

- (ix) Instructions have been given that sensitive official work will be done on stand-alone computers.

Resumption of negotiations on IPI gas pipeline

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

- (a) whether, in the light of the imminent conclusion of Iran-US agreement on Iran's nuclear programme, preparations are under way to resume negotiations on the proposed Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) gas pipeline;
- (b) the projections of imported gas requirements till 2030 and the potential to meet this demand by imports from Iran by gas pipeline and LNG; and
- (c) whether Government is exploring the feasibility of importing gas from Iran by-passing the overland route through Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) No decision has been taken by the Government on this.

(b) The requirement of natural gas in the country is projected to be 606 MMSCMD by 2021-22 as per the report of the Working Group on Petroleum and Natural Gas Sector (12th Five Year Plan). The Gas demand is being met from domestic production and through gas supplies from Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) Gas Pipeline Project has been under discussion with the Governments of Iran and Pakistan since 2005. The discussions have remained inconclusive since several critical issues like project finance, pricing of gas etc. are yet to be resolved.

- (c) There is no such proposal in this Ministry.

Extension of BTC pipeline through Israel

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

- (a) whether oil from the Caspian is reaching Ceyhan in Turkey through the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) pipeline;
- (b) whether India is pursuing a project to extend BTC through Israel to the Gulf of Aqaba to make available Caspian oil to countries of the Indian Ocean Rim, including India; and

(c) whether it is proposed to take this up during the Prime Minister's Forthcoming visit to Israel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) oil pipeline connects Caspian region directly to the Mediterranean Sea through Turkey.

(b) and (c) No such proposal is being considered in this Ministry at present.

Fall in crude oil price

282. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent price of crude oil has fallen internationally during the past one year;

(b) to what extent prices of petroleum products in India have fallen during the period;

(c) to what extent Government have levied additional taxes on petrol and diesel which has caused substantial rise in their prices; and

(d) whether it is a policy of Government not to allow people enjoy the benefit of fall in prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The details of average price of Indian basket crude oil in July 2015 *vis-a-vis* July 2014 is given below:

Month	Indian Basket Crude oil (\$/bbl)	Exchange rate (₹/\$)	Indian Basket Crude oil (₹/bbl)
July, 2014	106.30	60.06	6383.99
July, 2015*	58.06	63.49	3685.81

*Up to 15th July 2015

(b) The details of Retail Selling Price (RSP) of Petrol and Diesel at Delhi, as per IOCL, on 1st July 2014 *vis-a-vis* 16th July, 2015 is given below: