



सत्यमेव जयते

Priya Dutt

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
LOK SABHA

22nd November, 2013

Shri M. Veerappa Moily

Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas (GoI),

216. Wing- "A",

Shastri Bhawan,

New Delhi - 110011.

Sub: **Natural Gas supply reduction for vehicles and households In and around Mumbai**

Dear *Sii*

This is with reference to MoP&NG letter No. L-16013/3/2012-GP-II dated November 14, 2013 issuing guidelines for allocation / supply of domestic gas to CGD entities for CNG (transport) and PNG (domestic) in compliance with judgement of Gujarat High Court, Ahmedabad in W.P. (PIL) No. 47/2011 & 54/2011 – reg.

I wish to bring to your kind notice that about **seven lakh** households and **three & half lakh** vehicles including almost whole of public transport vehicles like State Transport Undertakings, Autos, Taxis, School Buses, Postal Vans and Milk Vans are fully dependent on Natural gas supplied by Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) in the metropolis of Mumbai.

I understand from the said guidelines issued and being implemented by MoP&NG that domestic gas supplies for transport sector and households in Mumbai & near by areas would be reduced about 30% . So far gas prices to public transport and households have been quite stable for last many years and no agitation by general public at large was observed. However, this domestic gas supply reduction will either result in disruptions in gas supplies to public transport sector and households **or** forcing MGL to purchase exorbitantly priced imported gas (about 5 times price of domestic gas), **which may 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.**

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Such move by MoP&NG may result in possible public unrest, law & order problems, **aggravate public resentment and agitations against the Government guidelines.** I wish to highlight that such harsh move of curtailment in domestic gas supplies to transport sector and household consumers of Mumbai, Thane, Navi Mumbai and surrounding areas of Maharashtra will put undue extreme hardship directly on more than **ONE CRORE public** at large.

You will appreciate that **dedicated efforts of almost two decades** has gone into converting almost whole of public transport fleet from polluting liquid fuels to cleaner and environment friendly CNG as a fuel, in compliance with the Bombay High Court orders, to improve the local environment, public health and overall well being of public at large in this financial capital of India.

I also bring to your kind notice that the Supreme Court (SC) of India vide its judgement dated April 05, 2002 has accorded highest priority in allocation of cheaper indigenous gas for transportation sector.

I wish to highlight that such move of any reduction in domestic gas supply for crucial public transport and households of Mumbai and neighbouring areas would not only exert undue hardship on common man in and around the metropolis of Mumbai and may lead to public unrest resulting into law & order situation but also would be contrary to the SC order itself.

Therefore, as a representative of local public, I strongly urge that such move of any reduction in domestic gas supply for crucial public transport and households of Mumbai should be discarded immediately and public of Mumbai should not be put to any further financial hardship.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

Priya Dutt
(Priya Dutt)