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NO. B.11013/94/2013-NAC-10075

6th December, 2013

Dear Priya Dutt,

I have received your letter of 22nd November, 2013,
regarding curtailment of gas supply in Maharashtra.

It is being forwarded to the concerned authority.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Priya Dutt
Member of Parliament
"Sunrise" 24 Road, Bandra
Mumbai-400050



सत्यमेव जयते

Priya Dutt

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
LOK SABHA

22nd November, 2013

Smt. Sonia Gandhi (M.P.),
President,
A.I.C.C.,
24, Akbar Road,
New Delhi

Dear *maam*

Sub : Impact on common citizen of Mumbai / Maharashtra due to curtailment Gas Supply

As you are aware, Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL), a Gas Distribution Utility is supplying domestic natural gas to **about seven lakh households and CNG to about three & half lakh vehicles in the metropolis of Mumbai, Thane, Navi Mumbai and surrounding areas of Maharashtra.** In doing so, MGL is touching the lives of more than **ONE CRORE public** at large by providing immensely convenient, cost effective and environment friendly fuel for their cooking and transport needs. Further, CNG is enabling State and Municipal Transport Undertakings like MSRTC, BEST, TMT, NMMT and almost the entire fleet of Autos, Taxis, School Buses, Postal Vans and Milk Vans to provide a cost effective transport solution. The Gas Distribution Utility is able to supply gas to such large number of consumers on the back of assured and reliable domestic gas allocated by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoP&NG).

I have come to know that the MoP&NG has recently vide its notification dated November 14, 2013 **reduced about 30% of domestic gas allocation** to the Gas Distribution Utility for supplying CNG to transport and PNG to households with effect from November 30, 2013.

In order to maintain uninterrupted natural gas supply to common public at current level, **the Gas Distribution Utility will have to import about 5 times more expensive RLNG. I understand this will result in an increase in CNG price by Rs. 18/Kg and domestic PNG price by Rs. 12 / SCM, an exorbitant increase of about 50% for peoples cooking and public transport needs.** This price increase will have cascading effect on bus, auto, taxi fares and result in increase in cost of living of common public at large.

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सत्यमेव जयते

Priya Dutt

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
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This tremendous hardship and burden to citizens of Mumbai, Thane, Navi Mumbai and surrounding areas of Maharashtra in turn would lead to public resentment and agitations against the ruling Congress party in Maharashtra at the time of impending election for Loksabha and State Assembly.

I reliably understand that large quantities of domestic gas continues to be supplied to non core industries and consumers in clear violation of the Supreme Court order of May 2002 giving highest priority in supply of cheaper domestic gas as CNG for transport segment and PNG for households respectively. The average production of natural gas in the country is more than 90.0 MMSCMD, whereas the combined requirement for Transport and domestic sector is only 8.0 MMSCMD. Thus the Government should reallocate cheaper domestic gas from non- core sectors to the Gas Distribution Utility which will be very nominal percentage of total output, but a big relief to common public at large.

If the notification of the MoP&NG is implemented, it would amount to depriving benefit to common man and profiting big industries, **which is not in line with Indian National Congress' pro-people policy.** The common man of Mumbai and other parts of Maharashtra would be hit very badly as increase in gas price will have cascading effect and affect the budget of common men for whom our party stands for.

I would, therefore, urge your goodself to kindly intervene in the matter and advise the Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry to relook into the whole issue and to supply sufficient quantity of cheaper domestic gas to Gas Distribution Companies.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Priya Dutt
(Priya Dutt)