

IOC	18002333555
BPCL	1800222725
HPCL	18002333777

India out of IPI project

953. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

SHRI N.K. SINGH:

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

(a) whether the Iranian Government has recently signed an agreement with the Pakistan Government on transfer of gas from Iran to Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether the Iranian Government has kept India out of the IPI project; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government on such Iran-Pakistan gas deal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) According to official statements and media accounts, the Inter-Governmental Framework Declaration (IGFD) to support the IPI Gas Pipeline Project has been signed between Iran and Pakistan. Further, Gas Sale and Purchase Agreement (GSPA), between Iran and Pakistan has been concluded.

(b) and (c) While the specifics of either IGFD or GSPA have not been made public, both India and Iran are keen to pursue Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) Gas Pipeline Project. Various important issues concerning the Project are under discussion amongst the participating countries.

Interlinking of Gas Pipelines

954. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

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

(a) whether Government proposes to take up all main gas pipeline projects in the country;

(b) if so, whether the existing pipeline infrastructure is insufficient to handle the country's growing natural gas production; and

(c) if so, the plans formulated by Government in this regard and by when all the major gas pipelines are likely to be connected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) to (c) There is an existing natural gas transportation network in the country. The network has trunk pipelines of more than 9,000 km. The pipelines are owned and operated by Central & State Public Sector Undertakings, as also Private Companies. The pipeline network has to be further augmented to connect new sources of indigenous gas & Regasified Liquefied Natural Gas (RLNG) to customers in new areas/states. As laying of natural gas trunk pipelines allows growth of

natural gas-based industries, it spurs economic development in the area. Hence, efforts are being made to further develop natural gas transportation network in the country, while no specific plans have been formulated by the Union Government for the same, as of now.

Global Price of Crude Oil

955. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

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

- (a) the global price of crude oil, as on 31st March, 2009, in rupees per litre;
- (b) the tax component in per litre retail price of petrol and diesel;
- (c) the Central excise duty, in rupees per litre on ATF, petrol and diesel, as on date;
- (d) whether Government is rationalising the taxes; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) The global price of Indian Basket crude oil was Rs. 14.94/ltr (\$ 46.63 per barrel) on 31st March 2009.

(b) The current Taxes and Duties included in the Retail Selling Prices (RSPs) of Petrol and Diesel at Delhi are given below:

	(Rs /litre)	
	Petrol	Diesel
RSP at Delhi	44.63	32.87
Taxes and Duties		
Customs Duty	0.46	0.50
Excise Duty	13.75	3.71
VAT	7.44	3.90
Total Taxes and Duties	21.65	8.11

(c) The Central Excise Duty included in the selling price of Petrol, Diesel and ATF (domestic airlines) at Delhi, inclusive of 3% education cess, is given below:

	(Rs./litre)
Petrol	13.75
Diesel	3.71
ATF (for domestic airlines)	2.45

(d) and (e) The Government has taken a number of measures to rationalize Taxes and Duties.

The ad-valorem component of Excise Duty on unbranded Petrol and unbranded Diesel has been abolished and converted to a specific duty of Rs. 14.35 and Rs.4.60 per litre respectively, with effect from 1.3.2008.