



# City Gas Distribution Project Unlikely to Take off This Year

## Express News Service

**Kochi:** The ambition of the Ernakulam district to implement the City Gas Distribution (CGD) project is unlikely to realise this year.

The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) has extended the deadline to accept bids for the project. This is the third time the deadline is being pushed further. According to the latest notification issued by the PNGRB on June 27, the last date for the sale of bid document for the project is August 4, and the bid closing date is August 11. Originally, the bids were scheduled to be closed in February

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this year, which was later extended to May 12, and then to July 10. According to sources, it will take at least six months to implement the project partially, after the bid formalities are completed.

"The PNGRB has received requests from various prospective bidders/entities such as HPCL, BPCL, ONGC, OIL, Indian Oil-Adani Gas Private Limited, APGDC, GAIL Gas Limited and Kerala Gail Gas Limited to ex-

tend the bid closing date further, from one month to three months. Considering the requests, in the interest of enhancing competition, it has been decided to further revise the time-schedule of the bid. No request for any further time extension shall be entertained by the Board," the notification said.

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tor and piped natural gas (PNG) for households. Interested firms have been asked to quote the tariff for the pipeline network to be laid in the city and the compression charge for dispensing CNG++ for 25 years.

The successful bidder will have to develop the infrastructure for supplying piped natural gas to domestic consumers, including homes, hostels and hotels.

Kerala Gail Gas Ltd, a joint venture of Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) and the Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation, was formed in 2011 to promote city gas distribution across Kerala.

*Mr. Kapil kr. Jain*  
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*02/7/2014*

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