

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:683
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2000
TRANSPORTATION OF LPG
M.V.V.S MURTHI;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the IOC, BPCL, ONGC and GAIL have issued the global notification for prequalification of shipowners for transportation of Liquefied Natural Gas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the prequalification conditions laid down in the notification;
- (c) whether the participation of Indian shipping companies in the proposed LNG transportation arrangements has been ruled out at this stage;
- (d) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to relax the prequalification conditions for the Indian companies to participate in the same; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAM NAIK)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the House..

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABH STARRED QUESTION NO.683 FOR 15TH 2000 REGARDING TRANSPORTATION OF LNG.

(a) No, Sir. However, Petronet LNG Limited which is a joint venture company promoted by IOC, BPCL, ONGC and GAIL have issue a global notification for pre-qualification of owners and operators of ship for transportation of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) from Qatar to the proposed LNG terminals at Dahej (Gujarat) and Kochi (Kerala) on a time charter basis.

(b) The main conditions for pre-qualification of the ship owners/operators are as follows:-

- (i) Equity ownership in one or more LNG tankers each having capacity not less than 1,25,000 cubic metres; and
- (ii) Full experience in operating and managing (both technical management and crewing) one or more such LNG tankers; and
- (iii) The LNG tankers operated by the bidders should have transported minimum of 0.65 million tonnes of LNG under time charter arrangement during each of the previous three years.

(c) No, Sir. It has been made obligatory for the bidders to associate Indian shipping companies in the ownership and operation of the LNG tankers and offer training programme to Indian personnel. This was specially stated in the detailed document issued for pre-qualification and also reiterated during the discussions with the bidders.

(d) & (e) Does not arise.