



## राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

(भारत के संविधान के अनुच्छेद 338क के अंतर्गत एक संवैधानिक निकाय)  
(A constitutional body under Article 338A of the Constitution of India)

File No:- NCST/DEV-6544/MPNG/5/2025-RU-III

Dated:- 21.1.2026

To,

The Chairman & Managing Director,  
Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL),  
Petroleum House, 17, Jamshedji Tata Road,  
Mumbai, Maharashtra-400020

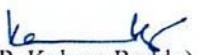
**Sub:- Alleged unauthorized use of private land and request from settlement of outstanding dues by HPCL - a representation dated 15.10.2025 of Shri Ghulam Mehdi, LPG distributor, Kargil, Ladakh.**

महोदय/महोदया,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the minutes of the sitting held on 5.1.2026 under the chairmanship of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) at New Delhi on the above mentioned subject.

It is requested that the action taken/ to be taken in the matter may be submitted to NCST within stipulated time from receipt of the letter, for placing it before Hon'ble Commission.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Dr. P. Kalyan Reddy)  
Director  
Ph No. 011-20819841

Copy for information:-

1. Shri Ghulam Mehdi,  
Prop. Rightway Gas Service  
Authorised LPG Distributor,  
Opp Auditorium Hall Kargil Old,  
Ladakh, Jammu and Kashmir-194103  
Mobile No. 09541842449
2. PS to Hon'ble Member (JH), NCST.
3. NIC- for uploading on the website of the Commission.

## NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

Minutes of the sitting held under the Chairmanship of Shri Jatotu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes at New Delhi in the case of Shri Ghulam Mehdi, LPG Distributor, Kargil, Ladakh regarding Alleged unauthorized use of private land and request for settlement of outstanding dues by HPCL.

File No.: NCST/DEV-6544/MPNG/5/2025-RU-III

Date of the Sitting: 5.1.2026 at 6:50 PM

Participants in the Sitting: As per Annexure

Shri Ghulam Mehdi, Proprietor, Rightway Gas Service, Authorized LPG Distributor (HPCL), Kargil (Ladakh) vide his representation dated 15.10.2025 has alleged that Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) has unauthorizedly used his private land and storage facilities since 1995 for stockpiling LPG cylinders far beyond the agreed capacity of 12,000 kg (approximately 845 cylinders) at times exceeding 40,000–50,000 cylinders without payment of rent or handling charges. He has stated that due to winter closures and lack of bottling facilities, HPCL continued such over-utilization for nearly 30 years, despite repeated objections and assurances, causing severe financial loss and hardship. HPCL exploited his economic vulnerability, violating his right to livelihood and property. It has been informed that HPCL for the first time, paid rent and handling charges of about ₹19.80 lakh for the year 2024–2025 in August 2025, which according to the petitioner amounts to admission of liability. Hence, requested for the justice.

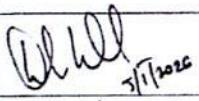
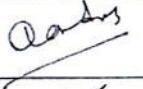
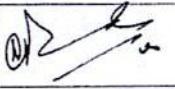
2. NCST vide notice dated 08.12.2025 sought facts and comments from the Chairman & Managing Director, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL), Mumbai within 15 days from receipt of the Notice.

3. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) vide its letter no. LPG/RKD/004 dated 23.12.2025 has informed that the distributorship was governed by a Dealership Agreement dated 10.07.1995, renewed from time to time with the last renewal on 01.08.2025, which clearly mandates that the distributor shall bear all expenses related to storage, handling, rent and allied costs. It has been explained that winter stocking of LPG in Leh and Kargil is a mandatory and regular exercise undertaken as per directions of the local administration to ensure uninterrupted supply of an essential commodity during road closures and that such stocking is within the framework of the agreement. HPCL has further stated that the distributor derived commercial benefit from price revisions up to FY 2023–24, acknowledged by the distributor's son during a meeting held on 03.07.2024 and that no financial loss was suffered. It has also been stated that HPCL supplied winter stock on interest-free credit basis, thereby absorbing the financial burden of refills. HPCL has clarified that payment of handling charges has been introduced prospectively from FY 2024–25 after discussions with distributors and that in view of the above, HPCL is not liable to pay any retrospective amount as demanded in the representation dated 15.10.2025.

4. The reply was not satisfactory, hence, NCST decided to discuss the issue with the authority and the petitioner on 05.01.2026. Accordingly, a Sitting Notice was sent on 26.12.2025. The CMD, HPCL vide letter dated 26.12.2025 has sought exemption and deputed ED –LPG to attend the sitting.

5. In the sitting, the ED-LPG along with other officers of HPCL and petitioner were present. The petitioner has reiterated his submissions and requested for justice. The officers of HPCL has also reiterated their facts and comments submitted by HPCL vide letter dated 23.12.2025. It was also informed that HPCL is following the provisions of agreement. The son of the petitioner has demanded for payment of earlier dues. The officers of HPCL has informed that there is no pending dues of the petitioner in the company/organisation.

List of participants of the sitting held on 5.1.2026 at ~~6:30~~..... under the chairmanship of Shri Jatotu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, NCST at New Delhi.

Sr. No.	Name and Designation	Address & Phone No.	Signature
<b>I</b> <u>National Commission for Scheduled Tribes</u>			
1.	Dr. P.Kalyan Reddy Director		
2.	NCST Officials		
<b>II</b> <u>HPCL</u>			
Sr. No.	Name and Designation	Phone No.	Signature
1.	DHRUV KAPIL ED-LPG	7042176665	 5/1/2026
2.	VILAS MANI CHANDRA GM-LPG, N2	9456816230	
3	HAMID BASHIR	9419027173	
4	ARVIND LAL DGM - COORDINATION	7533885885	
<b>III</b> <u>Petitioner</u>			
	ABHARAT MEHDI S/o SHULAM MEHDI (Regulating Essare)	700648294	