

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:695

ANSWERED ON:25.02.2009

TRI NATION GAS PIPELINE PROJECT

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Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the negotiations on the Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) gas pipeline project;
- (b) whether Iran has offered to host a meeting of the Energy Ministers of these countries to negotiate the outstanding issues;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Pakistan has offered to Iran to buy Indian share of gas from the proposed pipeline;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (c) The Project was last discussed by India and Iran during the 15th Joint Commission Meeting held in Tehran in November 2008 and during the 6th Foreign Office Consultations between India and Iran held in New Delhi in December 2008. India had proposed a trilateral discussion of the project between India, Iran and Pakistan. A response is awaited.

(d) & (e) Government has not received intimation of this.

(f) Government is committed to a gas pipeline project which is financially viable, secure and in which continuous supply is assured.