

[TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE OF INDIA, EXTRAORDINARY, PART II,
SECTION 3, SUB-SECTION (ii)]

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

ORDER

New Delhi, dated the April, 2008

S.O. (E).- Whereas the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006 (19 of 2006) (hereinafter referred to as the Act) came into force on the 1st October, 2007 except the provisions of section 16;

And whereas sub-section (1) of section 30 of the said Act provides that "Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Appellate Tribunal established under section 110 of the Electricity Act, 2003 shall be the Appellate Tribunal for the purposes of this Act and the said Appellate Tribunal shall exercise the jurisdiction, powers and authority conferred on it by or under this Act:

Provided that the Technical Member of the Appellate Tribunal for the purposes of this Act shall be called the Technical Member (Petroleum and Natural Gas) and shall have the qualifications specified in sub-section (2) of section 31";

And whereas section 34 of the Act states that sections 120 to 124 of the Electricity Act, 2003 would apply to the Act also. Section 112 of the Electricity Act, 2003 relating to Composition of Appellate Tribunal has not been made applicable to the Act;

And whereas ensuring uninterrupted and adequate supply of petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas in all parts of the country and promoting competitive markets are objectives, among others of the Act, as stated in the preamble;

And whereas difficulties have arisen in exercising the power to constitute a bench under the Act by the Chairperson of the Appellate Tribunal;

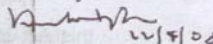
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And whereas, section 122 of the Electricity Act, 2003 which applies to the Act provides for the distribution of business among the benches;

Now, therefore, the Central Government in exercise of its powers conferred by section 59 of the said Act hereby makes the following order not inconsistent with the provisions of the Act, to remove the difficulties, namely:-

1. Short title and Commencement - (1) This order may be called the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2008.
- (2) It shall come into force on the date of publication in the Official Gazette.
2. The Chairperson may constitute benches for Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board for distribution of business under section 122 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (36 of 2003) as it applies to Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006 by virtue of section 34 of the latter Act.

[File No. P- 23011/13/2006-Mkt.]


(D. N. Narasimha Raju)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

To

The Manager,
Government of India Press,
Mayapuri,
New Delhi.

Copy to:-

- (i) Secretary (P&NG) / Add. Secretary (P&NG) / JS (R) / JS & FA / JS (E) / JS (M), P&NG.
- (ii) Secretary, Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board.
- (iii) Shri Alok Kumar, Director, Ministry of Power, Shram Shakti Bhavan, New Delhi.
- (iv) Registrar, Appellate Tribunal for Electricity, Core 4, 7th Floor, SCOPE Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003.
- (v) PS to Minister (P&NG) / MOS (P&NG).
- (vi) All Ministries / Departments of Government of India / President Sectt. / Prime Minister Sectt.
- (vii) All officers / sections in MOP&NG.