed query with regard to the total number of CNG stations established by various authorized entities along with Minimum Work Programme (MWP) targets in the North Eastern region of the country, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas/IOCL/HPCL/BPCL and GAIL, in a written reply, submitted:-

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

As on 01.04.22, IOCL has 14 facilities at its 14 Retail Outlets in Tripura State of North Eastern India. All these 14 CNG Stations have been established by the authorised entity M/s Tripura Natural Gas Company Limited.

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

As on date, HPCL does not have any authorisation by PNGRB in North- eastern Region for CGD operations.

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

Presently, BPCL is not having any authorization for developing CGD network in North Eastern region, however BPCL is offering its retail outlets (ROs) to various authorized entities for setting up CNG stations.

Gas Authority of India Ltd.

As per information provided by PBGPL & TNGCL the following is submitted:

The numbers of CNG stations completed by PBGPL and TNGCL against the MWP have been tabulated below:-

GA name	CGD entity	Stations as per MWP (Nos.)	Achievement (Nos.)
Agartala	Tripura Natural Gas Company Limited	N/A	7
Cachar, Hailakandi and Karimganj Districts	Purba Bharati Gas Private Limited	21**	0
Kamrup and Kamrup Metropolitan Districts	PurbaBharati Gas Private Limited	51**	0
Gomati district	Tripura Natural Gas Company Limited	6	9
West Tripura (EAAA) District	Tripura Natural Gas Company Limited	6	8

** MWP for 08 years from date of authorization by PNGRB

The start date of CGD project for Cachar, Hailakandi & Karimganj Districts GA has been extended by PNGRB to 01.01.2022 due to non-completion of BGPL and steel network of Indradhanush Gas Grid Limited (IGGL), which is the primary source of Gas for this GA. A similar request has been placed by PBGPL to PNGRB to extend the project start date for Kamrup & Kamrup metropolitan Districts GA, due to non-completion of BGPL, which would be the primary source of Gas for this GA.

11. On being enquired by the Committee as to whether the availability of CNG stations in North Eastern States of the country [Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura] is at an optimum level, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas/IOCL/HPCL/BPCL and GAIL, in a written reply, submitted:-

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

The CNG Stations are set up by the CGD entities as per their work plan and techno commercial feasibility. As on 01.04.2022, a total of 14 CNG stations at IOCL retail Outlets have been established in NE States with all these 14 CNG Stations are located in the State of Tripura.

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

As on date, HPCL does not have any authorisation by PNGRB in North-eastern Region for CGD operations. As on 01.04.2022 CNG facility is available at 2 retail outlets in NE States of the country by HPCL.

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

As on 1.4.2022, BPCL has 2 nos. CNG Stations in North Eastern States and has also offered 19 locations in North-eastern region for putting up of CNG facilities. BPCL is not having any authorization for developing CGD network in North Eastern States.

12. The Committee further desired to know the number of Bottling Plants along with Bottling Capacity in North Eastern States of the country. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas/IOCL/HPCL/BPCL and GAIL, in a written reply, submitted:-

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

Bottling Capacity (State-Wise & Company-Wise) as on 01.05.2022 is as under:-

State	IOCL		HPCL		BPCL		Industry Total	
	No. of BPs	Bottling Capacity in TMT	No. of BPs	Bottling Capacity in TMT	No. of BPs	Bottling Capacity in TMT	No. of BPs	Bottling Capacity in TMT
Tripura	1	120	0	0	0	0	1	120
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assam	6	593	1	30	1	66	8	689
Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nagaland	1	11	0	0	0	0	1	11
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manipur	1	60	0	0	0	0	1	60
TOTAL:	9	784	1	30	1	66	11	880

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

HPCL is having one LPG bottling Plant with capacity of 30 TMTPA at Goalpara in the state of Assam.

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

(i) IOCL has 6 LPG Plants in Assam with a combined capacity of 676 TMTPA (Gopanari, Duliajan, Sarpara (Guwahati), North Guwahati, Bongaigaon, Silchar). In addition, bottling assistance is taken from one PMC with 25 TMTPA at Nagaon, Assam.

(ii) BPCL takes supplies from Numaligarh Refinery LPG Plant in Assam having capacity of 60 TMTPA. Also bottling assistance is being taken

from one PMC at Khetri, Guwahati having capacity of 6 TMTPA.

- (iii) HPCL has a new plant at Matia, Assam with a capacity of 30 TMTPA.
- (iv) IOCL has one plant at Kimin, Arunachal Pradesh with 13 TMTPA, one plant at Sekmai, Manipur with 36 TMTPA, one plant at Dimapur, Nagaland with 13 TMTPA and one new plant at Agartala, Tripura with a capacity of 25 TMTPA."

13. On being enquired by the Committee whether there is a need to increase the number of Bottling Plants and/or Bottling Capacity in the North Eastern States of the country, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas/IOCL/HPCL/BPCL and GAIL, in a written reply, submitted:-

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

As on date, the entire North-East Region (including Assam), the total Bottling Capacity of OMCs incl. bottling from Private Bottler (880 TMT) is higher to demand (702.6 TMT). Besides, Bottling Capacity Augmentation in North-East planned by OMCs is furnished as under:-

(A) Approved Projects

- (i) IOCL is coming up with Bottling Plant at Umium (Meghalaya) with capacity of 30 TMTPA.
- (ii) BPCL is also coming up with at Matia, Assam at capacity of 30 TMTPA.

As a result of which the total Bottling Capacity in North-East (including Assam) shall increase to 940 TMTPA from existing 880 TMTPA.

(B) Projects under approval / finalization

- (i) Proposal for Raze & Rebuilt of 30 TMTPA LPG Bottling Plant at Mualkhang in State of Mizoram by IOCL is already under approval.
- (ii) Tender for bottling of 12 TMTPA of LPG for IOCL at Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh has also been invited on 12.04.2022 with last date of submission as 27.05.2022.

Therefore, Upon approval/finalization of Project at A & B above, the total Bottling Capacity in North-East (including Assam) shall increase to 982 TMTPA and the additional capacity is expected to be available by 2024. Considering all above, the Bottling Capacity for OMCs in North-East shall be as under:-

	Bottling Capacity (TMTPA)								Remarks	
	Existing				Upcoming					
	IOC	BPC	HPC	Total	IOC	BPC	HPC	Total		
Assam	593	66	30	689	0	30	0	30	719	Including Bottling from OIL India at Duliajan, Pvt Bottlers Bottling and upcoming BPCL BP at Matia Assam.
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	12	12	Tendering done by IOCL
Manipur	60	0	0	60	0	0	0	0	60	
Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	30	30	Under construction
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	30	30	Under approval
Nagaland	11	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	11	
Tripura	120	0	0	120	0	0	0	0	120	
Total	784	66	30	880	72	30	0	102	982	

Hence, existing Bottling Capacity in the North-East Region is already higher to current demand and the same shall increase significantly with coming up of new Bottling Plant as above. Moreover, Bottling Capacity augmentation, green field or brown field, in a continuous process and is finalized based on demand trend in the region.

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

During 2021-22, HPCL has commissioned Goalpara LPG bottling plant with 30 TMTPA capacity in Assam. HPC's LPG demand in north-eastern states is 28 TMTPA. Hence, the existing Bottling Capacity of 30 TMTPA at Goalpara, Assam is sufficient to meet the current demand. Bottling Capacity augmentation is a continuous process and is finalized based on demand trend in the region.

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

The demand for packed LPG in North East for BPCL was 64.6 TMT in 2021-22. It is going to increase to 68 TMT in 2022-23, 72 TMT in 2023-24 and 76 TMT by 2024-25 and 80 TMT by 2025-26 consequently:-

- (i) *In order to meet the same, BPCL has procured land at Matia, District: Golapara, Assam and will be putting up a new LPG Bottling Plant with a capacity of 30 TMT PA which will be complete in next 2 years' time.*
- (ii) *NRL is going to increase production capacity to 70 TMTPA in the next 2 years. Further NRL is also planning for a new LPG Plant in Assam with a production capacity of 120 TMTPA which is likely to come in next 5 years."*

14. The Committee, thereafter, specifically enquired and desired a brief note on the North East Gas Grid project for connecting all the eight North Eastern States. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas/IOCL/HPCL/BPCL and GAIL, in a written reply, submitted:-

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

Indradhanush Gas Grid Limited (IGGL), a Joint Venture Company of IOCL, ONGC, GAIL, OIL, and NRL with equal equity contribution, has been entrusted by the Govt. of India for the implementation of the prestigious North East Gas Grid (NEGG) project, an approximate 1656 Km long natural gas pipeline grid, with a design capacity of 4.75 mmscmd, spanning across all the eight North-Eastern states i.e. Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur & Sikkim, at an estimated cost of INR 9,265 crores. The project is scheduled for completion by March 2024. Consequent to the release of Hydrocarbon Vision 2030 for North East India on 09th February 2016 for ushering in a gas-based economy in the Northeastern region and approval from NITI Aayog for the formation of JVC on 19th June 2018, a Joint venture agreement was executed by the five PSU's with equal equity contribution on 20th July 2018 and Indradhanush Gas Grid Limited (IGGL) was incorporated on 10th August 2018 for implementing the North East Gas Grid (NEGG) pipeline project. The foundation Stone of NEGG was laid by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 09th February 2019 and Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the Viability Gap Funding / Capital Grant of Rs. 5,559 Crore (60% of the estimated total cost of Project i.e. Rs 9,265 Crore) for the NEGG project. Final Authorization for implementation of NEGG project received from PNGRB on 17th November 2020. The foundation Stone of NEGG was laid by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 09th February 2019 and Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the Viability Gap Funding / Capital Grant of Rs. 5,559 Crore (60% of the estimated total cost of Project i.e. Rs 9,265 Crore) for the NEGG project. Final Authorization for implementation of NEGG project received from PNGRB on 17th November 2020. Out of 1656 Km of NEGG pipeline, about 105 Km of the pipeline will be passing through Dimapur & Kohima districts of Nagaland.

(A) Status of NEGG and Key activities for Gas grid up to Nagaland:

Physical Progress	45.03 %	
Financial Progress	21.27 %	
Actual Expenditure	Up to Mar'22: Rs. 1906.01 Cr	Apr' 22: Rs. 64.65Cr.
Commitment	Rs. 4620 Crore	

(B) Guwahati-Dergaon-Dimapur section:

- (i) Construction activities of Guwahati-Dergaon section are under progress with the completion of 316 Km of welding, 263 Km of lowering, and 43 Km of Hydro-test.
- (ii) Order placed for Line pipes and Pipeline laying agency for Dergaon-Dimapur section Construction activities are scheduled to commence in May 2022.
- (iii) Forest clearance is awaited for 79.53 Ha in Golaghat district for laying Dergaon-Dimapur Section.

(C) Dimapur-Kohima-Imphal:

- (i) Project Management Consultant is awarded to M/s VCS Quality Services Private Limited on 07th Jan'22.
- (ii) Tender floated for procurement of Line pipes on 28.04.2022. Order for Line pipes and Pipeline Laying works scheduled to be placed by July' 22.
- (iii) Construction activities are scheduled to commence by September 2022.

In-principle approval was received from NHIDCL on 18.10.2022 for laying the pipeline in the Right of Way (ROW) of National Highway NH-02 (old NH-39). License fees and BG submitted. Final approval is awaited.

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd., and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

HPCL is not a partner in the JV company created for North East Gas Grid Project, while BPCL is not involved in this project.

15. When the Committee enquired that keeping in view the administrative, environmental, land and terrain issues of North Eastern region, what could be the tentative timeline for completion of said Grid, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas/IOCL/HPCL/BPCL and GAIL, in a written reply, submitted:-

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

(A) North East Gas Grid Project (Under execution by IGGL, a JVC of IOCL)

Indradhanush Gas Grid Ltd (IGGL) has been incorporated on 10thAug, 2018 with equal equity contribution from five partners: IOCL, ONGC, GAIL, OIL, & NRL. The North East Gas Grid (NEGG) project was conceived in line with the Hydrocarbon Visio 2030 for North East India, released by M of Petroleum & Natural Gas on 09 February, 2016 to supply Natural gas covering all the eight North Eastern states i.e., Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur & Sikkim, at an estimated cost of Rs. 9,265 crores. The 1656 Km long natural gas pipeline grid having capacity of 4.75 MMSCMD traverses through challenging terrains of the North East India and would connect Guwahati to capital / major cities of the region like Itanagar, Dimapur, Kohima, Imphal, Aizawl, Agartala, Shillong, Silchar, Gangtok and Numaligarh. As per the Hydrocarbon Vision 2030 for North East India, NEGG project connects to the National Gas Grid through the Baruani-Guwahati pipeline (BGPL) which is being implemented by GAIL India Ltd under the Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga Project to connect Eastern India with the National gas grid. HPCL is not a partner in the JV company created for North East Gas Grid Project.

(B) Benefits of NEGG

(i) *Leverage the North east region's Hydrocarbon potential;*

- (ii) Enhance access to clean fuels to Industrial, Commercial, Domestic Household, Transportation Sectors etc.; and
- (iii) Facilitate to boost Industrial and economic development in the North East region of India.

(C) Potential Customers

Anchor Industrial Customers or Large consumers which includes power sector, fertilizer, refineries, petrochemical etc. and City Gas Distribution consumers which includes PNG (household, industry & commercial segments) and CNG (Transport segment).

Details of Various Sections in the Pipeline Route Segment.

Phase	Section Name	Section Length (Km)	Total length (Km)	Diameter (Inch)	Target start of pipeline construction	Target Completion
I	Guwahati-Numaligarh	386	413	24	Jan 2021	Mar 2023
	Gohpur-Itanagar	27		8	Mar 2022	Sep 2023
	Silchar -Panisagar	112	234	18	Nov 2021	Sep 2023
	Panisagar-Agartala	118		12	Nov 2021	Sep 2023
	Khubal Feeder Line	3.6				
II	Dergaon-Dimapur	128	621	12	Mar 2022	Sep 2023
	Banskandi FL cum Silchar CGD	56		12	Mar 2022	Sep 2023
	Guwahati-Silchar	196		18	Mar 2022	Sep 2023
	Panisagar-Aizawl	127		12	Jun 2022	Sep 2023
	Agartala-NEEPCO Spurline	6.4		8	Mar 2022	Sep 2023
	Shillong CGD	22		8	Mar 2022	Sep 2023
	Tulamura Feeder line	86		12	Mar 2022	Sep 2023
III	Dimapur-Kohima-Imphal	180	304	12	Jun 2022	Mar 2024
	Siliguri-Gangtok	124		12		Mar 2024

Gas Authority of India Ltd.

The following constraints related to land, environment and terrain etc. are critical for the timely implementation of the project:-

	State	Issue type	Issue Details	Status
(i)	Assam	Forest	Delay in Forest clearance (9.2 Ha) in Karimganj district for laying Silchar-Panisagar section.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online application submitted on 10.08.20. 1st Query raised by IRO to State Govt. on 08.03.22. 2nd Query raised by IRO to State Govt. on 22.03.22 regarding CA land. State Govt. replied to both the queries to IRO on 06.05.2022. The proposal is to be put up at the upcoming REC meeting. Stage-1 clearance is awaited.
(ii)	Arunachal Pradesh	Forest	Delay in Forest Clearance (1.57 Ha) for laying Gohpur-Itanagar section.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online application submitted on 29.01.21. 3rd Query raised by IRO to State Govt. on 26.04.2022 regarding FC violation case by PWD NH Arunachal Pradesh. Support is sought by IGGL to delink from the PWD NH Arunachal Pradesh case. Stage-I clearance is awaited.
(iii)	Meghalaya	Forest	Delay in Forest clearance (55 Ha) for laying Guwahati-Silchar section.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online application submitted on 10.08.20. Proposal accepted by Nodal Officer for 55 Ha. Stage-I clearance is awaited.
(iv)	Mizoram	NH	Permission from PWD NH division, Aizawl for laying 36 Km of Panisagar-Aizawl section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application submitted for laying 36 Km of Panisagar-Aizawl section to Executive Engineer, PWD NH Division, Aizawl on 19.11.2021. Joint visit completed on 07.01.2022. Demand note for License fee and BG awaited.
(v)	Mizoram	SH	Permission from PWD Roads, Aizawl for laying 47 Km of Panisagar-Aizawl section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application submitted for laying 47 Km of Panisagar-Aizawl section to Chief Engineer, PWD Roads, Aizawl on 10.01.2022. Joint visit completed on 05.02.2022. Demand note for License fee and BG awaited.

Furthermore, the pipeline grid will traverse through challenging terrains of North East India to connect the state capitals/major cities of Assam, Mizoram, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Nagaland, Meghalaya, and also to Sikkim. About a third of the entire pipeline route shall be traversing through the treacherous hilly terrains in the states of Nagaland, Manipur, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, and Meghalaya. While due to the typical nature of hilly terrain, some sections of the pipeline are being laid only along the highway which also poses a challenge due to its restricted width and non-availability of any utility corridor along the highway thus in some sections pipeline laying might have to wait for the completion of road widening work.

In its about 1656 Km long diverse route spanning across 32 districts, the pipeline shall be crossing nearly 1792 natural features, facilities & utilities such as rivers, forests, railways, highways, canals, other roads & water bodies. Apart from crossing the challenging Brahmaputra River near Majuli, Bhareli River near Sonitpur, and Subansiri river in Lakhimpur, the pipeline shall also be encountering five major rivers each having wide crossing width in Assam. Also, a significant portion of the pipeline route also requires forest clearances where the pipeline is to be laid with utmost care ensuring minimal damage to the environment. Apart from this, one of the major challenges in the implementation of the NEGG project is due to its weather conditions as only a limited period is available for working in the NER states. Despite all the challenges and constraints, IGGL is expeditiously implementing the North East Gas Grid project which is scheduled to be completed by Mar' 2024."

16. The Committee thereafter, desired a brief note on the infrastructure projects taken up by the Oil Companies, viz., Gas Compressor Stations, Secondary Tank Farm Project, Refinery Project, and Petroleum Product Depots for the North Eastern region of the country. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas/IOCL/HPCL/BPCL and GAIL, in a written reply, submitted:-

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

(Rs. in crore)

CAPEX IOAOD - Status as of March 22								
Sl. No.	Name of project	Division	Cost	BE 2021-22	Expenditure 2021-22	Sch Physical Progrss	Act. Physical Progress	Ant Completion Date
Refinery Division								

1	Fuel Quality Upgradation Project, GR	Ref Div	557	62	86.4	100	99.8	Revamp Units commissioned. Mechanical Completion achieved for Indselect G unit on 22.11.21. Commissioning by Apr'22
2	Guwahati Ref Expansion along with CRU	Ref Div	412	0	9.2	25.7	15.7	Oct'23
3	Installation of 2 x 350 Mounded Bullet	Ref Div	36.9	9.4	6.8	100	99.7	Apr'22
Sub Total Refineries			1005.9	71.4	102.4			
Pipelines Division								
4	North East Gas Grid	Pipeline (JV)	9265	1553	1560	45.7	43.1	In phases (from Sep 22 to March 24)
E&P Division								
5	Pre-NELP Block AAP-ON-94/1, Assam	BD-E&P	375.3	31.7	1.1	Current production from the field is 35 MMSCf/d of gas and 682 bbl/d of condensate against the plan of 35 MMSCf/d and 612 bb/d, which is planned to be further ramped up to 55 MMSCf/d of gas and increased condensate with additional wells.		1.3.2036 (Block validity)
6	OALP-I Block AA-ONHP-2017/12, Assam	BD-E&P	40.9	0	0	2D seismic data interpretation started on 1.10.2021 and in progress.		23.11.2023 (exploration phase validity)
7	NELP-III Block AA-ONN-2001/2, Mizoram	BD-E&P	84.2	0	0	Request for extension is still under examination at DGH.		Block validity expired. Extension applied.
8	DSF-II Contract Area, Umatara, Assam	BD-E&P	142.9	1	0.6	Tender process for procurement of Well head and X-mas Tree required for drilling campaign in Umatara Contract Area is under progress.		Block validity: 3.12.2039 (8.2.2023: development period)
Sub Total E&P			643.3	32.7	1.8			
Marketing Division								
9	LPG BP, Umium	Mkt	75.5	17	0.3	7.2	6.8	01.12.2023
Total IOCL in IOAOD			10989.8	1674	1664.4			

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

HPCL has key projects under implementation in the North Eastern region. They are as follows:

- (i) *New Depot in the state of Assam: An amount Rs. 377 Crores. has been approved for setting up of a new POL depot in the state of Assam. The project work will commence in the current financial year.*

- (ii) *Capacity Augmentation of MS/Ethanol facilities at existing Guwahati Depot: Fund of 6.1 Crores has been approved for additional MS and Ethanol tankages. Additional investment of around Rs. 8.75 Crs. is planned in the current year under E20 vision for augmenting Ethanol storage/handling and related facilities.*

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

BPCL is planning to set up 3 road fed Petroleum product depots in the North Eastern region of the country at Itanagar, Imphal and Dimapur to meet the MS and HSD demand. As on date Land has been identified and firmed up at Itanagar and Imphal.

17. When specifically asked by the Committee regarding any other information germane to the representation of Shri Tokhehe Yepthomi, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas/BPCL, in a written reply, submitted:-

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

BPCL is coming up with new LPG Plant at Matia with following details:-

- (i) *Bottling Capacity – 30 TMTPA (Two Shift operation).*
- (ii) *Details of Carousals / Storage – 10 unit filling machine for bottling of 14.2 kg and 19 kg cylinders with a bulk storage capacity of 3x100MT above ground bullets.*
- (iii) *Bulk source – Product to be received through Tank Lorry from Haldia Import Terminal.*
- (iv) *Name of districts which it will cater to – As per sales requirement, mainly districts of Lower Assam (Districts of Goalpara, Dhubri, Kokrajhar, Bongaigaon, Barpeta, Baska, Nalbari) and Western Meghalaya.*
- (v) *Expected Timelines for commissioning – 31.03.2024.*

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

Overview of the Primary Energy Mix

18. The Committee note from the submission of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, IOCL, BPCL, HPCL, GAIL, etc., that energy is one of the major inputs for the economic development of a country. In the context of our country, the Committee acknowledge that energy sector assumes a critical importance in view of its ever-increasing energy needs, thereby, requiring huge investment to meet them. Further, the energy consumption in the country has more than doubled since 2000, propelled upwards due to growing population and rapid economic growth with India's primary energy consumption upto the year 2020 positioned with coal at 54.8%, oil 28.2%, natural gas 6.7%, nuclear 1.3%, hydro 4.5% and other renewables at 4.5%.

19. The Committee also observe that over 80% of India's energy needs is met by only three fuels, viz., coal, oil and solid biomass leading to India, being the second largest producer of coal in the world and coal's dominant use in its power generation followed by the industrial sector. The Committee further note that oil's share in primary energy mix stands at about 28% with the transport sector, being the largest user of oil with share of natural gas in India's primary energy mix at about 6.7% with fertilizer sector being the largest user of gas in the country. The Committee note with concern that traditional biomass which is primarily fuel wood along with animal waste and charcoal, used to be the largest energy source in India upto the year 2000 after coal and although the overall energy demand has doubled since then, still the share of traditional biomass in the energy mix has been declining largely due to the efforts made to improve the access to modern cooking, transportation and industrial fuels, in particular LPG/CNG/H-CNG and other green options. Therefore, while highlighting the positive impact of timely and effective utilization of modern and

clean fuels such as LPG and CNG, etc., on the lives of people, thereby, bringing down pollution and carbon footprint, the Committee desire that the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas along with the OMCs should formulate a comprehensive long term Green Fuel Policy which envisages reducing the dependency on conventional sources of energy while promoting the use of environment-friendly and renewable sources of energy. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken/proposed to be taken on formulation of such a 'Policy' within three months of the presentation of this Report to the House.

Capacity augmentation of LPG bottling plants in NE States along with the inability of the existing output to meet the increasing requirement

20. The Committee note that the entire North-East Region (including Assam) had a total Bottling Capacity of OMCs including bottling from Private Bottlers at 880 TMT which is relatively higher to the existing demand of 702.6 TMT. Further, with regard to process of Bottling Capacity Augmentation in North-East as planned by OMCs related to the approved projects, the IOCL is coming up with a Bottling Plant at Umium (Meghalaya) with a capacity of 30 TMTPA, while BPCL is also coming up with one at Matia, Assam having a capacity of 30 TMTPA. Consequently, the total Bottling Capacity in North-East (including Assam) shall increase to 940 TMTPA from existing 880 TMTPA. The Committee further note that with regard to projects under approval and finalization, proposal for raze & rebuilt of 30 TMTPA LPG bottling plant at Mualkhang in State of Mizoram by IOCL is already under approval and similarly, a Tender for bottling of 12 TMTPA of LPG for IOCL at Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh has also been invited on April, 2022 with last date of submission being 27.05.2022.

21. The Committee are optimistic that after approval and finalization of project of the aforementioned proposals, the total Bottling Capacity in North-East (including

Assam) shall increase to a considerable level (982 TMTPA) and the same added capacity is expected to be available by 2024. The Committee note that although the existing Bottling Capacity in the North-East Region is relatively higher to the current demand and the same shall increase substantially with the setting up of new Bottling Plants, the Committee are of the considered opinion that the future growth and market demand and supply mechanism should be deliberated upon while finalizing the requirement and bottling capacity augmentation (including both Greenfield and Brownfield) all of which is an continuous process.

22. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and OMCs should work in tandem towards increasing its foothold and endeavour to meet the future demand of entire NE region to the extent of same being surplus which could well be utilized to supply LPG, etc., to other regions of the county, whenever required. The Committee also desire that for expansion of LPG bottling plants, under both Greenfield and Brownfield, capacity augmentation methods should be resorted to keeping in view the sound financial outlook and cost effectiveness as top-most priority. The Committee would like to be apprised of the steps initiated in this regard within three months of the presentation of this Report to the House.

Dismal presence of CNG/H-CNG station in the NE Region along with slow progress towards increasing the number of CNG stations

23. The Committee note from the submission made by HPCL that Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is marketed by the 'City Gas Distribution Companies' (CGD) through existing retail outlets offered either by Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) or through their own standalone CNG stations. Further, CNG facility is provided at the existing HPCL outlets, if the same is found feasible by the CGD Company which is

subject to grant of approval/statutory permissions for CNG facility. The Committee further note that as on April, 2022, the number of HPCL Retail outlets in NE States (including Sikkim) having CNG facility stands with only Tripura having 2 HPC ROs while all other NE states (including Sikkim) have no such facility. The Committee further note from the submission of IOCL that with regard to IOCL also, the CNG facility is provided at the existing IOCL Retail outlets, if the same is found feasible by the CGD Company, subject to grant of approval/statutory permission for CNG facility. The Committee also observe that as per the submission of BPCL before the Committee, it has 2 CNG operating stations in Tripura (Tripura Natural Gas Company Limited) at its retail outlets and has offered another 19 retail outlet sites in NE states out of which only 6 retail outlets in Guwahati have been approved by authorised CGD Company, viz., M/s Assam Gas Company Limited AGCL (AGCL).

24. The Committee also acknowledge the fact that IOCL has expressed their keenness regarding increasing its presence with respect to the CNG stations at its Retail Outlets (ROs) in NE Region through offering space at its existing ROs to the authorised CGD companies having allotted Geographical Areas (GA's) in NE Region. The Committee note with concern that as on April, 2022, the number of IOCL ROs having CNG facilities in NE states (including Sikkim) stands at a conservative 14 ROs, all of which are located in Tripura. The Committee with respect to HPCL are constrained to note that there have been uneven and unsystematic distribution of their respective Stations/Centers/ROs across the NE Region. The Committee while appreciating the keenness expressed by IOCL regarding its commitment to increase CNG stations across North East, feel that a lot of ground needs to be covered towards achieving and establishing a comprehensive network across the region. The Committee desire that IOCL should chalk out a time-bound plan towards achieving

even distribution of CNG ROs in the region and ensure timely supplies of their facilities to the public/end-users/consumers.

25. The Committee are of the considered view that HPCL should also initiate steps towards opening, at least, one Station/Centre/RO in each State capital and to this extent, conduct a feasibility study towards ensuring equal distribution and availability of CNG facility across the NE region. The Committee further recommend that with respect to BPCL (apart from its 2 CNG operating stations in Tripura) they should also strive towards increasing their retail outlet's footprint all over NE region. The Committee while appreciating BPCL's offer of 19 ROs sites in the NE region out of which 6 RO in Guwahati already being approved by AGCL, desire that conclusive action on all ROs be carried out in a time bound manner.

26. The Committee opine that in long run, CNG/H-CNG is accepted globally as a cost-efficient, environment friendly and low carbon alternative for clean energy transition and, therefore, with respect to grid balancing capabilities, a natural gas-based power has inherent benefits of quick ramp-up/ramp-down and thus providing option of integration of increasing renewable sources across the country. The Committee also note that although the Government is making concerted efforts to shift towards a gas-based economy to increase the share of natural gas from the current 6.7% to 15% by 2030 and, thereby, developing a nation-wide gas grid including other gas infrastructure, city gas distribution network and de-gasification terminals. Apart from this, various long-term policy initiatives are also required to be taken through policy interventions, monetary and subsidy support by the Government to promote and encourage use of CNG/H-CNG, especially across the NE region.

27. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Government through focused policy measures ensure that NE region has adequate availability of CNG/H-CNG by providing a mix of domestic gas and also imports (if feasible) through integrated development of natural gas grid and import terminals. The Committee further recommend that the Government along with all stakeholders also explore OMCs measures to augment the availability of CNG and H-CNG through unconventional routes, viz., Bio-fuels, Coal Gasification, Hydrogen Production, etc., which could lead towards wider adoption of gas by end users/customers and also ensure a cleaner environment with a decreased carbon footprint. The Committee, therefore, desire the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to cooperate and work along with all OMCs like IOCL, BPCL, HPCL, GAIL, etc., towards ensuring production, even distribution and augmenting capacities for a better availability of CNG/H-CNG across the entire NE region. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the steps initiated on all the above mentioned aspects within three months of the presentation of this Report to the House.

Laying of 'Natural Gas Pipeline' under North East Gas Grid (NEGG) and its connectivity (also under the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board - PNGRB)

28. The Committee note that the foundation Stone of NEGG was laid by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 09th February 2019 and the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the Viability Gap Funding/Capital Grant of INR Rs. 5,559 crore (60% of the estimated total cost of Project, i.e., Rs 9,265 crore) for the NEGG project. The Final Authorization for implementation of NEGG project was received from PNGRB on 17th November 2020 along with the administrative approval for its implementation which was received from the IGGL Board on 6th June 2020. The Committee also observe from the submission made by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and GAIL that with the release of Hydrocarbon Vision 2030 for North East India on 09th February 2016, an

attempt has been made for ushering towards a gas-based economy in the North-eastern region. Subsequent to the approval from NITI Aayog for formation of Joint Venture Company (JVC) on 19th June 2018, a Joint Venture Agreement has also been executed by the five PSU's with equal equity contribution on 20th July 2018 and consequently, Indradhanush Gas Grid Limited (IGGL) was incorporated on 10th August 2018 for implementing the North East Gas Grid (NEGG) Pipeline Project.

29. The Committee further note that Indradhanush Gas Grid Limited (IGGL), a Joint Venture Company (JVC) of IOCL, ONGC, GAIL, OIL and Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) with equity contribution, has been entrusted by the Government for the implementation of the prestigious North East Gas Grid (NEGG) project at an estimated cost of Rs. 9,265 crore. The 1656 km long natural gas pipeline grid with a design capacity of 4.75 mmscmd (Million Standard Cubic Meters of Gas per day) is being implemented to connect all the eight North-Eastern states, i.e., Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur & Sikkim to the National Gas Grid *vide* the Barauni-Guwahati pipeline being implemented by GAIL as a part of Urja Ganga Scheme. The Committee also note that the Grid will also be connected to the sustainable and viable gas sources of the North East.

30. The Committee note that various processes have been initiated towards expanding city gas distribution in north east region/network through establishment of CNG stations and providing piped natural gas. To this extent, the Purba Bharati Gas Private Limited (PBGPL), a Joint Venture Company (JVC) of Assam Gas Company Limited (AGCL), Oil India Limited (OIL), and GAIL Gas Limited has been authorized by PNGRB in the 9th CGD Bidding Round for development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) projects in the Geographical Areas (GAs) of Cachar, Hailakandi & Karimganj Districts and Kamrup & Kamrup metropolitan Districts. Further, Natural Gas will be supplied to

Kamrup and Kamrup metropolitan Districts GA through GAIL (India) Limited's Barauni-Guwahati pipeline (BGPL), which is still under construction and is expected to be commissioned by the middle of 2023 and in the absence of Gas source, PBGPL is currently working on area-survey and route-survey for Medium Density Polyethylene (MDPE) pipelines.

31. The Committee are perturbed to note that the issue of supply of Natural Gas to Kamrup and Kamrup Metropolitan GA through GAIL's Barauni-Guwahati pipeline (BGPL) is still under development since the ancillary works related to the same is ongoing and is projected to be commissioned only by middle of 2023. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend that concerted efforts towards timely completion of this pipeline should be ensured and to further compensate for the absence of gas source, PBGPL should ensure that the work related to area survey and route survey for MDPE pipeline is completed without any further delay. The Committee also note that PBGPL is already in the process of procuring several necessary equipment, viz., cascades, booster compressor, online compressors, etc., required to successfully establish CNG stations and would, therefore, recommend the PBGPL to immediately iron out all issues related to the works contract for the construction of CNG station under composite work tender as well as laying of Steel pipes. The Committee would like the Ministry and OMCs concerned to share a 'Progress Report' in this regard within three months of presentation of this Report.

32. The Committee appreciate the fact that with regard to the Cachar, Hailakandi & Karimganj Districts GA, PBGPL is currently purchasing Natural Gas through GAIL from ONGC, and has already started selling Piped Natural gas to around 382 households. The Committee keeping in view the progress made, till date, further desire that PBGPL should ensure regular and uninterrupted gas supply along with ensuring and increasing

its footprint over the said GA as per stated objectives and plan. The Committee further note that the Tripura Natural Gas Company Limited (TNGCL), a JVC between GAIL (India) Limited, Tripura Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. (A Govt. of Tripura Undertaking) and Assam Gas Company Limited (A Govt. of Assam Undertaking), is authorized by PNGRB for the GAs of Agartala, Gomati, and West Tripura and are contented to note that TNGCL has established a total of 24 CNG stations in the aforementioned 3 GAs and also providing PNG to 54,724 domestic household that includes 44,738 households in Agartala and 9,986 households in West Tripura District. The Committee express its concern regarding the issue of development of steel network and PNG connectivity to Gomati District which is yet to be started as TNGCL is yet to receive PNGRB specified dry gas required for CGD expansion. The Committee are constrained to note that only after getting the dry gas, the work of DPNG connections to the Gomati District will commence and TNGCL will be able to provide further 11,514 DPNG connections in Gomati District as per Minimum Work Program (MWP) committed to PNGRB. The Committee desire that all the Agencies concerned should ramp up its operation towards timely completion and development of Steel network and PNG connectivity along with scheduled delivery of dry gas essential for CGD expansion.

33. The Committee further acknowledge that the North-East Gas Grid Project is being implemented in three phase(s) based on the requirement of statutory clearances, route terrain, linkage with Highway corridor widening works, difficulty in work execution, etc. The Committee are of the view that successful culmination of NEGG would go a long way towards leveraging the north east region's full hydrocarbon potential along with enhancing easy access of clean fuels to Industrial, Commercial, Domestic Household, and Transportation Sectors and also facilitating to boost Industrial and economic development in entire north east region.

34. The Committee also acknowledge the inherent difficulties with regard to NEGG Project since the pipeline grid will traverse through challenging terrains of North East India to connect the State Capitals/major cities of Assam, Mizoram, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Nagaland, Meghalaya, and also to Sikkim. Further, about a third of the entire pipeline route shall be traversing through the treacherous hilly terrains in the States of Nagaland, Manipur, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, and Meghalaya. The Committee also note that due to the typical nature of hilly terrain, some sections of the pipeline are being laid only along the highway which also poses a challenge due to its restricted width and non-availability of any utility corridor along the highway. Besides, in some sections, pipeline laying might have to wait for the completion of road widening work. The Committee would like to place its appreciation for the hard work and dedication being put in to ensure the success of NEGG Project. In this context, the Committee would recommend that the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, under the aegis of Union Government, should cooperate with the State Governments of North Eastern States to resolve various roadblocks such as delay in forest clearances, permission from Public Works Department (PWD), etc., where the pipeline is supposed to be laid. The Committee also desire that since the pipeline shall be encountering five major rivers and also forest areas, proper care must be ensured so that the natural habitat including the flora and fauna of the area are not disturbed. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the progress made in this regard within three months of the presentation of this Report to the House.

NEW DELHI;

HARISH DWIVEDI,
Chairperson,
Committee on Petitions.

12 December, 2022

21 Agrahayana, 1944 (Saka)

**MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

The Committee met on Monday, 12 December, 2022 from 1500 hrs. to 1700 hrs. in Committee Room 3, Block A, Parliament House Annexe Extension, New Delhi.

PRESENT

Shri Harish Dwivedi - Chairperson

MEMBERS

2. Shri Anto Antony
3. Shri Hanuman Beniwal
4. Prof. Sanjay Sadashivrao Mandlik
5. Dr. Jayanta Kumar Roy
6. Shri Arvind Ganpat Sawant
7. Shri Brijendra Singh
8. Shri Sunil Kumar Singh

SECRETARIAT

1. Shri T. G. Chandrasekhar - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Raju Srivastava - Director

2. At the outset, the Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.

3. The Committee, thereafter, took up for consideration the following Draft Reports :-

(i) Report on the representation of Shri Tokhehe Yepthomi for increasing the capacity of LPG Bottling Plants, Compressed Natural Gas Stations in the North-Eastern States, especially in Guwahati and other important issues related therewith;

(ii) *** *** *** *** *** ***

(iii) *** *** *** *** *** ***

(iv)	***	***	***	***	***	***
(v)	***	***	***	***	***	***
(vi)	***	***	***	***	***	***
(vii)	***	***	***	***	***	***

4. After discussing the above mentioned Draft Reports in detail, the Committee adopted all the seven Reports with minor modification(s). The Committee also authorised the Chairperson to finalise the Draft Reports and present the same to the House.

The Committee, then, adjourned.
