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Title: Issues relating to Indo-Iran gas pipeline.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (ULUBERIA): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government and the entire House to a fact which would show how a foreign Government is trying to interfere with the national economy of our country. We need gas for our gas-based industries in the country. The Government is engaged in the process of entering into an agreement with Iran for laying a gas pipeline from Iran to India. But unfortunately, last week, the US Ambassador, Mr. David Mulford has told our Minister for Petroleum to keep in mind the fact that their relation with Iran was not good and that Iran had some problems and we should be careful about that. Even, Ms. Condolezza Rice has warned the Government to keep away from doing such a thing.

Sir, a foreign Government has no right to interfere in the areas of our economic interest. They have destroyed countries like Afganistan, Iran and Iraq and now they are trying to interfere with our economic interests. Our Government should not surrender to this and take a firm stand on this issue. The whole country is behind the Government in fighting the forces who are trying to interfere with our economic interests. I hope the Government will make a statement in the House and make it clear that Government will not allow anybody, whoever may be the forces who are conspiring against us to damage our national economy, to stand in the way of our national interests.