

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:414

ANSWERED ON:24.08.2006

IMPORT OF LNG FROM IRAN

Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Singh Shri Ganesh

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

- (a) whether Iran has expressed its inability to supply Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) to India;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto and further action taken in matter?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 414 BY SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY AND SHRI GANESH SINGH TO BE ANSWERED ON 24th AUGUST, 2006 REGARDING IMPORT OF LNG FROM IRAN.

(a): While Iran has not expressed its inability to supply liquefied natural gas (LNG) to India, it is yet to agree to give effect to a Sale-Purchase Agreement (SPA) for 5 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA) of LNG signed between the National Iranian Gas Export Company (NIGEC) and the Indian Consortium of GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL), Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) & Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), on 13th June, 2005 in Tehran. The contract period is for 25 years, beginning from the last quarter of 2009.

(b) While signing the aforesaid SPA, simultaneously, the parties also signed a side letter to the LNG SPA on 13th June, 2005 as per which NIGEC desired to obtain the approval of their parent company, National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC), for the SPA to become effective and notify the other party of obtaining such approval thereafter. NIGEC has not been able to obtain NIOC's Board approval and convey the same to the Indian companies till now.

(c) The matter is being pursued with the Iranian authorities.