

(g) A refinery can be set up anywhere in India by a Private or Public Sector Enterprise depending on its techno-commercial viability.

Gas availabilities in the TAPI gas pipeline project

2284. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline project;
- (b) the prospects of bringing the littoral and neighbouring States of the Caspian Sea, into the project as earlier proposed by India to augment gas availabilities in the TAPI pipeline; and
- (c) whether India is concerned that bilateral agreements between Turkmenistan and its neighbours, including Russia and Iran, might deprive TAPI of its gas requirement to the detriment of India's energy security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): (a) Government is pursuing the import of natural gas from Turkmenistan through TAPI gas pipeline project. Various important issues concerning the Project, viz., delivery point, project structure, security of supplies, etc. are under discussion amongst the participating countries. Gas Pipeline Framework Agreement (GPFA) has been initialled by the Ministers of the participating countries, including India, during 11th meeting of Steering Committee of TAPI Gas Pipeline Project held in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan on September 20, 2010.

(b) and (c) As per the 3rd party Gas Reserve Certificate provided by Turkmenistan, adequate gas reserves are available in Turkmenistan to meet the requirement of gas for TAPI Gas Pipeline Project.

Financial position of Public Sector Oil companies

2285. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the financial position of the public sector oil companies during 2010-11 as on date with comparison to 2009-10, company-wise;