

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4247

ANSWERED ON:16.12.2009

INDIA-IRAN GAS PIPELINE

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Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been any meeting between India and Iran regarding energy and trade routes recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the hurdles being faced in India-Iran-Pakistan pipeline project;
- (d) the measures proposed to be taken by the Government to remove these obstacles;
- (e) the time by which these are likely to be removed; and
- (f) the quantum of energy likely to be received by India as a result of this agreement?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S.M. KRISHNA)

(a) & (b) During the visit to India by Foreign Minister of Iran Mr. Manouchehr Mottaki on November 16-17, 2009, the two sides discussed, inter alia, the issue of bilateral energy cooperation, the development of Chabahar Port and Railway Project, and the International North South Corridor. A delegation led by Mr. Seifollah Jashnsaz, Deputy Minister in the Iranian Ministry of Oil and President of National Iran Oil Company visited India from November 30-December 3, 2009. The two sides held discussions on various aspects of bilateral cooperation between India and Iran in the oil and gas sector.

(c) to (e) India is pursuing the import of natural gas from Iran through the said project. Issues such as pricing, delivery point, project structure, etc., are being focused on. Such multilateral projects involve protracted discussions and as such no time frame can be indicated for completion of discussions.

(f) 30 million standard cubic meter per day (mmscmd) of gas is estimated to be supplied in phase-I of the Project.