

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4253  
ANSWERED ON:10.04.2003  
TRANSPORTATION OF LNG BY PSUs  
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

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

- (a) whether any global notification has been issued for prequalification of shipowners for transportation of LNG by IOC, IBPCL, ONGCL and GAIL;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the prequalification conditions laid down in the notification;
- (c) whether participation of Indian shipping companies in the proposed LNG transportation arrangements has been ruled out at this stage;
- (d) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to release the pre-qualification conditions for the Indian companies to participate in the same; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefore?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a)to(e) No, Sir. However, Petronet LNG Limited (PLL) which is a joint venture company promoted by Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL) and Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGCL), had issued a global notification for pre-qualification of ship owners and Ship operators in February, 2000 for transportation of LNG from Ras Laffan (Qatar) to its LNG regassification terminals at Dahej (Gujarat) and Cochin (Kerala).

PLL issued global notification for time charter of newly built LNG tankers of 138,000 cubic meters capacity of LNG carriers for shipment of LNG from RasGas (Qatar) to Dahej (Gujarat) and Cochin (Kerala) with following pre-qualification criteria.

- (i) Shipowners/operators having an equity ownership in one or more LNG tankers each of capacity not less than 125,000 cu.mt. and
  - (ii) Having full experience in operating and managing (both technical management and crewing) one or more LNG tankers each of capacity not less than 125,000 cu.Mt. and
  - (iii) LNG tankers(s) operated as per
- (ii) above by the bidder should have transported minimum 0.65 MMT of LNG under time charter arrangement during each of the years 1997, 1998 and 1999.

In the bidding document it was made obligatory for bidders to associate Indian shipping companies by providing minimum 26% equity participation.