

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:484

ANSWERED ON:18.05.2006

INDO IRAN GAS PIPELINE PROJECT

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Patel Shri Jivabhai Ambalal;Subbarayan Shri K.

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

- (a) the progress made so far on Indo-Iran gas pipeline project;
- (b) whether Iran and Pakistan have signed an agreement to lay a gas pipeline with a higher offtake for Pakistan from an earlier proposed 2.1 billion cubic feet per day (bcf
- (d) to 2.8 bcf in the 3.2 bcf capacity of the Iran-Pakistan-India pipeline; and
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government on the present situation?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURALI DEORA)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.484 BY SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR AND SHRI K. SUBBARAYAN TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH MAY, 2006 REGARDING INDO-IRAN GAS PIPELINE PROJECT

(a): As the domestic availability of gas is not adequate to meet the country's demand, Government have been pursuing import of gas, both as liquefied natural gas (LNG) and through transnational pipelines. One of the pipeline projects under consideration is the Iran-Pakistan-India pipeline project which envisages a pipeline of about 2000 kilometres length from Assaluyeh in Iran to the India-Pakistan border. The Government is discussing the details of the project with the Governments of Iran and Pakistan at bilateral and trilateral levels. So far, three meetings each of the bilateral joint working groups and one meeting of the trilateral working group have been held in which various technical, commercial, financial, legal and other project related issues have been discussed. The progress of discussions was also reviewed by the Petroleum Ministers of the three countries in Doha in April, 2006 on the sidelines of the Ministerial meeting of the International Energy Forum. The second trilateral working group meeting is scheduled to be held on 22-24 May, 2006 at Islamabad.

(b): There were reports in some sections of the media about Iran-Pakistan reaching an agreement for higher offtake of gas by Pakistan. However, Mr. M. H. Nejad Hosseinian, Deputy Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Petroleum, Islamic Republic of Iran, during his recent visit to New Delhi on 1-2 May, 2006 informed that no such agreement has been signed between Iran and Pakistan.

(c): Does not arise in view of the reply to (b) above.