

Bangladesh / India - onshore - natural gas - 1363 km / 847 miles - "Bibiyana Pipeline"

General information

Project name	Bibiyana Pipeline
also named:	Bibiyana to Jagdishpur pipeline
Fluid	natural gas
Onshore / offshore	onshore
Line type	transport line
Project status	future project
Start of construction (guesstimated)	2014
Completion (guesstimated)	2015
Geographical location	from Bangladesh to India (Asia)
Route	from Bibiyana gas field, Sylhet, Bangladesh to Jagdishpur, India. Via Durgapur, Andal, Raniganj, Asansol, Dhanbad, Bokaro, Bhurkunda, Renukoot and Phulpur.
NPS diameter(s)	750 mm - 30 inch
Length (planned)	1363 km - 847 miles
Line pipe weight (estimated)	330000 mt - 360000 US tons
Capacity (planned)	5200 million m3/y - 500 million cf/d
Field reserves	11 trillion cft
Technical details	A new study of US Geological Survey estimates the reserves to 35 trillion cft. Project cost: USD 310 million for the Bangladesh portion and USD 881 million for India's Estimated earnings during the 20-year project period: USD 3.7 billion Jan. 2004. ONGC has finalized the route. Feasibility study on process.
Cost (estimated)	1200 million USD
Project number	138

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Status details

Project

July 2001 Unocal proposes pipeline project from Bangladesh -- To uplink with GAIL network
THE US energy major, Unocal, has proposed setting up a 1350 kilometre pipeline project

- from Bibiyana in Habibganj district in Bangladesh and link up with
- the Gas Authority of India Ltd's (GAIL) Hazira-Bijapur-Jagdishpur Pipeline.

October 2001 Unocal submitted a Pipeline Development Plan - Bangladesh Natural Gas Pipeline Project to Petrobangla, the state oil company of Bangladesh Monday.

The Pipeline Development Plan is a follow up to the Market Feasibility and Commercialization Plan Unocal submitted to Petrobangla, as per its Production Sharing Contract (PSC) on Nov. 6, 2000, in order to develop the Bibiyana gas field which Unocal and its subsidiaries discovered in 1998. The Market Feasibility and Commercialization Plan included a comprehensive review of LNG and other options available for commercialization of Bibiyana field and concluded that

- an export pipeline to markets in India results in the highest value for Bibiyana gas for Bangladesh.

The Pipeline Development Plan proposal includes

- construction of a new 30-inch diameter, 1,363-kilometer (847-mile) pipeline,

with an initial capacity of 500 million cubic feet of gas per day (Mmcf/d), from the Bibiyana field in northeast Bangladesh to the Delhi market area in India.

2001 Project on opposition within Bangladesh

April 2002 The Bangladesh government has ruled out exports of gas to India before arriving at a concrete assessment of the reserves and meeting domestic demands. Bangladesh Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia told in Dhaka recently that "the question of gas export does not arise before the assessment is made and domestic demand met."

July 2002 Amid raging controversies over gas export, two committees were assigned to determine exact reserves and economic use of gas. They will present the real position as to whether or not it is judicious to go for pipeline sale of gas.

September 2002 The Bibiyana gas could reduce India's gas-requirement shortfall which (according to Unocal's calculations) is expected to rise from 10 bcm in 2005 to 76 bcm over time. Given Bangladesh's annual trade deficit with India of over a billion dollars, it is apparent that the gas exports to India would help it greatly to improve its trade position.

May 2003 The US company UNOCAL had long sought to pipe natural gas to India. In 2001, UNOCAL submitted a proposal to the state-owned oil company in Bangladesh PetroBangla for a 1,350 km pipeline

- to connect the Bibiyana gas fields in northeast Bangladesh to New Delhi.

This proposal included building of a new 30-inch diameter, 1,363 km pipeline to transfer an initial capacity of 500 million cubic feet of gas per day to Delhi.

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- May 2004** Unocal, which remains a staunch proponent of exporting Bibiyana gas by pipeline to India, was forced to redraw its plans as Dhaka refused to allow exports
- November 2004** Unocal signed its third GPPSA with Bangladesh in November 2004 to produce natural gas from Block 12's Bibiyana field, which it discovered in 1998. According to Knell, "It operates under a PSC, which is standard for Bangladesh." Bibiyana has an estimated 5.5 tcf of natural gas and 30.7 million bbls of condensate, making it Unocal's biggest field in country. Its share is 98%. Bibiyana will have as many as 15 wells, and Unocal expects that by late 2006, it will be producing 200 mcf a day of natural gas. "Given the potential, Unocal is expected to sink \$230 million in the field to commercialize it, and they are ramping up production," says Knell. "They expect to hit 500 mcf per day by 2009, and it will make a healthy contribution to Bangladesh's gas market and make a nice profit for Unocal." If Bibiyana reaches 500 mcf per day, it will be one of Unocal's biggest gas producers
- December 2004** Bibiyana Gas Field Development Project. Willbros Engineers, Inc., Tulsa, Oklahoma, has been awarded an engineering contract by a unit of UNOCAL. The scope of the four-phase engineering contract includes the engineering, detailed design, follow-on engineering, and start-up and commissioning assistance for a 600 Million standard cubic foot per day gas plant and approximately 85 kilometers of associated pipelines in Bangladesh. The project is already underway.
- August 2006** The Petrobangla Chairman said the total gas output would reach 1850 to 1900 mmcf by November this year with the production at Bibiyana gas field in Habiganj district. From Bibiyana, country's second largest gas field explored by a US-based oil company--Chevron, some 200 to 250 mmcf of gas would be added with the national transmission line by November this year, the sources said.
According to sources, the production capacity of Bibiyana gas field will reach to 600 mmcf a day by 2010. In terms of reserve, Bibiyana is the second largest gas field with its reserve of about 4.2 trillion cubic feet (TCF) of gas after the Titas gas field, which have some 8.0 TCF of gas reserve.
- November 2006** In 2002, Unocal had proposed
- a 1,360-km long pipeline from its field at Bibiyana in Bangladesh to Delhi,
through West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, and linking up with the HBJ pipeline at an estimated cost of \$1.2 billion to supply 500 mmcf.
Even the multilateral lending agencies had supported this move. This proposal, had it been implemented, would have earned sufficient revenue for Bangladesh to pay off the money it owes to international oil companies (including Unocal) and its trade deficit with India.
Although Begum Khaleda Zia's government is positively inclined to this proposal, there is strong opposition from former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the main opposition leader. Fearing political repercussions, the ruling coalition is hesitant to take a decision.
- March 2007** Chevron announces the inauguration of the Bibiyana natural gas field, which is located onshore in Block 12 in the northeast of Bangladesh in Habiganj District.
Bibiyana, one of the largest gas fields in Bangladesh, is expected to initially produce 200 million cubic feet of natural gas per day (mmcf). The plant's full capacity of 600 mmcf is scheduled to be available by late 2007, with the field reaching maximum total production of 500 mmcf by 2010.
Once full production is realized, Bibiyana is set to become the largest producing gas field in the country.

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2010 Asian Energy Trading Summit 2011
Connect Bangladesh's Bibiyana gas field in northeastern Bangladesh with India's northern gas markets through 1,363 km pipeline

June 2010 INDIA-BANGLADESH ENERGY POLITICS
The issue of gas exportation to India was first raised by Unocal which had submitted a gas pipeline proposal to the government of Bangladesh, which included the

- construction of an 847 mile- (1,363km-) long pipeline from northeastern Bangladesh (from the Unocal-developed gas field, Bibiyana) to New Delhi.

Unocal proposed to export 3.65 tcf of natural gas over a period of twenty years. According to Unocal projections, the government of Bangladesh could have received an estimated US\$3.7 billion (approximately 200 billion Bangladeshi Taka) in revenues and tax receipts. However, the export of gas to India, including the proposed (now almost shelved) Myanmar-Bangladesh-India transnational gas-pipeline project, is a politically sensitive issue in Dhaka.

Internal opinion in Bangladesh is divided over the quantum of gas available for domestic consumption and exports. Indian observers believe the transnational project has the potential to mitigate domestic opposition in Bangladesh towards export of gas to India. They also hope Bangladesh will someday supply its own gas to India by joining an existing transnational pipeline.

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Bangladesh / India - onshore - natural gas - 1363 km / 847 miles - "Bibiya Pipeline"

Involved companies

Owners

Chevron Corporation

ChevronTexaco Corp.
001 Bollinger Canyon Rd.
San Ramon, CA 94583
USA
Ph. +1 925-842-1000
Fax.

www.chevrontexaco.com

Peter J. Robertson, Vice Chairman of the Board,
Worldwide Exploration and Production Business

Petrobangla

Bangladesh Mineral Oil & Gas Corporation
(BMOGC)

Petrocentre Kawranbazar
Dhaka, 1215
Bangladesh
Ph.

Fax. +880 2 912 0224

www.petrobangla.org

Engr. Md. Raihanul Abedin, Director (PSC)
Dr. M. Ismail, Director (Operations)
S. R. Osmani, Acting Chairman
Pipeline subsidiary of Petrobangla: Gas
Transmission Company Limited (GTCL)
GTCL was formed as a high-pressure gas
transmission company to eventually take over all
high-pressure transmission pipelines of the country
for a centralized operation.

Unocal

Unocal Corporation
141 Rosecrans Avenue, Suite 4000
El Segundo, California 90245
USA
Ph. +1 310-726-7600
Fax.

www.unocal.com

Timothy H. Ling - President and Chief Operating
Officer
Douglas M. Miller - Vice President, Corporate
Development Charles R. Williamson - Chairman and
Chief Executive Officer

Oil and Natural Gas (ONGC)

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation

Head Office
Tel Bhavan
Dehradun, 248 003
India

Ph. +91 (0) 135 275 9561 to 67

Fax. +91 (0) 135 275 2161 to 65

www.ongcindia.com

R C Gourh, Director (Onshore)
V K Sharma, Director (Offshore)
Subir Raha, Chairman & Managing Director
Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC)
was set up as a Commission on August 14, 1956.
The company became a corporate on June 23,
1993, which has now grown into a horizontally
integrated petroleum company. Today, ONGC is a
public sector enterprise.

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Maps of the project



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