

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:51
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2007
INDO- MYANMAR GAS PIPELINE PROJECT
Chaudhary Shri Pankaj;Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir

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

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- (a) whether Myanmar has expressed its inability to supply gas to India through on-land pipeline;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the present status of the Indo-Myanmar gas pipeline project?

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. 51 BY SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY AND SHRI MOHD. TAHIR TO BE ANSWERED ON 1st MARCH, 2007 REGARDING INDO-MYANMAR GAS PIPELINE PROJECT.

(a) to (d): Government of the Union of Myanmar had invited bids for purchase of gas through the pipeline route from A-1 and A-3 blocks. Gail (India) Ltd. (GAIL) submitted its bid in September 2006. The pipeline from Myanmar is envisaged to be laid down via the north-eastern states of the country. GAIL has completed Detailed Feasibility Report, Environment Management Plan and Rapid Risk Analysis study for the project.

Subsequently, Myanmar intimated to GAIL that they were reviewing their decision to sell this gas through the pipeline route. While exploring other options of selling the gas, Myanmar asked for a bid for, purchase of 3.5 MMTPA of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). GAIL has submitted its bid to Myanmar in response to the same in December 2006.

An Indian delegation visited Myanmar during January 9-11, 2007. During the visit, the issue of import of Natural gas from Myanmar through transnational pipeline was discussed with Ministry of Energy, Myanmar. The Myanmar side indicated that out of the presently available gas of 4.8 trillion cubic feet (tcf), their Government would like to earmark a portion of this gas for their domestic requirement, and that the balance gas would not be sufficient for viable export. Myanmar has taken up drilling in A3 block and based on the result of drilling and quantity of gas available, would take a decision on selling the gas through available options.