

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:761
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2002
GAS PIPELINE FROM IRAN AND BANGLADESH
ANANDRAO ADSUL

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal by Gas Authority of India Limited for piped gaslines from Iran and Bangladesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which it will be beneficial to our country; and
- (c) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed and become operational?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a)&(b) Under Indo-Iran bilateral cooperation, there is a proposal to explore both on-shore and off-shore gas pipeline options from Iran to India. For this project Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) from India and National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) from Iran have been nominated as nodal agencies by the respective Governments. For offshore pipeline option outside the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of Pakistan a feasibility study has been jointly awarded by GAIL and NIOC to M/s Snamprogetti-Saipem of Italy which is progressing.

With regard to Bangladesh, a consortium of three Oil Public Sector Undertakings, namely, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Gas Authority of India Limited and Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited will participate in the import of natural gas. Government of Bangladesh has however yet to take a decision about export of gas to India.

The pipeline gas imports would certainly benefit the Indian gas market as domestic supplies are inadequate to meet the growing gas demand. The core sectors like fertilizer and power need larger and larger quantities of gas. Similarly, industrial, residential and transport sectors too would require more gas in coming years.

(c) Time frame for Indo-Iran pipeline project can only be known after the techno-economic viability of this project, based on Detailed Feasibility Report, is established. Whereas in case of Bangladesh it can only be known after the decision of the Government of Bangladesh is formally communicated.