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'If we have to run a business, cross-subsidisation happens'

bl.interview

Shishir Sinha
Rishi Ranjan Kala
New Delhi

Emphasising that the government has a stake in the viability of PSU oil marketing companies (OMCs), Oil Minister HS Puri said that they have again acted as good corporate citizens by reducing liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) prices for end consumers. In an interview with *businessline*, he argued that cross-subsidisation "always" happens in a business. Excerpts:

Who will foot the PSUs' bill if there are under-recoveries on LPG?

Who footed the bill last time? Again, you are talking about under-recovery. Pardon my saying it, but nobody understands what under-recovery is, including very senior people. Let me explain it to you. Where does a private company get money from? The company's money comes from shareholders. What will that company say to shareholders that it has reduced costs for a particular person? A shareholder will say that this particular person is not my relative, and I am an investor, so please explain to me. What will the company say? We appeal to companies and their sense of being good corporate citizens. I can't direct them. Because they are my friends and they are participants in the co-prosperity sphere that we are trying to describe, they join us. What happened last time? They incurred losses of ₹28,000 crore as LPG prices rose by 303 per cent. The domestic prices would have gone up to ₹2,100 or ₹2,700 a cylinder, but we kept them low at ₹1,100. That led to losses. Will they pay it out of their own pocket? No. We are a responsible government. We saw that they supported us during the crisis. We discussed it with them and said that we could not compensate the entire ₹28,000 crore. They said compensate us to the extent you deem fit. So we compensated them with ₹22,000 crore.

> We have never taken an ideological position. If Russian oil prices increase or discounts decrease, we will buy from those who offer more discounts
>
> **HARDEEP SINGH PURI**
> Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas

We told PSU OMCs that you are good corporate citizens. They agreed (on petrol and diesel prices). The private sector did not agree. They talked about under-recovery and over-recovery. We said fine, we cannot force you. We have around 80,000 retail fuel pumps of which around 22,000 are with private sector. They put boards that petrol and diesel prices are cheaper than PSU pumps. We did nothing. But it impacted our trust in them to some extent and if you come to meet me, after doing such a thing, you will not get the same amount of warmth. Then we saw that they are down to a conduct which will affect my national interest. We said sorry and made a certain percentage mandatory for them to sell (in domestic market)

Publicly available data suggest that there are no under-recoveries with OMCs. What is the scenario?

It's a little more complicated than that. Energy economics is a very complex thing. Talk to the private sector on this. They say that we raise capital and pay interest on it. When we pay interest, we don't say it came from here or there. There are correlations you and I are forming in our minds. Running a business is a little more difficult than running, let's say, an office, a newspaper, or a TV channel. So, this is partly not. So, I can say that Q1 FY24 has been a reasonably good quarter. The second quarter's July and August have happened, and they have been reasonable. I expect September will be good, too.

Now, coming forward, if we have to run a business, cross-subsidisation always happens. You erect a building for the economically weaker sections. This section does not have full capacity to invest. The same happens in Switzerland and here as well.

What you do is pad up some costs for the affluent section. This is how the world operates.

In petrol and diesel, we offered an equity infusion of ₹30,000 crore. We said we would not compensate. Who will compensate for LPG? is a question emanating from people who either don't want to understand it or who want to create a narrative out of it. If we had not offered ₹30,000 crore equity, where would the PSUs have gone? But we have a stake in the viability of the PSUs, which is why we encourage them.

Currently, OMCs are in a better financial position, but if international prices increase, they may face losses. Your thoughts?

We have managed well so far. Going forward, I don't know what the situation is likely to be. But I think that as our oil companies have done a good first quarter (Q1FY24). The ₹200 (LPG cylinder) gas reduction, we have the confidence to do it because we have the confidence to sustain it.

Knee-jerk reactions, like the one by the last government's Oil Minister Veerappa Moily...what he did was that he issued a statement on September 1, 2013, saying that petrol is creating problems so petrol pumps should be closed from 8PM to 8AM. That's one way of looking at it.

On the other hand, we were very relaxed. We have never taken an ideological position. If Russian oil prices increase or discounts decrease, we will buy from those who offer more discounts. Will buy from Iraq. Some countries charge a premium, so we buy less from them. This (buying crude oil) is done through an open and transparent tender. That is a process.

Will the government also reduce petrol and diesel prices?

You should not be asking me this question. You should ask all the non-BJP states. The centre has cut cess and excise. The BJP states have reduced VAT, but they have not done it. With what face will they talk to us?

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As G20 head, India can fashion an equitable transition to clean energy

Amrita Singh

India will be starting the G20 meet under its Presidency in New Delhi in September. This is a golden opportunity for India to reinforce its commitment for a just energy transition while shaping international collaborations towards a sustainable future.

The 15th BRICS Summit has already made a positive attempt in addressing issues of climate change. The Johannesburg II Declaration has agreed to address "challenges posed by climate change while also ensuring a just, affordable and sustainable transition to a low carbon and low-emission economy in line with the principles of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC), in light of different national circumstances."

The BRICS Summit also declared that the member nations share a common view, taking into consideration national priorities and circumstances, on the efficient use of all energy sources, which are crucial for a just transition towards more flexible,

GREEN DRIVE. India can lead

resilient and sustainable energy systems. Since India is an integral party to this declaration, it lays down a clear roadmap for India to harness on 'just transition' commitment in the upcoming G20 meet.

The meet assumes greater importance as India positions itself as a frontrunner in the global climate agenda. India has set an ambitious target of achieving net-zero emissions by the year 2070 and meeting 50 per cent of its energy needs from renewable sources by 2030. This goal is not only essential for combatting climate change but also for addressing the three conflicting challenges of energy security, energy equity and environmental sustainability.

The commitments align seamlessly with the principles of a just transition, which emphasises the need to balanced economic development with environmental stewardship and social equity. Therefore, in India's energy transition journey, a vital facet that cannot be overlooked is the intersection of justice with these transformative efforts.

CRITICAL JUNCTURE

India's presidency at the G20 comes at a critical time, offering a platform to showcase that its commitments are action-oriented and it can smoothly lead a mission for sustainable and equitable transition as it efficiently discharged its presidency commitments under G20.

India can also leverage this opportunity by presenting its successful models, best practices of achieving net zero emissions and progress in expanding renewable energy capacity. This could be more challenging than it sounds but even if India can present reasonable initiatives made in this direction, it can serve two purposes. First, it could be a moral win over G20 member-states and, second, it may offer India a head-start on the negotiation tables to bet for technology share, capacity building, and sustainable investments in renewable energy projects.

This can be in line with India's voluntary action plan for doubling the pace of energy efficiency by the year 2030 which it also proposed in the 4th and last Energy Transitions Working Group Meeting of the G20 in Goa in July. The working group also acknowledged and took note of India's proposal for establishing a Green Hydrogen Innovation Centre and the Global Biofuel Alliance in India.

India's energy landscape is undergoing a paradigm shift over the past decade, marked by a growing commitment to reduce its carbon footprint and increase the share of renewable energy in its power mix. However, the transition to cleaner energy sources presents both opportunities and challenges in terms of social and environmental justice and India has the chance to create a legacy that transcends borders and ushers in a brighter and more inclusive world.

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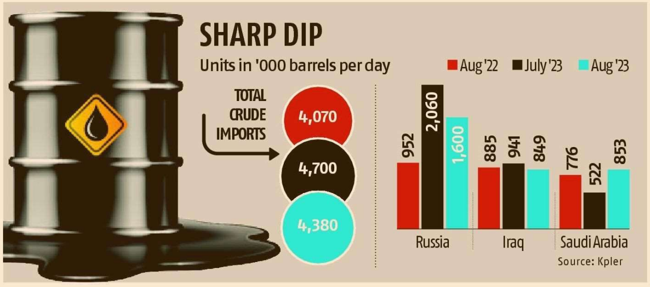
Crude import from Russia declines to lowest in 7 months



S DINAKAR
Chennai, 31 August

Indian imports of Russian oil plunged by a record in August month-on-month (M-o-M) as discounts on the fuel shrank in tandem with rising Brent oil prices. Higher crude prices will drive inflation or hurt earnings at oil companies and India's fiscal position if such spikes are not passed on to consumers.

Indian purchases of Russian crude declined by around 24 per cent in August from July to the lowest level since January, with refiners expecting volumes to drop further amid rising rates of Russian benchmark Urals grade, substantial stocks at refiners, and planned maintenance at Indian refineries, according to ship tracking data and industry officials.

Shipments of Russian oil to India dropped to 1.6 million barrels per day (bpd) in August from 2.1 million bpd in July, the steepest month-on-month drop, according to loading data from London-based market intelligence provider Vortexa and Paris-based market intelligence agency Kpler.

Volumes in August were the lowest since purchases of 1.4 million barrels per day in January.

"The decline in August is largely driven by lower Russian Urals supplies, with the crude's narrowing discounts to Brent possibly dampening Indian refiners' appetite as well," said Serena Huang, an analyst at Vortexa.

European crude benchmark Brent climbed to as high as $87.8 a barrel last month from $78 a barrel in mid-July before settling at around $86 a barrel. The surge in Brent rates has sent Urals higher. Urals is trading over $60 a barrel on a free-on-board (FOB) basis, a ceiling set by the Western powers on Russian oil sales, beyond which stringent sanctions apply.

Moreover, Russian crude output cuts have increased demand for Urals, more than halving the discounts from $10-$13 a barrel early this year. Indian refiners need at least $7-$8 a barrel as discounts on Russian Urals. "$3-$4 a barrel is not workable," a Mumbai-based refiner said.

"The economics of current levels of Russian discounts is not favourable to accelerated purchases of the crude," said R Ramachandran, a Mumbai-based oil industry consultant and former refining head of state-run Bharat Petroleum. "If refiners can get access to Russian crude at an attractive value, the scenarios will change. But that seems unlikely unless there are further output cuts in the Middle East or there is a slowdown in Chinese crude purchases," Ramachandran said.

India's total crude imports in August fell by around 7 per cent from July to 4.38 million bpd, Kpler data show. Russian supplies accounted for 36 per cent during the period, with Saudi Arabia and Iraq making up around 19.5 per cent each. Analysts expect Russian purchases to average 1.6 million bpd in September after Russia made voluntary output cuts of 500,000 barrels per day in August and 300,000 barrels per day in September, mainly of Urals grade, according to Russian officials.

Indian Oil and Reliance Industries were the two biggest buyers of Russian oil in August. But Indian Oil's purchases shrank by 11 per cent month-on-month to 543,000 barrels per day in August, and Reliance's purchases declined by 21 per cent to 404,000 barrels per day, ship tracking data show.

This week, oil minister Hardeep Puri said India will buy oil from the cheapest source.

In the past, operational teams at Indian refiners were hesitant to process newer crudes because the impact on refinery equipment from processing such crudes was unknown. A refining official said high costs and risks were involved in processing vast volumes of new grades at market rates. The paradigm shift now is that refiners have understood how to process Urals, which were available at considerable discounts last year, reducing the risk in operations, the official said.

The decline in Russian purchases may hurt India's economy by depriving the country of cheap, discounted fuel. India imports over 85 per cent of its crude needs. Russia supplied 44 per cent of imports in July. Barring Iraq, whose supplies are limited, Gulf crudes like Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates cost $14-$21 per barrel more than Russian oil in June, Indian customs data show.

State-run refiners led by IndianOil, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum may also see an impact on July-September earnings based on higher crude costs and an inability to pass them forward to consumers amid the election season, analysts said. Oil marketing companies were planning to cut pump prices based on first-quarter results, but that will have to wait, an industry source said.

MORNING STANDARD, Delhi, 1.9.2023
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Crude oil import from Russia falls 20% in August

RAKESH KUMAR @New Delhi

THE country's crude import in August tumbled by 120 thousand per barrel a day (kbd) to 4.45 million a barrel per day (mbd) on account of a dip in import from Russia, according to London-based market intelligence provider Vortexa.

In August 2023, import from Russia was lowest in the past seven months as crude imports from the country fell by 440kbd to 1.63 mbd. It had imported 2.1 mbpd from Russia in July 2023. "India's crude imports in July reached a three-month high of 4.58 mbd. Strong domestic and exported crude oil demand had buoyed refiners to operate at high utilisation that month. In August 2023, lower crude imports from Russia saw the country's total imports retreating. At least two refineries have shut down for planned maintenance, and several more scheduled over this quarter and next," said Serena Huang, analyst at Vortexa.

It is believed that the reason for drop in imports from Russia is depleting discount. Earlier an official from one of India's oil marketing companies had said the discount on Russian oil fell drastically from up to $15 a barrel to $5 a barrel. India is titling towards its traditional suppliers, and as per the Vortexa data, India's crude imports from Saudi Arabia rebounded by 60% month-on-month to 840 kbd in August 2023.

"India's imports of Russian crude were down 440kbd in August to 1.63mbd, and discounts on Russian Urals against dated Brent have narrowed on FOB basis. Given higher dated Brent prices in recent weeks, this means that Russian Urals is now likely more expensive when sold on a DES basis to Indian refiners," said Serene Huang, an analyst at Vortexa.

Recently, Russia announced voluntary output cuts of 500,000 barrels a day in August and 300,000 barrels a day in September, mainly of Urals grade, according to Russian officials. Experts believe India's import of Russian oil could now be in September too as refiners plan maintenance at their plants. Also, Russian crude prices are above the $60-a-barrel ceiling imposed by western countries.

August imports from Russia lowest in 7 months

In August 2023, import from Russia was lowest in the past seven months as crude imports from the country fell by 440kbd to 1.63 mbd. It had imported 2.1 mbpd from Russia in July 2023. It is believed the reason for drop in imports from Russia is depleting discount. India's crude imports from Saudi Arabia rebounded by 60% month-on-month in August

PIONEER, Delhi, 1.9.2023
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Essar Oil posts 12% rise in Q1 net profit as sales zoom to record levels

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Essar Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Ltd (EOGEPL), a leader in the unconventional hydrocarbon space, on Thursday reported a 12 per cent rise in the June quarter net profit after gas sales zoomed to record levels.

The firm posted a net profit of Rs 81 crore on a revenue of Rs 190 crore and EBITDA of Rs 150 crore in the first quarter of FY24 (April 2023 to March 2024 financial year), it said in a statement.

"The PAT for the quarter increased by 12 per cent year-on-year (yoy) backed by improvement in sales volume. However, quarterly revenue and EBITDA was lower by 14 per cent yoy due to softening of crude oil prices by 24 per cent which was cushioned by an

increase in sales volume by 8.5 per cent," it said.

In the first quarter, the company reported its highest quarterly sales volume of 2.18 billion cubic feet, growing 8.5 per cent compared to the same quarter last year.

Its EBITDA margins saw an improvement of 380 basis points, reaching 79.4 per cent due to constant cost optimisation and reduced internal consumption.

Post the completion of the Urja Ganga Pipeline that connects eastern India to the national gas gird, EOGEPL's Raniganj gas project is now seamlessly connected to the national grid, granting it unrestricted access to the market and unlocking its growth potential.

The firm operates a coal-bed methane (CBM) block in Raniganj in West Bengal.

Commenting on the performance, EOGEPL chief executive Pankaj Kalra said, "Since the commissioning of the Urja Ganga Pipeline, we had a single vision of unlocking the full potential of the block, and the team has consistently delivered strong operating performance sequentially. EOGEPL is right on track to create India's largest unconventional gas platform, contributing to India's vision of becoming a gas-based economy by the next decade."

Fitch affirms 'BBB-' rating on ONGC, outlook stable

New Delhi: Fitch Ratings has affirmed Oil and Natural Gas Corporation's (ONGC) rating at 'BBB-' with stable outlook. "The rating reflects ONGC's scale as the largest oil and gas (O&G) producer in India, its significant reserves and production, and its vertically integrated and geographically diversified business model." PTI

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{ FOR TWO MONTHS } GETS CABINET NOD

In MP, Ujjwala beneficiaries to get gas cylinders for ₹450

HT Correspondent
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BHOPAL: Madhya Pradesh cabinet, chaired by chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, on Thursday approved a proposal to provide LPG cylinders to the beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana for ₹450 for two months – July and August, according to a state government communique. For this, a cash incentive of ₹500 will be reimbursed to those who refilled their cylinder between July 4, 2023 and August 31, 2023, it said.

"An amount of approximately ₹500 per refill will be deposited into the bank accounts of 40 lakh [4 million] sisters. About ₹200 crore is estimated to be spent," the statement said.

Shivraj Singh Chouhan

In the run-up to assembly polls scheduled for later this year, the opposition Congress has promised that it will provide LPG cylinders for ₹500 each to people in Madhya Pradesh if the party is voted to power.

Other decisions taken by the cabinet during the meeting held at the CM's residence in Bhopal include increasing the incentive amount payable to ASHA and urban ASHA workers from ₹2,000 to ₹6,000 per month.

The cabinet also decided to create a new sub division, Jawa, in Rewa district. "The council of ministers also decided to create a new subdivision Jawa in Rewa district. For this, 12 posts have been sanctioned and it has been decided to include 100 Patwari circles," state home minister Narottam Mishra was quoted as saying by a news agency.

MINT, Delhi, 1.9.2023
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India's oil imports from Russia plunge to lowest in 7 months

India, world's third largest oil consumer, reduced imports from Moscow for the third consecutive month in August to 1.57 million barrels a day, down 24% on the month and bringing them to their lowest since January, according to data intelligence firm Kpler.

Indian refiners also cut shipments from Iraq, another top supplier, by 10% on the month in August to 848,000 barrels a day. Some of those volumes were replaced by a sharp surge in imports from Saudi Arabia, which rose 63% on month to 852,000 barrels a day, the data showed. India's consumption of Russian crude has soared since last year, hitting a peak 2.15 million barrels a day in May, as refiners vied for heavily discounted shipments.

Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd, whose unit has a capacity of 301,000 barrels a day, lowered imports by two-thirds. Reliance Industries' purchases dropped to 1.1 million barrels a day from the usual average of 1.2 to 1.3 million barrels, as it plans to shut down a crude distillation unit in September, said Viktor Katona, lead crude analyst at Kpler. **BLOOMBERG**

Indian refiners also cut shipments from Iraq by 10% on the month in August to 848,000 barrels a day. MINT

VEER ARJUN, Delhi, 1.9.2023
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उज्ज्वला योजना की कनेक्शनधारी बहनों को सिलेंडर 450 रुपए में उपलब्ध कराने का निर्णय

मुख्यमंत्री चौहान की अध्यक्षता में मंत्रि-परिषद के निर्णय

वीर अर्जुन संवाददाता

भोपाल। मुख्यमंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान की अध्यक्षता में मुख्यमंत्री निवास 'समत्व भवन' में मंत्रि-परिषद की बैठक हुई। मंत्रि-परिषद द्वारा प्रधानमंत्री उज्ज्वला योजना की कनेक्शनधारी बहनों को 4 जुलाई 2023 से 31 अगस्त 2023 तक की अवधि प्राप्त की गई गैस रिफिल 450 रूपये में उपलब्ध करने का निर्णय लिया गया। लगभग 40 लाख गैस रिफिल प्राप्त करने वाली बहनों के आधार लिंक बैंक खाते में प्रति रिफिल लगभग 500 रूपये के मान से राशि का भुगतान किया जाएगा। इस पर लगभग 200 करोड़ रूपये का व्यय संभावित है। मंत्रि-परिषद द्वारा प्रदेश के नगरीय निकायों की सड़कों के उन्नयन और निर्माण के लिये 1200 करोड़ रूपये की ठकायाकल्प योजनाठ की स्वीकृति प्रदान की गई। नगरीय क्षेत्रों में नागरिकों के सुलभ आवागमन हेतु अच्छी, मजबूत और आरामदेह सड़कों का नेटवर्क उपलब्ध कराने के उद्देश्य से यह निर्णय लिया गया है। इस योजना में निकाय की प्रमुख सड़कों के नवीनीकरण, मजबूतीकरण और निर्माण का कार्य, समयबद्ध कार्यक्रम अनुसार गुणवत्तापूर्ण किया जायेगा। योजना के कार्यों की गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण के लिये नगरीय राज्य क्वालिटी मॉनिटर की नियुक्ति के साथ ही, राज्य, संचालनालय एवं संभाग स्तर पर त्रि-स्तरीय मॉनिटरिंग की व्यवस्था भी की गयी है।

मंत्रि-परिषद ने मुख्यमंत्री मेधावी विद्यार्थी योजना अन्तर्गत विद्यार्थी के पिता/पालक की वार्षिक आय सीमा 6 लाख रूपये से बढ़ा कर 8 लाख रूपये करने की

मुख्यमंत्री शिवराज सिंह चौहान मंत्रि-परिषद की बैठक अध्यक्षता करते हुए।

स्वीकृति प्रदान की। मंत्रि-परिषद ने भोपाल शहर के पश्चिम-दक्षिण हिस्से में 40.90 कि.मी. लम्बे पश्चिम भोपाल बायपास का निर्माण 2 हजार 981 करोड़ 65 लाख रूपये लागत से हाइब्रिड एन्यूटी मॉडल पर किये जाने का निर्णय लिया। इस बायपास मार्ग का चार लेन मय पेव्हड शोल्डर में मध्यप्रदेश सड़क विकास निगम द्वारा निर्माण किया जायेगा। परियोजना में चार लेन मार्ग के साथ 6 लेन स्ट्रक्चर एवं दोनों ओर दो लेन सर्विस रोड का निर्माण किया जायेगा। मार्ग के एकरेखण में आने वाले 1 आरओबी, दो फ्लाई ओवर, पंद्रह अंडरपास एवं दो वृहद जंक्शन का निर्माण किया जायेगा। प्रस्ताव के अनुसार निवेशकर्ता एजेंसी को निर्माण कार्य के दौरान ठेके की 40 प्रतिशत राशि का भुगतान 5 किश्तों में किया जायेगा। शेष 60 प्रतिशत राशि का भुगतान छ: माही एन्यूटी के रूप में अगले 15 वर्षों तक किया जायेगा। मंत्रि-परिषद द्वारा मुख्यमंत्री की घोषणा के अनुरूप ठखेलो इण्डिया यूथ गेम्सठ की तर्ज पर ठखेलो एम.पी. यूथ गेम्सठ को प्रदेश में प्रतिवर्ष आयोजित करने और आयोजन व्यय 200 करोड़ रूपये की सहमति प्रदान की गई। मंत्रि-परिषद द्वारा जिला रीवा में नवीन अनुविभाग जवा का सृजन करने का निर्णय लिया गया। नवीन अनुभाग में तहसील जवा के समस्त पटवारी हल्का 01 से 87 तक कुल 87 पटवारी हल्के शामिल होंगे। जवा अनुविभाग के गठन के बाद अनुविभाग त्योंथर में तहसील त्योंथर के पटवारी हल्के 01 से 100 तक, कुल 100 पटवारी हल्के शेष रहेंगे। जवा के संचालन के लिये अनुविभागीय अधिकारी (राजस्व) का 1, स्टेनो टायपिस्ट का 1, सहायक ग्रेड-2 के 2, सहायक ग्रेड-3 के 3, वाहन चालक का 1 और भृत्य के 4 पद इस प्रकार कुल 12 पद स्वीकृत किये गये है।

मंत्रि-परिषद द्वारा आशा तथा शहरी आशा कार्यकर्ताओं को उनके द्वारा संपादित की जाने वाली रूटीन गतिविधियों की प्रोत्साहन राशि प्रतिमाह 2 हजार से बढ़ाकर प्रतिमाह 6 हजार रुपये करने का निर्णय लिया गया। साथ ही प्रतिवर्ष उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक के अनुसार (अधिकतम 1000 रूपये की सीमा में) प्रोत्साहन राशि में वृद्धि की गई है। इसके साथ आशा पर्यवेक्षकों को दी जाने वाली दैनिक प्रोत्साहन राशि बढ़ाकर 500 रूपये प्रतिदिन (अधिकतम रुपये 15000 रूपये प्रतिमाह) की गई तथा प्रतिवर्ष समुचित बढ़ोतरी के निर्णय लेने के लिए विभाग को अधिकृत किया गया है। आशा, शहरी आशा और आशा पर्यवेक्षकों की सेवानिवृत्ति के समय दी जाने वाली राशि बढ़ाकर एक लाख रूपये की गई है। आशा, शहरी आशा एवं आशा पर्यवेक्षकों के परिवारों को उनकी कर्त्तव्य अवधि में प्रधानमंत्री जन आरोग्य योजना का पात्र परिवार भी माना गया है। मंत्रि-परिषद द्वारा लोक स्वास्थ्य यांत्रिकी विभाग द्वारा मध्यप्रदेश जल निगम के माध्यम से रतलाम और छतरपुर के लवकुशनगर में 2 नवीन समूह जल-प्रदाय योजनाएँ स्वीकृत की गई हैं। इसके लिये 967 करोड़ 52 लाख रूपये की प्रशासकीय स्वीकृति जारी की गई है।

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एल.पी.जी. के दामों में कटौती से सितंबर में घटेगी महंगाई

नई दिल्ली, 31 अगस्त (एजैंसी): खाना बनाने के सिलैंडर में 200 रुपए की कटौती किए जाने से सितम्बर में खुदरा महंगाई में 20 से 30 आधार अंक (बी.पी.एस.) की गिरावट संभव है। विश्लेषकों के मुताबिक इससे खुदरा महंगाई केंद्रीय बैंक के 6 फीसदी के ऊपरी दायरे से नीचे आ सकती है।

सिटी रिसर्च बैंक के एक विश्लेषक के मुताबिक उपभोक्ता मूल्य सूचकांक (सी.पी.आई.) में एल.पी.जी. का प्रत्यक्ष भार 1.29 प्रतिशत है। इससे तैयार भोजन के दाम पर भी परोक्ष असर पड़ता है, जिसका भार 5.6 फीसदी है।

सिटी रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक महंगाई में 30 आधार अंक की गिरावट आएगी। टमाटर के बढ़े हुए दाम भी घटने लगेहैं। लिहाजा सितंबर, 2023 में मुद्रास्फीति 6 फीसदी से कम आ सकती है। हमारा अनुमान है कि वित्त वर्ष 24 की शेष अवधि में उपभोक्ताओं के 200 अरब रुपए या सकल घरेलू उत्पाद (जी.डी.पी.) में 0.07 फीसदी की बचत होगी।

VEER ARJUN, Delhi, 1.9.2023
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रक्षाबंधन पर गैस सिलेंडर में 200 रुपए की कटौती का पीएम ने दिया तोहफा : डॉ. पंकज जैन

बहादुरगढ़, (राकेश पंवार)। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी सत्ता के माध्यम से सभी वर्गों को लाभान्वित करने का काम कर सबका साथ -सबका विकास व सबका विश्वास की नीति को धरातल पर सरकार कर रहे हैं। यह बात वरिष्ठ भाजपा नेता डॉ पंकज जैन ने प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी द्वारा रक्षाबंधन के त्योहार पर रसोई गैस सिलेंडर पर 200 की कटौती का तोहफा देने के घोषणा का स्वागत करते हुए कही। डॉ पंकज जैन ने कहा कि महिलाओं को समर्पित रक्षाबंधन जैसे पर्व के दिन प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने रसोई गैस सिलेंडर में 200 रुपये की कटौती करके मातृशक्ति को तोहफा दिया है इससे उज्ज्वला योजना के तहत आने वाले परिवार की महिलाओं को भी राहत मिलेगी । उज्ज्वला योजना के तहत अब 400 रुपये सस्ता सिलेंडर मिलेगा। डॉ पंकज जैन ने कहा कि 2004 से 2014 तक की कांग्रेस सरकार के कार्यकाल को घोटाले की सरकार के तौर पर जाना जाता था। उसके बाद प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ऐसे व्यक्ति के रूप में सामने आए जिन्होंने देश को 12 वे पायदान से पांचवें स्थान पर

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हरित हाइड्रोजन : एलऐंडटी की रणनीति से अलग कदम

अमृता पिल्लै
मुंबई, 31 अगस्त

इंजीनियरिंग समूह लार्सन ऐंड टुब्रो परिसंपत्ति स्वामित्व प्रारूप के तहत भारत में हरित हाइड्रोजन की संभावनाओं का पता लगाएगा, जो परिसंपत्ति कम रखने की इसकी घोषित नीति से अलग कदम है। कंपनी के अधिकारियों ने कहा कि यह फैसला उस खंड में निर्माण-स्वामित्व-परिचालन की संभावनाओं को अनुमति देने के लिए है।

हरित हाइड्रोजन खंड में प्रवेश करने के लिए एलऐंडटी ने दो तरह से अपनी सामान्य रणनीति से ध्यान हटाया है। एक तो यह कि इसने परिसंपत्ति स्वामित्व और परिचालन प्रारूप का विकल्प चुना है और दूसरा इसने अपनी सभी हरित ऊर्जा गतिविधियों को एक सहायक कंपनी के तहत रखने का निर्णय लिया है। कंपनी के अधिकारियों ने कहा कि ये दो कदम निर्माण-स्वामित्व-परिचालन की संभावनाओं पर ध्यान देने के लिए और अगर जरूरत पड़ती है, तो बाद के चरण में वित्तीय भागीदारों के लिए गुंजाइश की अनुमति के लिए हैं।

पिछले सप्ताह एलऐंडटी ने इंडियन ऑयल कॉरपोरेशन (आईओसी) और रिन्यू के साथ जीएच4इंडिया प्राइवेट लिमिटेड नाम से एक संयुक्त उद्यम का गठन किया था। अपनी घोषणा में एलऐंडटी ने कहा था कि इस संयुक्त उद्यम का मकसद स्वामित्व और परिचाल वाले किसी प्रारूप के जरिये हरित हाइड्रोजन और उसके उत्पादों, उत्पादन परिसंपत्तियों और संबंधित नवीकरणीय परिसंपत्तियों का विकास है। आसान शब्दों में कहें तो, एलऐंडटी हरित हाइड्रोजन की बिक्री करने पर विचार कर रही है, न कि केवल इसके विनिर्माण से संबंधित उपकरण पर।

एलऐंडटी में हरित विनिर्माण और विकास क्षेत्र की इकाई एलऐंडटी एनर्जी के वरिष्ठ उपाध्यक्ष और प्रमुख डेरेक एम शाह ने कहा कि एलऐंडटी परिसंपत्ति कम रखने वाले दृष्टिकोण की अपनी रणनीति बनाए रखे हुए है। हालांकि उन्होंने कहा कि हम ऊर्जा परिवर्तन की दिशा में बढ़ने के मौजूद अवसरों की भी पहचान कर रहे हैं। ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन वास्तव में हमारे लिए ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में नेतृत्व की अपनी स्थिति तथा विनिर्माण और ईपीसी परियोजनाओं में विशेषज्ञता का लाभ उठाने के लिए उभरते अवसर क्षेत्रों में से एक है।

शाह ने कहा कि जीएच4इंडिया से कंपनी हरित हाइड्रोजन और डेरिवेटिव क्षेत्र में निर्माण-स्वामित्व-परिचालन (बीओओ) की संभावनाओं पर ध्यान दे सकेगी। उन्होंने कहा कि यह इस ढंग से होगा कि इससे एलऐंडटी को नुकसान न हो। इससे पहले एलऐंडटी के शीर्ष अधिकारियों ने कहा था कि तीनों साझेदार संयुक्त रूप से अगले तीन से पांच साल के दौरान तकरीबन तीन से चार अरब डॉलर का निवेश करेंगे। विभिन्न बुनियादी ढांचा परियोजनाओं में परिसंपत्ति स्वामित्व वाले प्रारूप के तहत निवेश करने के बाद एलऐंडटी एक दशक से भी अधिक समय पहले परिसंपत्ति कम करने वाले प्रारूप में चली गई थी, जिसके मिश्रित परिणाम मिले हैं।