

Gas Line to Pump in More Investment in Rajasthan

Natural Gas is all set to energize the industrial scenario in Rajasthan, at the Mehsana-Bhatinda Gas Pipeline project closes towards completion. Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation (RIICO) is sketching plans to facilitate industrial growth along its length passing through the state. The mega pipeline is expected to be completed by end of this year. This has come as a major attraction for new investments of the state and is expected to be highlighted at the Rajasthan Government's mega investment show Invest Rajasthan planned in January 24-25, 2021.

Availability of Natural Gas assumes importance for the energy-intensive industries, substantial savings and natural gas improves quality and consistency of products". The Mehsana-Bathinda trunkline (MBPL) is a 36-inch diameter pipeline having various spur lines along the route, accounting to a total of approximately 1,650 km. The pipeline will traverse through Gujarat (47km), Rajasthan (1334km), Haryana (200 km) and Punjab (66 km).

Rajasthan is rich in minerals and an upcoming refinery and petrochemical complex in the state will be making a range of petrochemicals available locally. The state also has a wide network of roads and connectivity with several neighbouring states. Availability of natural gas as affordable fuel will further extend cost advantage to the industries in state and as apex industrial development body of the state government, RIICO has been chalking out plans to make the advantage easily accessible for investors.

While natural gas has been available in and around Alwar district for several years, recently Baran, Bundi, Kota, Chittorgarh, and Bhilwara districts were also connected from the network. The Mehsana Bhatinda pipeline brings Sirohi, Jalore, Pali, Barmer, Ajmer, Jaipur, Sikar, Jhunjhunu, Churu, and Hanumangarh on the piped gas map. The gas being channelized through the pipeline will be provided to the industrial areas and respective industries through district level distributor. The allotment of districts to the distributors is done by Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board and distributors of 18 districts of Rajasthan have already been finalised by the board.