



Gail Chief Tripathi May Get 3rd Term

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New Delhi: Bhuwan Chandra Tripathi will likely get his tenure extended as the chairman of state-run GAIL after his second

five-year term ends in July this year, according to sources.

Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has recommended extending Tripathi's term until his retirement, which is due in January 2020, sources said. The recommendation will now go to the

Appointments Committee of the Cabinet, or ACC, for approval.

Tripathi has been the CMD of GAIL since August 2009, before which he held the position of Director (Marketing) for about two years. It's rare for the chief of a state-run firm to have such long stints that straddle governments led by different parties.

GAIL, India's biggest natural gas marketer and transporter, has been in the middle of some of the key initiatives of the Modi government. It is building a 3400-km gas pipeline, which would bring cleaner fuel to much of eastern India and help revive three fertilizer units along the way. GAIL also persuaded the government to fund 40% of the pipeline project cost.