

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:904

ANSWERED ON:23.10.2008

INDO-IRAN GAS PIPELINE

Chandrapan Shri C.K.;Chaudhary Shri Pankaj;Danve Shri Raosaheb Patil;Das Gupta Shri Gurudas;Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz;Malhotra Prof. Vijay Kumar;Nayak Shri Ananta;Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan;Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

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

- (a) the present status of Indo-Iran gas pipeline project;
- (b) whether talks on the proposed Indo-Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline has been progressing very slowly;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether any discussion was held in this regard with the President of Iran during his recent visit to India;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether Iran is willing for a change in the delivery point of gas for IPI pipeline;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) the time by which this gas pipeline agreement is likely to be finalised?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS(SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) to (c): India is pursuing the import of natural gas from Iran through Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) Gas Pipeline Project. Various important issues, viz., pricing of gas, delivery point of gas, project structure, payment of transportation tariff and transit fees for passage of natural gas through Pakistan, etc. are under discussion amongst the participating countries.

Such multilateral projects involve protracted discussions, as all the aspects have to be carefully examined and deliberated upon to the satisfaction of the participating countries to protect each country's interests and to avoid any problems in the future in the successful operation of the project.

(d) & (e): In the meeting held between the President of Islamic Republic of Iran and Prime Minister on April 29, 2008, the modalities of pursuing the project were discussed.

(f) & (g): The issue is under discussion amongst the participating countries.

(h): Finalization of the agreement can be achieved when satisfactory resolution of the issues under discussion is reached by the countries participating in the project, viz., Iran, Pakistan and India.