

(c) whether it is the first of its kind Public Private Partnership (PPP) project in the country;

(d) to what extent the proposed terminal helps in supplying gas to the nearby plants; and

(e) whether gas from KG basin is stored in this terminal or gas imported is going to be stored in this terminal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Andhra Pradesh Gas Distribution Corporation (APGDC), an affiliate company of GAIL in collaboration with the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, is promoting setting up of a Floating Storage Regasification Unit (FSRU) based LNG terminal in Kakinada. A Joint Venture Agreement has been signed among APGDC, GDF Suez Energy India Private Limited and Shell Gas and Power Development B.V. for development of a Floating LNG Import, storage, re-gasification terminal in Kakinada. As per the Joint Venture Agreement, the equity partners, APGDC, GDF and Shell will hold 48%, 26% and 26% respectively. The JV will set up and operate FSRU based LNG terminal.

(c) No. There have been Joint Ventures among Government and privates Institutions earlier also.

(d) The terminal aims to develop LNG import, re-gasification and send out for an annual capacity of 3.5 MTPA which is approximately equivalent to 12 MMSCMD.

(e) Only imported gas will be stored, re-gasified and send out through the terminal.

Breakthrough for TAPI gas pipeline

1248. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T. : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether finally a breakthrough has been found for TAPI (Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and India) pipeline recently;

(b) how TAPI will execute and operate the projects when none of TAPI companies have experience of operating trans-national pipelines;

(c) how India is going to be benefited from the above pipeline and how much gas the country is going to get; and

(d) what precautionary measures are proposed to be taken to protect the pipeline passing through Afghanistan and Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Turkmengas has been selected as the Consortium Leader by the TAPI Pipeline Company Limited (TPCL). Turkmen Government is holding a ground breaking ceremony on 13th December, 2015 for commencing laying of the pipeline within Turkmenistan.

(b) The project will be executed by contractors having the relevant experience, who would be selected by TPCL *via* competitive bidding.

(c) GAIL has signed a Gas Sales and Purchase Agreement (GSPA) with Turkmengas for import of 38 Million Metric Standard Cubic Meter Per Day (MMSCMD) of natural gas for 30 years. However, with Afghanistan agreeing to take approx. 1.5 – 4 MMSCMD against the original agreed volumes of 14 MMSCMD, the Indian volumes may increase to 43 – 44.25 MMSCMD.

TAPI will provide an alternative supply source of gas with dependable reserves leading to enhanced energy security. It will further diversify the fuel basket to the benefit of Indian economy. The TAPI gas would be utilized mainly in Power, Fertilizer, City gas and Industrial sector.

(d) Asian Development Bank, the Transaction Advisor for the Project has got a report on Security Risk Assessment And Security Plan prepared by the security consultant – M/s. Pacific Strategies and Assessments, Inc. (PSA). PSA has *inter-alia* recommended the following:

- (i) Establishment of an Inter – Government Joint Security Task force (JSTF) to serve as the nucleus of the security program. The JSTF should be authorized by each of Afghanistan and Pakistan at the highest level with clear cut roles and responsibilities.
- (ii) Establishment of a team that enables operational continuity and is capable of rapid repair of critical facilities and equipments.

Extending LPG connections to forest hinterlands

1249. SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state

(a) the details to what extent the households in forest hinterlands have been covered by LPG connections; and

(b) what steps are under consideration for effectively controlling the cutting of trees for fuel and the consequent adverse impact of deforestation?