

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2641

ANSWERED ON:25.11.2010

UNDERWATER GAS PIPELINE FROM IRAN

Acharia Shri Basudeb;Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Patil Shri Sanjay Dina ;Sule Supriya

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

- (a) whether the Government has now agreed for the idea of having an underwater gas pipeline from Iran which would allow it to bypass Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether India has already discussed building a pipeline under Arabian Sea with Tehran;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if so, whether underwater pipeline will not just help India evades Pakistan but also allow the Government to engage Iran in a more fruitful manner;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether India and Turkmenistan has discussed prospects of transporting gas from Turkmenistan to northern Iran with help from India and using underwater pipeline option to transport gas to India from southern Iran; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

- (a) & (b): No Madam. However, for the last few years, interest has been revived in deep sea gas pipeline route from Middle-East to India. Gas supplies from several gas rich countries of Middle East through Gas Gathering pipeline with hub in Oman (or its proximity) have been proposed, so as to supply gas to Indian Coast through the said Deep Sea Pipeline.
- (c): No such discussions have been held with Iran in recent past.
- (d) to (f): Does not arise in view of (c) above.
- (g): No Madam.
- (h): Does not arise in view of (g) above.