GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:573
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2005
GAS PIPELINE BETWEEN MYANMAR-INDIA THROUGH BANGLADESH
Acharia Shri Basudeb;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Budholiya Shri Rajnarayan;Choudhary Smt. Anuradha;Mahajan Shri Y.G.;Munshiram Shri ;Nedurumalli Janardhana Reddy Shri ;Ponnuswamy Shri E.;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati;Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

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

- (a) whether the Government of Myanmar has agreed to supply gas to India by pipeline through Bangladesh;
- (b) if so, whether any agreement among the three countries has been signed; and
- (c) If so, the details alongwith the terms and conditions stipulated in the agreement?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): In January 2005, a delegation visited Myanmar to participate in a trilateral meeting of Oil Ministers of Myanmar, Bangladesh and India to discuss cooperation in the hydrocarbon sector with Myanmar and the import of natural gas from Myanmar through an onland pipeline via Bangladesh. A Joint Press statement was issued by the three Ministers on 13.1.2005 a copy of which is annexed. Simultaneously, a Joint Press Statement was issued also by the Ministers of Bangaldesh and India which is also annexed. The three Ministers agreed to constitute a Techno-Commercial Working Committee (TCWC) to prepare an MOU for cooperation for implementation of Myanmar-Bangladesh-India Pipeline Project which will finally be signed by the three Governments. The draft MoU was negotiated and initialed at the first meeting of the Techno-Commercial Working Group in Yangon on 24-25 February 2005. The three Ministers will jointly sign the MOU after approval from their respective Governments.