

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2653
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2002
OMAN-INDIA NATURAL GAS PIPELINE PROJECT
M. DURAI

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

- (a) whether Oman-India natural gas pipeline project has been shelved;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government not to invite those whom the work was assigned earlier in case of future proposals?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Oman-India Pipeline project had to be shelved due to the following reasons:-

- Technical feasibility of the project could not be established.
- Adequate gas reserves were not earmarked for the project.
- Pipeline laying contractors were not willing to accept engineering and pre-commissioning risks and were not willing to spend money to demonstrate their proposed methodology; and
- Lack of proven technology to undertake deep-sea repair.

(c) Does not arise in view of the fact that the project was dropped at the feasibility stage.