

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:30  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2005  
INDO - IRAN GAS PIPELINE PROJECT  
Chandrappan Shri C.K.;Mahajan Shri Y.G.

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

- (a) the progress so far made in the process of execution of the proposed gas pipeline from Iran to India through Pakistan since the first meeting of the India – Iran Special Joint Working Group (JWG) held in New Delhi in August, 2005;
- (b) whether the Government has appointed Technical Consultant to conduct pre-feasibility study of the said gas pipeline project;
- (c) if so, the details along with the terms and conditions thereof; and
- (d) the time by which the said study will be completed?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.30 FOR ANSWER ON 24TH NOVEMBER 2005 BY SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN AND SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN, M.Ps. REGARDING INDO – IRAN GAS PIPELINE PROJECT.

(a): The Government is discussing the details of the Iran – Pakistan – India (IPI) Gas Pipeline Project with the Governments of Iran and Pakistan. Two separate, Secretary-level Joint Working Groups (JWGs), viz., India – Pakistan JWG and India – Iran Special JWG (SJWG) have been constituted for this purpose. So far, two meetings each of the India – Pakistan JWG and the India – Iran SJWG have been held. The meetings of the India – Pakistan JWG were held on 12th & 13th July, 2005, in New Delhi, and on 8th & 9th September 2005, in Islamabad. The meetings of the India – Iran SJWG were held on 3rd & 4th August, 2005, in New Delhi, and 24th October, 2005, in Tehran. The third set of meeting is scheduled for December, 2005. Various technical, commercial, financial, legal and related issues were discussed in these meetings and reviewed by the Indian and Iranian Ministers at their meeting in Riyadh on 19th November in the sidelines of the International Energy Forum Round Table Conference. The Pakistan Minister is scheduled to visit India after the next meeting of the India – Pakistan JWG. It is envisaged that the project structure and framework agreement for the project could be finalized by early next year.

(b) to (d): The Indian side has appointed their technical consultant for the project on 19th October 2005 to carry out a pre-feasibility study of the project. The technical consultant will examine issues such as the optimal adjustment of the pipeline route and its configuration taking into account the pipeline system design; hydraulic analysis and options; proposed design to ensure safe and secure gas supply; materials grade; preliminary environment and social impact assessment; etc. The technical consultant is expected to complete the required studies by the end of December 2005.