

Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board

Hon'ble Prime Minister lays foundation stone for CGD projects in six Geographical Areas in Tamil Nadu

Bidding round launched for the next CGD project in the state

Chennai, November 22, 2018: The Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today announced the laying of the foundation stone for City Gas Distribution (CGD) projects in 63 Geographical Areas (GAs) across India, including seven in Tamil Nadu, heralding the availability of convenient and environmentally-friendly natural gas for millions of residents and businesses.

The foundation stone for the GAs, awarded by Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB), was laid by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in New Delhi in the presence of Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Environment, Forest & Climate Change; and Mr. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Skills Development and Entrepreneurship; and other dignitaries. The landmark event was beamed live to more than 1,000 people assembled in Ramanthapuram to mark the significant milestone for the people of Tamil Nadu.

Shri Edappadi K. Palaniswami, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Smt. Nirmala Sitaraman, Hon'ble Minister of Defence and Shri Pon Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble State Minister of Finance & Shipping, attended the special event to celebrate the introduction of CGD to districts in the Geographical Areas of Salem, Coimbatore, Ramanathapuram, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Tiruvarur, Karaikal, Nagapattinam and Tiruppur.

Currently, 92 GAs covering 129 districts spread over 23 States and UTs have CGD authorization covering 20 percent of India's population* and 11 percent of its geographical area. CGD operations are being carried out in five districts.

PNGRB launched the 9th CGD Bidding Round in April 2018 for 86 GAs which included 174 districts spread over 22 States and Union Territories (UTs). After evaluation of the bids, Letters of Authorization for development of CGD projects were awarded to 23 entities. The entities and GAs awarded in Tamil Nadu are:

- AG&P LNG Marketing Pte. Ltd. and Atlantic Gulf & Pacific company of Manila: Kanchipuram and Ramanathapuram Districts
- Adani Gas Private Limited: Tiruppur, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam & Tiruvarur Districts
- Indian Oil Corporation Limited: Coimbatore & Salem Districts
- Torrent Gas Private Limited: Chennai & Tiruvallur Districts

Making natural gas easily available to big and small customers, industries and commercial establishments, AG&P has also been awarded CGD concessions in other

GAs and is investing heavily in gas infrastructure to support the nation's commitment to switch to natural gas as a clean and affordable source of fuel.

AG&P's gas logistics business encompasses CGD and LNG terminals. In Tamil Nadu, AG&P's CGD networks will deliver natural gas directly, safely and conveniently to houses, gas stations, industrial and commercial establishments, making it easy for customers to access cleaner and cheaper energy.

"AG&P is deeply honored to have been awarded the CGD rights to make natural gas available to the people of Kanchipuram and Ramanathapuram. AG&P will be bringing cleaner and cheaper fuel to households and businesses that do not have access today," said Mr. Karthik Sathyamoorthy, President AG&P LNG Marketing.

"This landmark CGD project for these two districts and others across the region will reduce energy costs, create jobs, trigger economic and social development, and lead to much needed cleaner air, improving the quality of life for the people of Tamil Nadu," he added.

With the completion of 9th CGD Bidding Round, natural gas will be available in 178 GAs comprising 290 districts spread over 26 States and UTs covering more than 46 percent of India's population and 35 percent of its geographical area. In Tamil Nadu, 54,32,894 domestic PNG connections and 806 CNG stations will be installed over the next eight years, in addition to 12,948 inch-km of steel pipeline. CGD will make natural gas available for use by four customer segments:

- Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) predominantly for use as automotive fuel
- Piped Natural Gas (PNG) for use in domestic households
- PNG for commercial businesses
- PNG for and Industries

This month, PNGRB launched the 10th CGD Bidding Round for the next 50 GAs spread across 14 states which will increase CGD coverage to 70% of the country's population and 53% of its area. The GAs in Tamil Nadu included in the 10th CGD Bidding Round are Chittoor, Kolar & Vellore Districts, including areas in Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka.

#

For further information, please contact:

Mr. Vinoth

Enrich PR

+91 98947 74400

enrichprmd@gmail.com

**2011 Population Census*