

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 16
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2019

Marketing and Pipeline Operations of GAIL

16. SHRI G. HARI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government is working on plans to enable Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) to keep its marketing and pipeline operations separate without breaking up the company;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government had proposed in January to split the firm into two-one for laying pipelines and the other for marketing and petrochemicals to encourage more transparency between the two operations; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the response of the Government to keep GAIL as a single entity?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) to (d) The Government has been making concerted efforts to bring policy reforms aimed towards market based gas pricing regime for domestic gas by linking it with the global gas markets as well as by providing marketing and pricing freedom to gas producers from difficult fields to attract investment in E&P activities and enhance gas production.

With a view to promote transparency and competition in the gas marketing, GAIL has put in place a web portal for online booking of gas transportation capacity in its pipelines. Government in-principle believes that gas transmission and marketing should be two separate functions in order to promote more transparency and competition in both gas marketing and transmission activities. Government has been taking appropriate decisions from time to time in this direction.