

Title : Regarding need for construction of a gas grid for catering to the demands of gas in West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Jharkhand.

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demands of gas in West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Jharkhand

SHRI SUNIL KHAN: Eastern Zone as a whole and West Bengal in Particular is facing a serious problem in the industrial scenario because of non-availability of natural gas in the area. It had a distinct advantage when coal was preferred feedstock, which has now been replaced by natural gas or LNG. For instance, there is no urea producing fertilizer unit in the Eastern States of West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar and Jharkhand as gas is not available as feedstock. The whole planning for utilisation of gas from Bombay High and other future sources including LNG Terminals is being focused on north west and south zone of the country. Gas availability of Eastern Zone is being linked up with unpredictable sources outside the country, in Bangladesh or Myanmar. This is quite unfair that instead of addressing the issue of regional imbalance through equitable distribution of gas available within the country, the demands of gas for eastern zone has been left to be catered with sources, which are yet to be firmed up. It is therefore imperative that immediate plan is drawn for:

1. Installation of gas pipeline from Jagadisapur (Terminal point of HBJ pipeline) to Durgapur/Haldia as an initial step for a gas grid.
2. Installation of a LNG Terminal with Regasification Plants at Haldia (West Bengal) and Paradeep (Orissa) and hence I urge upon the Government to construct a gas grid for catering to the demands of gas in West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Jharkhand.