



GAIL (INDIA) LTD #BringBackTheBlueSkies, an initiative under GAIL's Hawa Badlo movement, aims towards creating awareness against Air Pollution and encouraging people to move towards cleaner fuels like Natural Gas.

GAIL Plans to Terminate ₹270-cr IL&FS Contract

Financially troubled firm unable to make progress, delaying PM's pipeline project

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New Delhi: GAIL is planning to terminate ₹270 crore pipe laying contracts it awarded IL&FS last year as the financially-troubled contractor is unable to make progress, delaying the Prime Minister's pet pipeline project that would take natural gas to much of eastern India via his constituency Varanasi, sources said.

GAIL is building the 2,655-km natural gas pipeline, called Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga, which crosses Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Odisha and connects several key cities on the way. The pipeline, whose completion is crucial to the planned revival of three fertilizer units in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Jharkhand, will also introduce millions of homes, vehicles, shops and factories to the cleaner fuel.

IL&FS Engineering and Construction Company Ltd, a unit of

IL&FS Loses Zojila Tunnel Contract

New Delhi: State-owned NHIDCL has terminated the contract awarded to troubled IL&FS group for building the strategic Zojila tunnel to provide all-weather connectivity between Srinagar, Kargil and Leh. IL&FS Transportation in a filing said the contract was terminated on January 15.

The National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL) is likely to invite fresh bids for the tunnel project in Jammu & Kashmir, according to officials. "The contract awarded for construction, operation and maintenance of 2-Lane Bi-Directional Zojila Tunnel awarded by NHIDCL in the state of Jammu & Kashmir has been terminated effective January 15, 2019," IL&FS Transportation said in a BSE filing. -PTI

the troubled IL&FS, had won two contracts last year to lay pipelines: 160 km in the Dobhi-Durgapur stretch and 100 km in the Bokaro-Angul stretch of the Urja Ganga project. Other contractors have the mandate for the remainder of two stretches, which are together about 850 km long. The 260-km pipeline contract is worth about ₹270 crore. Gail had aimed to ready the two stretches by the end of 2019 but IL&FS' sluggishness could become a hurdle.

GAIL is planning to take away the two contracts from IL&FS and award these to others for speedy completion of the project, a source said, adding that fresh tenders for the two stretches will be issued by

the end of next month.

"Due to its financial crisis, IL&FS is unable to pay its sub-contractors and suppliers. So, these sub-contractors have stopped working and vendors have stopped supplies. This can delay the entire project," the source said. Some IL&FS executives linked to the two contracts have also quit, sources said. IL&FS declined to comment for the story.

The problem began in November, and GAIL has since written multiple letters to IL&FS and held meetings with its executives to sort this out. GAIL has now concluded that new contractors will have to be brought in to meet project deadlines, sources said.