

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:490
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2006
TRANSMISSION OF NATURAL GAS
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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of agencies/entities engaged in transmission of gas, local gas distribution network and marketing business;
- (b) the requirement and capacity available for transmission gas pipelines;
- (c) the mechanism applied by the regulatory authority to enforce an affiliated code of conduct, to regulate the business of transmission of natural gas, gas marketing and gas distribution network;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to allow one agency to do business in only one business activity and regulate transmission pipelines with extra capacity for use as prescribed by the regulatory authority; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) Apart from GAIL(India) Limited (GAIL), other entities like Gujarat State Petronet Limited (GSPL) and Assam Gas Company Limited (AGCL) are also engaged in transmission of natural gas. The entities involved in the Local Gas Distribution include Mahanagar Gas Limited, Indraprastha Gas Limited, Bhagyanagar Gas Limited, Tripura Natural Gas Company Limited, Central UP Gas Limited, Green Gas Limited, GGCL etc.

The entities involved in gas marketing include GAIL, ONGC, OIL, IOCL, BPCL, GSPCL, GGCL, AGCL, Shell Hazira, Petronet LNG Limited etc.

(b) GAIL has 5739 Kms long pipeline networks capable of handling about 130 million standard cubic metre per day (MMSCMD) of gas. GSPL and AGCL also have pipeline networks in the States of Gujarat and Assam respectively.

(c) to (e) The Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006 defines `affiliate code of conduct` as the code of conduct governing entities engaged in storage, transmission, distribution, marketing and sale of natural gas under sub section (1) of section 21.

Section 21 of the Act states that `Provided that in case of an entity engaged in both marketing of natural gas and building, operating or expanding pipelines for transportation of natural gas on common carrier or contract carrier basis, the Board shall require such entities to comply with the affiliate code of conduct as may be specified by regulations and may require such entity to separate the activities of marketing of natural gas and the transportation including ownership of the pipeline within such period as may be allowed by the Board and only within the said period, such entity shall have right of first use`

Appropriate regulations on various matters including on the Affiliate Code of Conduct would be notified by the Regulatory Board under Section 61 of the Act.