

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:466
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2009
INDO-OMAN GAS PIPELINE PROJECT
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) the status of the Indo-Oman gas pipeline project;
- (b) the details of gas to be supplied to the country as per the production sharing contract signed by the Gas Authority of India Ltd. with the Government of Oman;
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to revive an undersea project to address energy shortage in the country; and
- (d) the time by which the project is likely to be fructified?

Answer

MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 466 BY SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL, MP TO BE ANSWERED ON 6TH AUGUST, 2009 REGARDING INDO-OMAN GAS PIPELINE PROJECT

(a) to (c): An Agreement on Principal Terms for supply of 56.6 million standard cubic meter per day (mmscmd) natural gas through pipeline from Oman to India was signed between the Government of Oman and the Government of India in 1994. Pursuant to the above, GAIL and Oman Oil Company jointly carried out feasibility study of the Oman-India Deepwater Gas Pipeline. However, the Project could not move ahead due to, inter alia, the technical feasibility of the Project not being established and inadequate gas reserves for the Project.

In recent years, there have been significant technological advancements in the field of Deep Sea Gas transportation technology. Accordingly, 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. GAIL (India) Ltd. has entered into a Principles of Cooperation in the month of July 2009 for developing the pipeline Project. As such, the proposal is at its initial stage.

(d): Such projects involve protracted discussions, as all the aspects have to be carefully examined and deliberated upon to the satisfaction of the parties concerned and to protect each party's interests and to avoid any problems in the future in the successful operation of the Project. Therefore, no definite time frame can be indicated for commencement as well as completion of the project at this stage.