

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6044
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2005
GAS LINKAGE COMMITTEE
Singh Shri Suraj

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

- (a) the composition and functioning of the Gas Linkage Committee (G.L.C.);
- (b) the number of applications received by the Gas Linkage Committee for allotment of gas during the last three years;
- (c) the number of the applicants to whom gas was allotted during the said period;
- (d) whether GAIL India Ltd. has supplied gas to some applicants directly during 2003 and 2004; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) to (c): The Gas Linkage Committee (GLC) was constituted by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas in 1991 as an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (P&NG) and having as members, representatives of the Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Power, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Ministry of Steel, etc. The GLC was set up to recommend to the Government the allocation of natural gas available under the Administered Price Mechanism (APM) and to review the progress of projects for the utilisation of natural gas. Subsequently, Government declared a New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) under which Exploration and Production (E&P) blocks are being awarded through a bidding process. Gas produced from these blocks is not covered under APM. The only available APM gas in the last 3-4 years is from isolated/marginal fields and some quantities in the K.G. and Cauvery Basins. The Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) have been authorized to invite applications for the allocation of this gas and submit their recommendations for the consideration of the GLC. During the years 2002-03 and 2003-04, 137 applications were considered, out of which 57 customers were allocated gas. No meetings of GLC have been held in 2004-05.

(d) & (e): Yes, Sir. A few customers were supplied with small quantities of gas in 2003 & 2004 from the gas available from isolated fields in KG Basin and South Gujarat. These supplies were based Government directions for the early monetization of gas from isolated fields without awaiting GLC approval.