MORNING STANDARD, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 10, Size:(22.32)cms X (7.43)cms.

Govt revises domestic gas pricing guidelines; CNG, PNG to cost less

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
@ New Delhi

THE government on Thursday approved a revised natural gas pricing formula and imposed ceiling price to help cut CNG and piped cooking gas prices

As per the new guidelines, for the gas produced by ONGC & OIL from their nomination blocks, the administered price mechanism (APM) price should be subject to a floor and a ceiling. The price of natural gas produced from legacy or old fields should be 10% of the monthly average of Indian Crude Basket and should be notified on a monthly basis.

I&B Miniser Anurag Thakur told reporters after the Cabinet meeting the natural gas produced from legacy or old fields, known as APM gas, will now be indexed to price of imported crude oil instead of benchmarking it to gas prices in four surplus nations like the US, Canada and Russia.

The rate arrived at will be capped at $6.5 per million British thermal unit. There will be a floor price of $4 per mmBtu. The ceiling price is lower than the current rate of $8.57 per mmBtu and will translate into a reduction in prices of PNG as well as CNG sold to automobiles, he said. Thakur said prices of PNG will fall by up to 10% across cities, while CNG will see a little lower reduction. PNG and CNG rates have jumped in last one year.

Currently, Indian crude oil basket is priced at $85 per barrel and 10% of that translates into a price of $8.5 but the cap would mean for the APM gas produces, ONGC and Oil India will get only $6.5 per mmBtu. He said these caps and floor prices will be for two years and rates will increase by $0.25 per mmBtu a year thereafter.

The revised gas pricing formula is based on the wrecommendations of Kirit Parikh committee.

CABINET DECISIONS

Gas pricing formula revised: CNG, PNG to cost 10% less

DIVYAA
NEW DELHI, APRIL 6

IN A major relief to consumers across the country, piped natural gas (PNG) and compressed natural gas (CNG) are set to cost less as the government on Thursday approved a new method to fix the price of natural gas.

This was announced by Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur after a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

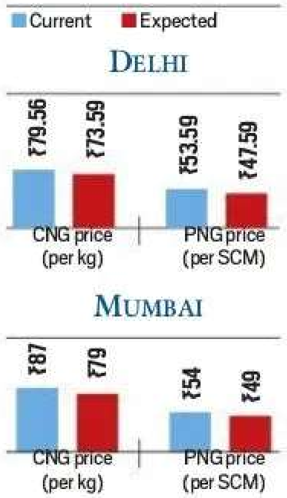
The move will make PNG or cooking gas cheaper by 10 per cent and lower the cost of CNG by 6-9 per cent, Thakur said, adding that the government will issue a notification in this regard on Friday (April 7) and the decision will be implemented from April 8 (Saturday). The decision is likely to bring down price of CNG by Rs 5-8 a kg in various parts of the country and that of PNG by Rs 5-6.5 per SCM (standard cubic metre).

Natural gas produced from legacy or old fields will now be indexed to crude oil price, instead of pricing it based on gas prices in surplus nations such as the US, Canada and Russia, Thakur said.

The Union Cabinet has approved the revised domestic natural gas pricing guidelines for gas produced from nomination fields of ONGC/OIL, New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) blocks and pre-NELP blocks, where production sharing contract provides for government's approval of prices, a government statement said.

The price of such natural gas shall be 10 per cent of the monthly average of Indian Crude Basket and shall be notified on a monthly basis. For the gas produced by ONGC and OIL from their nomination blocks, the administered price mechanism (APM) shall be subject to a floor and a ceiling. However, gas produced from new wells or well-interventions in the nomination fields of ONGC and OIL would be allowed a premium of 20 per cent over the APM price, the minister said.

EXPECTED REVISION FROM TOMORROW



The new guidelines are intended to ensure a stable pricing regime for domestic gas consumers while at the same time provide adequate protection to producers from adverse market fluctuation with incentives for enhancing production, the statement said.

The government aims to increase the share of natural gas in primary energy mix in India from the current 6.5 per cent to 15 per cent by 2030, statement said, adding that the reforms will help expand the consumption of natural gas and contribute to achieving target of emission reduction and 'net zero'.

The reduced prices will also lower the fertiliser subsidy burden and help the domestic power sector, the government said. The provision of a floor in gas prices as well as provision for 20 per cent premium for new wells will incentivise ONGC and OIL to make additional long-term investments, leading to greater production of natural gas and consequent reduction in import dependence on fossil fuels. The growth of the gas-based economy will also lower the carbon footprint, it said.

Cabinet approves space policy to streamline private participation

ANONNA DUTT
NEW DELHI, APRIL 6

THREE YEARS after opening up the space sector to private players, the Union Cabinet on Thursday approved the Indian Space Policy-2023 to streamline participation process by private players.

The policy will clearly state the roles and responsibilities of not only private players but also bodies such as the public-private mediator IN-SPACe and the commercial arm of the department, New Space India Limited.

Announcing the decision, Minister of State for Space Jitendra Singh said, "It will offer clarity on role of each of these other components that have been set up to give a boost to space activities & to have a larger participation between research academia, start-ups, & industry."

A consolidated space policy has long been anticipated to specify roles and ways of participation of government space agency, start-ups, and industries.

Since the space sector was opened up to private players in 2020, over 200 space start-ups have come up in the country and many of them are also working towards providing launch services. Private company Skyroot Aerospace has already conducted a sub-orbital flight with its solid fuel based single-stage Vikram S rocket.

"This is a historic moment as the Cabinet has approved the Indian Space Policy 2023. It will pave the way forward with much required clarity in space reforms and augment private industry participation to drive the space economy opportunity for the country," said Lt. Gen. AK Bhatt (retd.), Director General, Indian Space Association.

The detailed policy is not yet available in the public domain.

TIMES OF INDIA, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 20, Size:(9.39)cms X (4.95)cms.

Gas pricing formula revised; CNG, PNG to be 10% cheaper

Cabinet Decides To Link Domestic Gas Prices To Crude Oil

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Compressed natural gas and piped natural gas will become cheaper by up to 10% as the Cabinet on Thursday decided to link domestic gas prices to crude oil with a cap 24% lower than the current rate, snapping linkages to gas hubs in surplus markets such as the US, Canada and Russia.

Gas produced from legacy fields of state-run ONGC and Oil India Ltd will henceforth be priced at 10% of the monthly average of 'Indian Basket' — the mix of crude imported by Indian refiners — with a floor of $4 per unit and ceiling $6.5, which is lower than the current price of $8.57.

In Delhi, both CNG and PNG are expected to become cheaper by Rs 6 per unit. CNG will cost Rs 8 less in Mumbai, while consumers will have to pay Rs 5 per unit less for PNG. In Bengaluru too, consumers will gain by Rs 6. The benefit in other cities will vary due to various factors such as local taxes or share of domestic gas.

RATES CAPPED

City	CNG price*		PNG price**	
	Current	Expected	Current	Expected
Delhi	79.56	**73.59**	55	**50**
Mumbai	87	**79**	54	**49**
Bengaluru	89.5	**83**	58.5	**52**

* ₹/kg ** ₹/per standard cubic meter — Source: Govt of India

- Gas from legacy fields to be priced at 10% of crude
- CNG, PNG rates to slide by up to 10%
- New policy to take effect from Saturday
- Floor of $4 per unit and cap of $6.5 to protect interest of producers, consumers
- Price cap to be valid for 2 years and raised by 25 cents every year thereafter

Oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri described the decision as a continuation of initiatives taken under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to protect the interest of consumers by reducing the impact of soaring international gas prices.

"The new guidelines intend to ensure stable pricing regime for domestic gas consumers, while at the same time provide adequate protection to producers from adverse market fluctuation with incentives for enhancing production," he said.

The price will be revised monthly instead of the current system of revision every six months — on April 1 and October 1 every year — based on a six-monthly rolling average at global hubs.

The ceiling will be valid for two years, after which it will be raised by 25 cents every year, information minister Anurag Singh Thakur said after the Cabinet meeting. He said it has been viewed to protect interests of both consumers and producers.

The new formula also provides a 20% premium on incremental increase in production from the legacy fields that were given to ONGC and OIL before the the New Exploration Licensing Policy formulated in 1997-98 for auctioning acreages.

The formula will not apply to the auctioned fields that enjoy pricing and marketing freedom or geographically difficult fields that have a different pricing regime formulated in 2016.

The new formula mostly follows recommendations made by a panel under economist Kirti Parikh, tasked with reviewing the pricing policy for legacy fields after domestic gas prices rose 70-80% in the last two years due to a spike in international gas rates, pushing up CNG and PNG prices.

ECONOMIC TIMES, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 12, Size:(4.19)cms X (22.37)cms.

New Gas Pricing Formula: Rate of PNG, CNG Capped

Our Bureau

New Delhi: Domestic natural gas price will fall from $8.57 per mmbtu to $6.5 following Thursday's Cabinet decision, which introduced a floor and ceiling for the gas price and linked it to crude oil.

The domestic gas price under the so-called administered price mechanism (APM) will now be 10% of the monthly average of the Indian crude basket and revised every month. It will also have a floor of $4 per mmbtu and a ceiling of $6.5. The gas price for a month will be based on the average Indian crude basket price for the previous month.

At the March India basket price of $78.54 per barrel, domestic natural gas price can come down to $7.85 per mmBtu in April but will be capped at $6.5 per mmBtu under the new policy. The new guideline will help reduce prices of piped natural gas for households and compressed natural gas (CNG) for transport while also lowering the fertiliser subsidy burden, the government said in a statement.

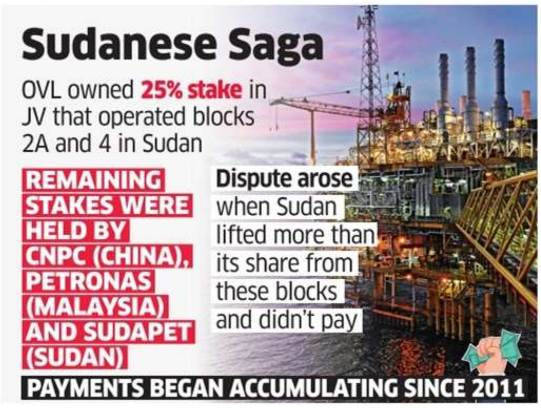
The price band for gas will be valid for two years after which the ceiling will start rising by 25 cents every year, petroleum secretary Pankaj Jain said.

The producers will get a 20% premium over the monthly applicable price for the additional volume they produce from their fields. The premium has been provided since producing extra volume will require increased investments.

The new guideline replaces the 2014 formula for domestic gas but will have no implications for the 2016 guidelines for gas from difficult fields such as the one operated by RIL in the KG basin. "The new guidelines are intended to ensure a stable pricing regime for domestic gas consumers while at the same time providing adequate protection to producers from adverse market fluctuation with incentives for enhancing production," according to the official statement. The new formula will apply to gas produced from nomination fields of ONGC and Oil India, as well as New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) blocks and pre-NELP blocks, where the production sharing contract provides for the government's approval of prices, the statement said.

OVL Wins $190m Arbitral Awards Against Sudan

OVL has been engaged in a long-running dispute to recover oil and pipeline dues



Sanjeev.Choudhary
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New Delhi: ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) has won $190 million arbitration awards against Sudan in a long-running dispute over payments for oil and a pipeline, according to people familiar with the matter.

Following the arbitration awards, OVL has sent demand notices to the Sudanese government seeking payments, the people cited above said, adding that the company hasn't yet gone to a court to enforce the award and is hoping to recover the money using the diplomatic channel.

OVL, the overseas arm of the state-run Oil and Natural Gas Corp, had initiated arbitration proceedings against Sudan five years earlier to recover its oil and pipeline construction dues.

OVL owned a 25% stake in the joint venture that operated blocks 2A and 4 in Sudan, with the remaining stakes held by China's CNPC Malaysia's Petronas, and Sudan's Sudapet. The dispute arose when the Sudan government lifted more than its share of the oil from these blocks and didn't pay for it. Payments had accumulated since 2011. OVL exited the Sudanese blocks a few years ago and is currently engaged in arbitration over past dues.

OVL had launched two arbitration proceedings over the non-payment of oil by Sudan. In one case, a UK-based tribunal upheld OVL's claim of $90 million, people cited above said. In the second case, where the claims were for $300 million, the award is yet to be finalised. The next hearing in this case is in July.

In the third case, OVL is seeking payment for the pipeline it built along with Oil India more than 15 years ago in Sudan and handed over to its government. In this case, a Dubai-based tribunal upheld OVL's claim of $98 million, people cited above said. There would be more hearing with respect to the interest applicable to the principal amount that has been upheld.

Enforcing the award isn't going to be easy for OVL as Sudan has been in dire financial straits for years. OVL

FINANCIAL TROUBLE

Enforcing the awards isn't going to be easy as Sudan has been in dire financial straits

has the option to go to courts and seek to seize the Sudanese government's assets in different countries to recover the dues the way UK's Cairn Energy proceeded against India in the retrospective tax case in 2021.

But OVL currently seems to be relying on diplomatic channels for this.

In 2003, ONGC Videsh acquired a stake in the joint venture, Greater Nile Oil Project, which comprised blocks 1, 2 and 4, located about 800 km from Sudan's capital Khartoum. After South Sudan was carved out of Sudan in 2011 following years of civil strife, all three blocks were split between the two countries.

HINDU, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 16, Size:(2.99)cms X (18.02)cms.

Govt. tweaks gas pricing norms; CNG, PNG prices to come down

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on Thursday revised the natural gas pricing guidelines for gas produced in the country where Production Sharing Contract (PSC) provides for Government's approval of prices. The Centre said the move would ensure stable pricing regime for domestic gas consumers and would also provide adequate protection to producers from adverse market fluctuation with incentives for enhancing production.

Announcing the decision, Union Minister Anurag Thakur said the CNG and PNG prices would see a drop of ₹5 for a kilo in major cities. "This is a 10% decrease in the prices," he said.

"The reforms will lead to significant decrease in prices of piped natural gas (PNG) for households and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) for transport," the government said. "The reduced prices shall also lower the fertiliser subsidy burden and help the domestic power sector. With the provision of a floor in gas prices as well as provision for 20% premium for new wells, this reform will incentivise ONGC and OIL to make additional long term investments in the upstream sector leading to greater production of natural gas and consequent reduction in import dependence of fossil fuels."

HINDU, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 10, Size:(22.44)cms X (10.01)cms.

Why is Japan circumventing sanctions on Russian oil?

Why did the West impose a price cap on Russian oil? Will other countries follow Japan's example?

Prashanth Perumal J

The story so far:

Japan has been purchasing oil from Russia at a price above the $60 per barrel price cap imposed by the West, according to reports this week. This has led to speculation that Japan may be breaching an agreement reached last year to cap the price of Russian oil.

Why is there a price cap on Russian oil?

The G-7 countries, the EU, and Australia imposed a $60 per barrel price cap on oil purchased from Russia starting in December. The move was part of the wider economic sanctions imposed by the West to punish Russia following its invasion of Ukraine. The West wants to restrict the amount of money that Russia can make by selling its oil, but without severely affecting global oil supply. Since Russia contributes about 10% of global oil supply, any significant reduction in Russian oil supplies could send oil prices soaring. It is estimated that it costs Russia about $20-$45 to produce a barrel of oil. So, the West believes that, at $60 per barrel, Russia would still keep its oil output steady.

Why is Japan breaking ranks with the West?

In the first two months of the year, Japan purchased about 750,000 barrels of oil from Russia at a price of about $70 per barrel. Japan's oil import contributes very little to Russia's overall oil production, which was about 10.7 million barrels per day last year, and thus does not significantly subvert the West's efforts to restrict the Kremlin's oil revenues.

However, Japan's decision to purchase oil above the price cap once again brings to the fore the strong incentives facing countries to subvert the West's $60 per barrel price cap. It should also be noted that, even when the price cap was first imposed last December, Japan had won an exception to purchase Russian oil from Sakhalin-2 in Russia's Far East to protect its energy security.

Will more countries follow Japan?

Japan is not the only country that is undermining the West's $60 price cap on Russian oil. Countries such as India, for instance, are believed to be paying more than $60 per barrel to purchase oil from Russia. As oil prices rise, the chances of a rift developing even among signatories to the oil price cap arrangement grow higher. When buyers are willing to pay more than $60 per barrel to secure supplies, oil traders will likely be happy to subvert sanctions and deliver supplies from Russia. Critics of the oil price cap had warned that implementing the price cap may be difficult because it works against strong economic incentives and because it may be impossible to keep track of all shipments in such a large, opaque oil market.

Will rising oil prices threaten the West's price cap?

On Monday, OPEC and Russia decided to cut their oil output by 3.66 million barrels per day, sending oil prices soaring 6%. Russian urals, the flagship crude oil sold by Russia, also soared above $60 per barrel, thus breaching the West's price cap. When the West first imposed its price cap, it had no effect on Russia's oil output or revenues as Russian urals were trading well below $60 per barrel. But now with urals trading above $60 per barrel, things might turn out to be different. The West would hope that its price cap would keep Russia's oil revenues in check despite rising oil prices. Russia, which has seen its oil revenues drop due to subdued oil prices and the West's ban on Russian oil, will be hoping to turn the corner by bypassing Western sanctions and selling oil above the price cap. This will test the West's ability to effectively implement its price cap.

THE GIST

- Japan has been purchasing oil from Russia at a price above the $60 per barrel price cap imposed by the West.
- Japan's decision to purchase oil above the price cap brings to the fore the strong incentives facing countries to subvert the West's $60 per barrel price cap.
- On Monday, OPEC and Russia decided to cut their oil output by 3.66 million barrels per day, sending oil prices soaring 6%.

Govt imposes gas price caps

Amends pricing regime; accepts key suggestions of Kirit Parikh panel

SUBHAYAN CHAKRABORTY
New Delhi, 6 April

The government on Thursday amended the domestic pricing model of natural gas in line with the recommendations of the Kirit Parikh committee on gas pricing.

Prices of domestic natural gas will now be announced every month, and be pegged at 10 per cent of the international price of the Indian crude basket. The move is expected to reduce by 10 per cent the prices of piped natural gas (PNG), supplied to households, and compressed natural gas (CNG), used as auto fuel and by various industries.

Accepting all the major recommendations of the Parikh panel, the government has approved a floor price of $4 per MMBtu (metric million British thermal units) for the next two years, to cover the cost of gas production by state-run firms Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd.

Domestic natural gas prices will now be announced every month, and be pegged at 10 per cent of the international price of the Indian crude basket

Turn to Page 6

Space Policy 2023 gets Cabinet nod

The Union Cabinet on Thursday approved the Indian Space Policy 2023 under which roles and responsibilities of organisations such as Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), NewSpace India Limited, and private sector entities have been laid down.

"In brief, it will offer clarity in the role of the components set up (in the recent past)," Union minister Jitendra Singh told reporters.

He said the policy will aim to enhance the role of the Department of Space, boost activities of ISRO missions, and get a larger participation of research, academia, start-ups and industry. PTI

BUSINESS STANDARD, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 1, Size:(21.17)cms X (15.94)cms.

Gas price...

The ceiling price will be set at $6.5 per MMBtu.

Both the floor and ceiling prices will be increased yearly by about $0.5 per MMBtu, Petroleum Secretary Pankaj Jain said.

He said domestic gas producers would get up to a 20 per cent premium on higher production through reinvestment in nominated fields.

Meanwhile, the government has decided not to tinker with the existing pricing formula for difficult fields such as KG-D6 of Reliance Industries and BP PLC. About 83.3 per cent of India's natural gas is produced by ONGC and Oil India Ltd, while the remaining 16.7 per cent is by private companies and joint-venture entities.

Aimed at expanding the domestic production of natural gas and encouraging technological innovation, the new regime is aimed at balancing the interests of producers and consumers, Minister for Information and Broadcasting Anurag Singh Thakur said. India currently imports 50 per cent of its natural gas requirements.

An amendment to the domestic gas pricing guidelines, 2014, will see the changes in rules through, he said.

The Kirit Parikh Committee was set up in September 2022 to review the gas pricing formula to ensure fair prices to consumers after state-set prices of gas from old fields and a ceiling price for output from difficult blocks rose to a record high. It submitted its recommendations in December 2022.

Parikh had served in the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (PMEAC) under five different Prime Ministers, from Rajiv Gandhi to Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

A senior economic advisor to United Nations Development Programme, Parikh is also the Founder Director of Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, which operates under the Reserve Bank of India.

Domestic user industry had been unhappy with the existing pricing mechanism, and the committee under him was primarily tasked with recommending changes to make gas pricing more transparent and efficient.

The committee also had to ensure a new gas regime would help meet the government's target of increasing the share of natural gas in the primary energy mix of the country to 15 percent by 2030.

"The reforms will lead to significant decrease in prices of PNG for households & CNG for transport. The reduced prices shall also lower the fertilizer subsidy burden & help the domestic power sector. It will also promote lower carbon footprint through growth of gas-based economy," said Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri.

More on business-standard.com

HINDUSTAN TIMES, Delhi, 7.4.2023
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{ NEW GAS PRICING MECHANISM }

PNG, CNG set to get cheaper

Rajeev Jayaswal
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Cabinet on Thursday announced a new pricing mechanism for the bulk of domestically produced natural gas by state-run explorers: 10% of India's monthly average import price of crude oil with a floor of $4 per unit and a cap of $6.5. The move will effectively reduce costs of piped natural gas (PNG) supplied to kitchens and compressed natural gas (CNG) for automobiles by up to 11% from Saturday.

Announcing the decision on Thursday, Union information and broadcasting minister Anurag Thakur said the decision coincides the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) foundation day and aims at providing relief to millions of consumers, particularly those using PNG and CNG across the country. "Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given the gift to the people on the foundation day... It is a good day and a good decision as this [decision] would benefit all – domestic [consumers], industrial [units] and farmers," he said.

The minister said "the tentative impact of price reduction in APM (administered price mechanism) gas" would help PNG and CNG consumers. If CNG is priced at ₹92 per kg in Pune, it will be reduced to ₹87 a kg, he said. Similarly, PNG will cost ₹52 instead of ₹57. In Mumbai, if it is ₹54, it will become ₹52. In Delhi, it will be reduced from ₹53.49 to ₹47.49. In Bengaluru, it will drop from ₹58.5 to ₹52, he added. APM or the administered price mechanism is applicable to those blocks that have been given to state-run explorers -- Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd (OIL) – on nomination basis, without competitive bidding.


Govt said the move aims at providing relief to millions of consumers

The decision is based on the recommendations of an expert panel chaired by economist Kirit Parikh, which submitted its report on November 30, 2022, proposing a floor of $4 per unit and cap of $6.5 for natural gas produced from old APM fields operated by ONGC and OIL. As the committee's mandate was limited to the review of the 2014-formula for APM gas , it did not tweak gas prices of difficult deep water fields such as Reliance-BP's KG-D6, which is based on a different formula approved in 2016.

Thakur said the new formula "strikes a balance between interests of both consumers and producers". India is heavily dependent on import of energy. It imports over 85% of crude oil it processes and 55% of natural gas. It is in the interest of the country to also incentivise oil and gas producers to ramp up output from the domestic fields and make new discoveries, a government official said requesting anonymity.

According to an oil ministry statement, the new pricing formula is also applicable to so-called New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) blocks and pre-NELP blocks, where production sharing contracts (PSCs) between the government and energy exporters allow for the government's approval of prices.

According to the new formula, the price of natural gas produced from the three catagories of fields mentioned above shall be 10% of the monthly average of Indian crude basket [average cost of crude import] and shall be notified on a monthly basis. "For the gas produced by ONGC & OIL from their nomination blocks, the Administered Price Mechanism (APM) price shall be subject to a floor and a ceiling," the statement said.

According to petroleum secretary Pankaj Jain, gas produced from new wells or well interventions in the nomination fields of ONGC and OIL, would be allowed a premium of 20% over the APM price as incentive for ramping up output through fresh investments and bringing in latest technology. He said a detailed notification on this would be issued separately.

"The reforms will lead to significant decrease in prices of PNG for households and CNG for transport. The reduced prices shall also lower the fertilizer subsidy burden and help the domestic power sector," the oil ministry said in the statement.

Currently, domestic gas prices are determined as per the new Domestic Gas Pricing Guidelines, 2014 which were approved by government in 2014. The 2014 pricing guidelines provided for declaration of domestic gas prices for a six month period based on the volume weighted prices prevailing at four gas trading hubs - Henry Hub, Albena, National Balancing Point (UK), and Russia for a period of 12 months and with a time lag of a quarter. As the earlier guidelines based on four gas hubs had a significant time lag and very high volatility, the need for this rationalisation and reform was felt. "The revised guidelines make prices linked to crude, which is a practice now followed in most industry contracts, is more relevant to our consumption basket and has deeper liquidity in global trading markets, on a real time basis," the oil ministry said.

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Page No. 1, Size:(7.22)cms X (6.63)cms.

{ GAS PRICING FORMULA }

Govt tweak to make CNG, PNG cheaper

Rajeev Jayaswal
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Cabinet on Thursday announced a new pricing mechanism for the bulk of domestically produced natural gas by state-run explorers: 10% of India's monthly average import price of crude oil with a floor of $4 per unit and a cap of $6.5.

The move will effectively reduce costs of piped natural gas (PNG) supplied to kitchens and compressed natural gas (CNG) for automobiles by up to 11% from Saturday.

Announcing the decision on Thursday evening, Union information and broadcasting minister Anurag Thakur said the decision coincides with the BJP's foundation day and aims at providing relief to millions of consumers, particularly the ones using PNG and CNG across the country. →P10

Gas to become cheaper with Govt approving Kirit Parikh panel recommendations on pricing

Our Bureau
New Delhi

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on Thursday approved the revised domestic natural gas pricing guidelines for gas produced from nomination fields of ONGC and OIL, New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) blocks and pre-NELP blocks, where the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) provides for government's approval of prices.

"The price of such natural gas shall be 10 per cent of the monthly average of Indian crude basket and shall be notified on a monthly basis. For the gas produced by ONGC and Oil India from their nomination blocks, the APM (administered price mechanism), price shall be subject to a floor and a ceiling," a government statement said.

Gas produced from new wells or well interventions in the nomination fields of ONGC and OIL would be allowed a premium of 20 per cent over the APM price, it added. Floor and ceiling price to go up by 25 cents per year after two years.

ENSURING STABILITY

"The new guidelines are intended to ensure a stable pricing regime for domestic gas consumers while at the same time providing adequate protection to producers from adverse market fluctuation with incentives for enhancing production," the government said.

Tentative impact of cut in APM prices

	CNG prices (₹/kg)			PNG prices (₹/SCM)		
	Current	Expected	Change	Current	Expected	Change
Pune	92	87	5	57	52	5
Sindhudurg	95.9	89.9	6	55	50	5
Mumbai	87	79	8	54	49	5
Delhi	79.56	73.59	6	53.59	47.59	6
Bengaluru	89.5	83.5	6	58.5	52	6.5
Meerut	91	83	8	58.5	52	6.5
Bokaro	93.98	86.98	7			

*Subject to final calculation of impact of unified tariff, RLNG component, earlier cost transfer to consumers etc.

Last year, the Kirit Parikh Committee on fair pricing of natural gas had recommended the price from old fields will be fixed at 10 per cent of the monthly average of India's crude oil basket. Besides, this price will also have a floor of $4 per mBtu and a ceiling of $6.5 per mBtu.

The reforms will lead to a significant dip in prices of Piped Natural Gas (PNG) for households and Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) for transport. The reduced prices shall also lower the fertilizer subsidy burden and help the power sector, the government said.

With the provision of a floor in gas prices and provision for 20 per cent premium for new wells, this reform will incentivise ONGC and OIL to make additional long-term investments in the upstream sector leading to greater production of natural gas and consequent reduction in import dependence of fossil fuels. The revised pricing guidelines will also promote lower carbon footprint through the growth of gas-based economy, it added.

FINANCIAL EXPRESS, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 1, Size:(11.32)cms X (23.55)cms.

NO DECISION ON FREEING PRICE

Gas from legacy fields cheaper by a quarter

CCEA approves new pricing policy linked to crude

MANISH GUPTA
New Delhi, April 6

THE CABINET COMMITTEE on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on Thursday decided that the price of natural gas from legacy fields, which account for 70% of domestic output, will be fixed at 10% of the monthly average of Indian crude basket, subject to a price band of \$4-6.50/unit, for the next two years.

The CCEA decision will lead to a reduction in the price for legacy gas from the record level of \$8.57 prevailed since September 2022, when the price was linked to select international gas hubs, subject to six-monthly revisions.

Under the new policy, gas produced from new wells or well interventions in the nomination fields of state-run ONGC and OIL would be allowed a premium of 20% over the administered price to incentivise production. After two years, the price band will increase by \$0.25 a year.

While the decision is based on the report of the Kirit Parikh committee, the CCEA refrained from taking a call on complete de-regulation of gas pricing, starting from January 1, 2027, as recommended by the panel.

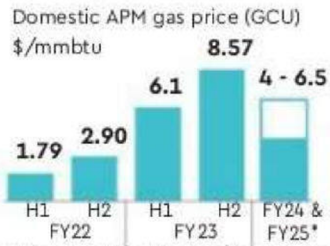
Also, there won't be any change for now for the gas produced from "new and difficult fields" owned by Reliance-bp and ONGC, such as their offshore assets in KG basin off the Andhra coast. Gas from these fields is currently being sold at a record \$12.46 per million British thermal unit (mBtu)

Detailed guidelines on pricing and premium will be issued by the ministry of petroleum and natural gas on Friday, information and broadcasting minister Anurag Thakur said, adding that the new price will be effective from Saturday.

Indian basket of crude ruled at \$85.11/barrel on Wednesday, which would have required a price of \$8.51 for domestic legacy gas under the new policy.

Continued on Page 10

PRICING REGIME



*Price band fixed for two fiscal years

- Gas from nomination fields of ONGC & OIL and NELP and pre-NELP blocks linked to a 10% slope of Indian basket of crude subject to a \$4-6.5 per mBtu band for 2 years
- Since Sept 2022, gas from these fields has been priced at \$8.57/mBtu
- New price to take effect on Saturday; provision for monthly price revisions
- No decision on the Parikh committee proposal to deregulate gas pricing from January 1, 2027
- Price for gas from 'new and difficult fields' owned by Reliance-bp and ONGC stays unchanged at \$12.46 per mBtu

MINT, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 1, Size:(20.52)cms X (20.27)cms.

Govt ties local gas price to global crude benchmarks

Rituraj Baruah &
Priyanka Sharma

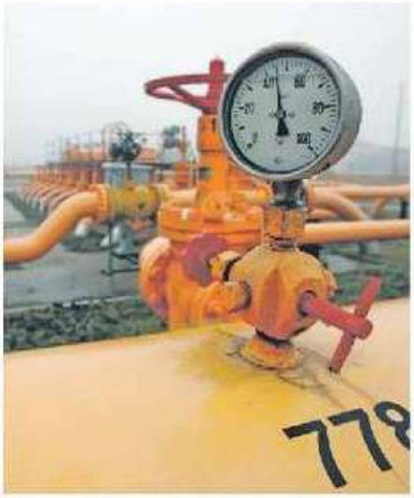
NEW DELHI

The cabinet committee on economic affairs (CCEA) on Thursday approved new gas pricing guidelines, paving the way for linking domestic natural gas prices in India to global crude prices.

Under the approved guidelines, the price of natural gas will be 10% of the monthly average of the Indian crude basket, a weighted average of Dubai and Oman (sour) and Brent Crude (sweet) oil prices.

The Cabinet also approved a floor price of $4 per metric million British thermal unit (mmBtu) and a ceiling of $6.50 per mmBtu under the Administered Price Mechanism (APM) gas pricing.

Addressing reporters after the cabinet meeting, Union minister for information and broadcasting Anurag Thakur said the move would bring down the prices of piped natural gas and compressed natural gas. The new guidelines will apply to nomination fields of state-run energy companies Oil and Natural Gas Corp. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd, New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) blocks and pre-NELP blocks, where the production sharing contract (PSC) provides for the government's approval of prices.



The move is aimed at reducing the impact of volatility in international prices BLOOMBERG

The gas produced from the nomination blocks of ONGC and Oil India will be subject to a floor and ceiling administered price, according to new gas pricing guidelines.

Meanwhile, gas from new wells or well interventions in their nomination fields would receive a premium of 20% over the administered price. In a statement, the oil ministry said the move is aimed at expanding the consumption of natural gas and achieving the government's target to increase the share of natural gas in the primary energy mix in India from the current 6.5% to 15% by 2030. The statement said the move is aimed at reducing the impact of the increase in international gas prices on gas prices in India. International gas prices have stayed elevated over the past year amid the Russia-Ukraine war.

Currently, domestic gas prices are determined based on

TURN TO PAGE 6

MINT, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 1, Size:(20.52)cms X (20.27)cms.

Gas tied to global crude prices

FROM PAGE 1

the domestic gas pricing guidelines approved by the government in 2014. The 2014 pricing guidelines provided for the setting of domestic gas prices for a six-month period based on the volume-weighted prices prevailing at four gas trading hubs - Henry Hub, Albena, National Balancing Point (UK), and Russia for a period of 12 months and a time lag of a quarter.

The revised gas pricing guidelines approved by the Cabinet link domestic natural gas prices to global crude prices, which is a more relevant and real-time approach. The earlier guidelines based on four gas hubs had significant volatility. Data on Indian crude basket prices from the previous month will determine the APM gas price determination.

On 10 March, Mint reported that India would transition to a new domestic gas pricing regime based on crude oil prices in April.

In November, the Kirit Parikh committee made several recommendations to the petroleum ministry, including pricing locally produced natural gas at 10% of crude oil prices and implementing a floor price of $4 per mmBtu and a ceiling price of $6.5 per mmBtu.

Till now, local prices are determined based on the domestic gas pricing rules approved in 2014

Under the existing policy, India reviewed gas prices every six months, based on rates in surplus gas nations with a one-quarter lag. As of 1 October, the price of gas from old fields, which make up nearly two-thirds of India's production, rose to $8.57/mmBtu, marking the third increase since April 2019. It was extended beyond 31 March. "According to the existing formula, the price of domestic gas would otherwise have been at $10/mmBtu for FY24. The revision in the pricing mechanism is likely to result in a lower realization of at least $3.50/mmBtu for domestic gas production from legacy fields," according to a CareEdge report.

rituraj.baruah@livemint.com

ASIAN AGE, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 7, Size:(4.76)cms X (8.97)cms.

Centre adopts new formula to cap gas prices

MADHUSUDAN SAHOO
NEW DELHI, APRIL 6

Based on the recommendations of the Kirit Parikh Committee on Natural Gas, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) on Thursday approved the floor price of $4/MMBtu for administered pricing mechanism or APM gas, ceiling of $6.5/MMBtu as against current rate of $8.57.

The government's revision to the 2014 gas pricing guidelines aims to provide a big relief to the consumers who are suffering from the recent surge in global gas prices.

However, the government said that the detailed notification in this regard will be out on Friday (i.e. April 7) and the guidelines will be effective from April 8, 2023.

Under the new pricing norms, the domestic gas price will be benchmarked to global crude prices as reflected by the Indian crude oil basket.

Briefing on the decision, I&B minister Anurag Thakur said the Union Cabinet on Thursday approved a new formula for pricing of natural gas and imposed cap or ceiling price to rein in runaway prices of CNG and piped cooking gas. "The natural gas produced from legacy or old fields, known as APM gas, will now be indexed to crude oil price instead of pricing it based on gas prices in surplus nations such as the US, Canada and Russia," the minister said.

"From April 1, APM gas will be priced at 10 per cent of the price of basket of crude oil that India imports (Indian basket of crude oil). The rate such arrived at, however, will be capped at $ 6.5 per million British thermal unit as against current gas price of $8.57 per mmBtu. The price such arrived at will also have a floor of $4 per mmBtu. The rates will be decided every month instead of current biannual revision," he said.

MILLENNIUM POST, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 1, Size:(5.65)cms X (15.95)cms.

Govt revises gas pricing formula

CNG, piped cooking gas to cost 10% less

MPOST BUREAU

NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet on Thursday approved a revision in the formula for pricing of natural gas and imposed cap or ceiling price to help cut CNG and piped cooking gas prices by up to 10 per cent.

Natural gas produced from legacy or old fields, known as APM gas, will now be indexed to the price of imported crude oil instead of benchmarking it to gas prices in four surplus nations such as the US, Canada and Russia, Union I&B Miniser Anurag Thakur told reporters after a meeting of the Cabinet.

APM gas will be priced at 10 per cent of the price of basket of crude oil that India imports (Indian basket of crude oil). The rate such arrived at however will be capped at $6.5 per million British thermal unit. There will also be a floor or base price of $4 per mmBtu.

The ceiling price is lower than the current rate of $8.57 per mmBtu and would translate into a reduction in prices of piped Continued on P4

From Page 1

Govt revises...

cooking gas as well as CNG sold to automobiles, he said.

Piped cooking gas prices will be cut by up to 10 per cent across cities while CNG will see a little lower reduction, he said.

Rates of piped cooking gas, called PNG, and CNG have jumped 80 per cent in one year to August 2022. This follows a spurt in international energy prices.

Following the decision, the CNG price in Delhi will be cut from Rs 79.56 per kg to Rs 73.59 and that of PNG from Rs 53.59 per thousand cubic meters to Rs 47.59. In Mumbai, CNG will cost Rs 79 per kg instead of Rs 87 and PNG will cost Rs 49 per scm instead of Rs 54.

The Indian basket of crude oil is currently priced at $85 per barrel and 10 per cent of that translates into a price of $8.5 but the cap would mean the APM gas producers, ONGC and Oil India Ltd would get only $6.5 per mmBtu.

These caps and floor prices will be for two years and rates will increase by $0.25 per mmBtu per year thereafter, the minister said.

The changes in the gas pricing formula are based on the recommendations of a committee under Kirit Parikh.

While the committee's recommendation for floor and ceiling as well as indexation has been accepted, the one on annual increment and full deregulation has been changed.

The panel had suggested a 50 cents per mmBtu increase in the $6.50 ceiling every year to slowly move toward the marketing and pricing freedom for APM fields.

Asked about the deregulation, Oil Secretary Pankaj Jain said the decisions taken by the Cabinet have been informed.

Also, rates will be fixed every month instead of the current practice of fixing them bi-annually.

Currently, the government bi-annually fixes prices of locally produced natural gas -- which is converted into CNG for use in automobiles, piped to household kitchens for cooking and used to generate electricity and make fertilisers.

Two different formulas govern rates paid for gas produced from legacy or old fields of national oil companies like Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd (OIL), and that for newer fields lying in difficult to tap areas such as deepsea.

The global spurt in energy prices post Russia's invasion of Ukraine has led to rates of locally produced gas climbing to record levels - $8.57 per million British thermal unit for gas from legacy or old fields and $12.46 per mmBtu for gas from difficult fields in six-month period ending March 31.

At the April 1 revision, the APM gas price was kept on hold pending Cabinet approval for the change in the pricing formula. Had the old formula continued, prices of gas from legacy fields would have climbed to $10.7 per mmBtu.

The price of gas from difficult fields was cut to $12.11 per mmBtu.

The government had last year constituted a committee under Kirit Parikh to look at a revision in gas prices that balances both local consumer and producer interest, while at the same time advancing the country's cause of becoming a gas-based economy.

While leaving the formula for difficult fields unchanged, the panel suggested the price band for current production from legacy or old fields, which make up for two-thirds of all gas produced in the country and is currently under the administered price mechanism, or APM, until a full deregulation of prices is implemented in 2027.

The panel suggested a 50 cents per mmBtu increase in the $6.50 ceiling every year to slowly move toward the marketing and pricing freedom for APM fields.

Thakur said the ceiling price covers the cost of production of producers while protecting consumers particularly CNG users, kitchens using piped cooking gas and fertilizer plants who had grappled with soaring input cost.

APM gas makes up for most of CNG and kitchen gas supplies.

India aspires to become a gas-based economy with the share of natural gas in its primary energy mix targeted to rise to 15 per cent by 2030 from the existing level of around 6.3 per cent.

APM gas fields were allotted to ONGC and OIL before 1999. Production from these fields do not attract profit-sharing with the government, and their pricing formula is benchmarked to gas prices at international gas hubs in surplus nations every six months based on the weighted average price. Prices were last revised on October 1 and are now due for revision on April 1.

To incentivize additional production from a new well or well intervention in the nomination blocks, the Kirit Parikh committee recommended a premium of 20 per cent over and above the APM prices for ONGC and OIL till complete freedom. This has been approved by the Cabinet, he said.

As much as 34 per cent of APM gas is allotted to the power sector in 2021-22, 17 per cent to the fertilizer industry, which impacts food prices, and 22 per cent to the city gas sector.

The committee also recommended that gas should be brought under the Goods and Services Tax, or GST, regime. Having a common taxation such as GST for gas in lieu of state level VATs, which vary from 3 per cent to as high as 24 per cent, will help develop the market.

NAVBHARAT TIMES, Mumbai, 7.4.2023
Page No. 12, Size:(5.04)cms X (13.00)cms.

PNG और CNG की कीमतें होंगी कम, नई नीति को मंजूरी

विशेष संवाददता, नई दिल्लीः केंद्र सरकार ने एक अहम फैसले में गैस कीमत तय करने की नीति मे बदलाव करने वाली गाइडलाइंस को मंजूरी दी। इससे पूरे देश में सीएनजी और पीएनजी की कीमत में तत्काल प्रभाव से कमी आएगी। कर्नाटक विधानसभा चुनाव से पहले यह अहम फैसला माना जा रहा है। कैबिनेट फैसले के बाद केंद्रीय मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने कहा कि घरेलू नैचुरल गैस की कीमत को तय करने के लिए सरकार ने किरीट पारिख कमिटी बनाई थी, जिनकी सिफारिशों को कैबिनेट ने गुरुवार को मंजूरी दे दी है।

केंद्रीय सूचना प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने कहा कि बीजेपी के स्थापना दिवस पर पीएम नरेंद्र मोदी का यह शानदार तोहफा है। उन्होंने कहा कि इससे सीएनजी और पीएनजी की कीमत में औसतन 10 फीसदी की कमी आएगी। उन्होंने कहा कि इस फैसले से फर्टिलाइजर और पावर सेक्टर को भी सस्ती गैस मिल सकेगी और किसानों को रियायती दर पर खाद मिलती रहेगी। गुरुवार को हुए फैसले के अनुसार, घरेलू नैचुरल गैस की कीमत अब इंडियन क्रूड बास्केट की कीमत के आधार पर तय होगी। अब तक अंतरराष्ट्रीय मानकों से होती थी। इससे ग्लोबल उठापटक का असर भारत पर नहीं होगा।

PUNJAB KESARI, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 3, Size:(5.23)cms X (10.13)cms.

सीएनजी-पीएनजी रसोई गैस सस्ती होगी

मोदी कैबिनेट का बड़ा फैसला : ठाकुर का ऐलान

पंजाब केसरी/नई दिल्ली

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने बृहस्पतिवार को प्राकृतिक गैस की कीमत तय करने के लिए नए फॉर्मूले को मंजूरी दी। इसके साथ ही सीएनजी और पाइप से आपूर्ति की जाने वाली रसोई गैस की कीमतों पर अधिकतम सीमा भी तय की गई है, जिससे इनकी कीमतें 10 प्रतिशत तक घटेंगी। इसके साथ ही इंडियन स्पेस पॉलिसी 2023 का भी अनुमोदन किया गया। जिसके तहत परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग ब्रह्मांड में नई-नई खोजों के लिए अब प्रस्ताव कर सकेगा। इसमें प्राइवेट सैक्टर की और स्टार्टअप की भी भूमिका रहेगी।

सूचना प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक के बाद यह जानकारी दी। उन्होंने बताया कि मंत्रिमंडल ने एपीएम गैस के लिए चार डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू के आधार मूल्य को मंजूरी दी है और अधिकतम मूल्य 6.5 डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू रखने पर मुहर लगाई है। उन्होंने बताया कि एपीएम गैस के रूप में जानी जाने वाली पारंपरिक या पुराने क्षेत्रों से उत्पादित प्राकृतिक गैस को अब अमेरिका, कनाडा और रूस जैसे अधिशेष देशों की तरह कच्चे तेल की कीमतों से जोड़ा जाएगा। पहले इनका मूल्य निर्धारण गैस कीमतों के आधार पर होता था।

इस फैसले के बाद एक अप्रैल से एपीएम गैस की कीमत भारतीय बास्केट में कच्चे तेल के दाम का 10 प्रतिशत होगी। हालांकि, यह कीमत 6.5 डॉलर प्रति दस लाख ब्रिटिश ताप इकाई (एमएमबीटीयू) से अधिक नहीं होगी।

बड़ी बातें

- इंडियन स्पेस पॉलिसी 2023 का भी अनुमोदन
- ब्रह्मांड में नई-नई खोजों के लिए प्रस्ताव

RASHTRIYA SAHARA, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 1, Size:(17.22)cms X (13.00)cms.

CNG व PNG हुई सस्ती

10% तक घटेंगी कीमतें, केंद्र ने बदला कीमत तय करने का फार्मूला

■ नई दिल्ली (भाषा)।

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने बृहस्पतिवार को प्राकृतिक गैस की कीमत तय करने के लिए नए फॉर्मूले को मंजूरी दी। इसके साथ ही सीएनजी और पाइप से आपूर्ति की जाने वाली रसोई गैस (पीएनजी) की कीमतों पर अधिकतम सीमा भी तय की गई है, जिससे इनकी कीमतें 10 प्रतिशत तक घटेंगी।

सूचना प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक के बाद बताया, मंत्रिमंडल ने एपीएम गैस के लिए चार डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू के आधार मूल्य को मंजूरी दी है और अधिकतम मूल्य 6.5 डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू रखने पर मुहर लगाई है। एपीएम गैस के रूप में जानी जाने वाली पारंपरिक या पुराने क्षेत्रों से उत्पादित प्राकृतिक गैस को अब अमेरिका, कनाडा और रूस जैसे अधिशेष देशों की तरह कच्चे तेल की कीमतों से जोड़ा जाएगा। पहले इनका मूल्य निर्धारण गैस कीमतों के आधार पर होता था।

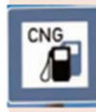
इस फैसले के बाद एक अप्रैल से एपीएम गैस की कीमत भारतीय बास्केट में कच्चे तेल के दाम का 10 प्रतिशत होगी। हालांकि, यह कीमत 6.5 डॉलर प्रति दस लाख ब्रिटिश ताप इकाई (एमएमबीटीयू) से अधिक नहीं होगी। मौजूदा गैस कीमत 8.57 डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू है। उन्होंने बताया, कीमतों का निर्धारण प्रत्येक महीने होगा, जबकि अब तक इनकी साल में दो बार समीक्षा की जाती थी। पाइपलाइन वाली रसोई गैस (पीएनजी) की कीमतों में 10 प्रतिशत तक की कटौती की जाएगी, जबकि सीएनजी में थोड़ी कम कमी होगी।

उपभोक्ताओं को बड़ी राहत

■ अगस्त 2022 तक एक साल में 80 फीसद बढ़ गई थी पीएनजी व सीएनजी की दरें

पीएनजी और सीएनजी की दरें अगस्त 2022 तक एक साल में 80 प्रतिशत तक बढ़ गई हैं। इनकी कीमतें अंतरराष्ट्रीय ऊर्जा कीमतों के आधार पर तय होती हैं। इस फैसले के बाद दिल्ली में सीएनजी की कीमत 79.56 रुपये प्रति किलो से घटकर 73.59 रुपये प्रति किलो और पीएनजी की कीमत 53.59 रुपये प्रति हजार घनमीटर से घटकर 47.59 रुपये प्रति हजार घनमीटर हो जाएगी। मुंबई में सीएनजी की कीमत 87 रुपये की जगह 79 रुपये प्रति किलोग्राम और पीएनजी की कीमत 54 रुपये की जगह 49 रुपये प्रति हजार घनमीटर होगी। भारतीय बास्केट में कच्चे तेल के दाम इस समय 85 अमेरिकी डॉलर प्रति बैरल है और इसका 10 प्रतिशत 8.5 अमेरिकी डॉलर है। हालांकि, मूल्य सीमा के चलते एपीएम गैस के लिए ओएनजीसी और ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड को केवल 6.5 डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू कीमत मिलेगी।

कितनी सस्ती होगी गैस

ईंधन	दिल्ली	मुंबई
CNG 	मौजूदा दर 79.56 रु. प्रति किलो	मौजूदा दर 87 रु. प्रति किलो
	प्रस्तावित दर 73.59 रु. प्रति किलो	प्रस्तावित दर 79 रु. प्रति किलो
PNG 	मौजूदा दर 53.59 रु. प्रति हजार घनमीटर	मौजूदा दर 54 रु. प्रति हजार घनमीटर
	प्रस्तावित दर 47.59 रु. प्रति हजार घनमीटर	प्रस्तावित दर 49 रु. प्रति हजार घनमीटर

10 प्रतिशत तक कम होगा सीएनजी-पीएनजी का मूल्य

नई दिल्ली, प्रेट्र : केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने गुरुवार को प्राकृतिक गैस की कीमत तय करने के लिए नए फार्मूले को मंजूरी दे दी। इसके तहत प्राकृतिक गैस के मूल्य में अब हर महीने बदलाव होगा। साथ ही सरकार ने प्राकृतिक गैस का आधार मूल्य और अधिकतम मूल्य सीमा तय कर दी है। इस कदम से सीएनजी और घरों में आपूर्ति वाली पीएनजी के मूल्य में 10 प्रतिशत तक की कमी आएगी।

सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने बताया कि पुराने फील्डों से निकाली जाने वाली गैस का मूल्य आयात किए जाने वाले क्रूड के दामों के आधार पर तय किया जाएगा। इसको एपीएम गैस भी कहा जाता है। एपीएम का आधार मूल्य चार डालर प्रति मिलियन ब्रिटिश थर्मल यूनिट (एमएमबीटीयू) तय किया गया है। इसका अधिकतम मूल्य 6.5 डालर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू रखने पर मुहर लगाई गई है। अभी तक गैस का मूल्य निर्धारण अमेरिका, कनाडा और रूस जैसे चार प्रमुख देशों की कीमत के आधार पर होता था। वर्तमान में देश में एपीएम का मूल्य 8.57 डालर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू है।

केंद्रीय मंत्री ने बताया कि यह मूल्य सीमा और आधार मूल्य दो वर्ष के लिए है। इसके बाद इसमें 0.25 डालर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू की वृद्धि होगी। गैस का मूल्य तय करने के फार्मूले में किरीट पारिख समिति की सिफारिशों के आधार पर बदलाव किया गया है।

भारतीय अंतरिक्ष नीति, 2023 को भी मंजूरी : केंद्रीय कैबिनेट ने गुरुवार को भारतीय अंतरिक्ष नीति, 2023 को मंजूरी दे दी। इसके तहत भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन (इसरो), न्यूस्पेस इंडिया लिमिटेड और निजी क्षेत्र की कंपनियों की भूमिकाएं यां निर्धारित की गई हैं। पूर्व में सरकार ने अंतरिक्ष क्षेत्र को निजी कंपनियों के लिए खोल दिया था ताकि इस क्षेत्र में उनकी भागीदारी को बढ़ावा दिया जा सके। केंद्रीय मंत्री जितेंद्र सिंह ने संवाददाताओं से कहा, 'संक्षेप में यह नीति स्थापित घटकों की भूमिका को लेकर स्पष्टता प्रदान करेगी।' उन्होंने कहा कि इस नीति का उद्देश्य अंतरिक्ष विभाग की भूमिका को बढ़ाना, इसरो मिशन की गतिविधियों में वृद्धि और अनुसंधान, शिक्षा, स्टार्टअप व उद्योग जगत की बड़ी भागीदारी को बढ़ाना है। इसरो के चेयरमैन एस. सोमनाथ ने बताया कि अंतरिक्ष नीति का फोकस इस क्षेत्र में निजी क्षेत्र की हिस्सेदारी को बढ़ाना होगा।

- कैबिनेट ने प्राकृतिक गैस की कीमत तय करने के लिए नए फार्मूले को दी मंजूरी
- अब छह माह के बजाए हर महीने तय होगा प्राकृतिक गैस का मूल्य

80 प्रतिशत तक बढ़ा सीएनजी-पीएनजी का मूल्य

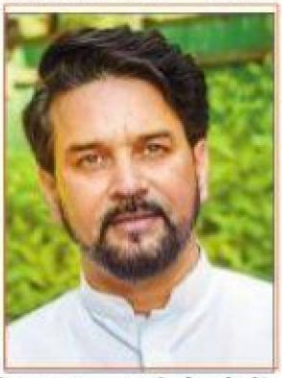
अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में तेजी के कारण घरेलू बाजार में सीएनजी और पीएनजी के मूल्य में बीते एक वर्ष में करीब 80 प्रतिशत तक की वृद्धि हुई है। अभी भारतीय बास्केट में कच्चे तेल का मूल्य 85 डालर प्रति बैरल है। इसका 10 प्रतिशत 8.5 डालर होता है। लेकिन मूल्य सीमा लागू होने की वजह से एपीएम गैस का उत्पादन करने वाली कंपनियों को 6.5 डालर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू मिलेंगे।

NAVODYA TIMES, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 3, Size:(21.87)cms X (30.94)cms.

सरकार ने गैस कीमत तय करने का फॉर्मूला बदला

सीएनजी व पीएनजी की कीमत 10% तक घटेगी

रसोई गैस की कीमतों पर अधिकतम सीमा भी तय



नई दिल्ली, 6 अप्रैल (एजेंसी): केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने वीरवार को प्राकृतिक गैस की कीमत तय करने के लिए नए फॉर्मूले को मंजूरी दी। इसके साथ ही सीएनजी और पाइप से आपूर्ति की जाने वाली रसोई गैस की कीमतों पर अधिकतम सीमा भी तय की गई है, जिससे इनकी कीमतें 10 प्रतिशत तक घटेंगी। सूचना प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक के बाद यह जानकारी दी।

उन्होंने बताया कि मंत्रिमंडल ने एपीएम गैस के लिए चार डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू के आधार मूल्य को मंजूरी दी है और अधिकतम मूल्य 6.5 डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू रखने पर मुहर लगाई है। एपीएम गैस के रूप में जानी जाने वाली पारंपरिक या पुराने क्षेत्रों से उत्पादित प्राकृतिक गैस को अब अमरीका, कनाडा और रूस जैसे अधिशेष देशों की तरह कच्चे तेल की कीमतों से जोड़ा जाएगा। पहले इनका मूल्य निर्धारण गैस कीमतों के आधार पर होता था। इस फैसले के बाद एक अप्रैल से एपीएम गैस की कीमत (शेष पृष्ठ 9 कालम 1 पर)

सीएनजी व पीएनजी ...

भारतीय बास्केट में कच्चे तेल के दाम का 10 प्रतिशत होगी। हालांकि, यह कीमत 6.5 डॉलर प्रति दस लाख ब्रिटिश ताप इकाई (एमएमबीटीयू) से अधिक नहीं होगी। मौजूदा गैस कीमत 8.57 डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू है।

उन्होंने बताया कि कीमतों का निर्धारण प्रत्येक महीने होगा, जबकि अब तक इनकी साल में दो बार समीक्षा की जाती थी। उन्होंने कहा कि पाइपलाइन वाली रसोई गैस (पीएनजी) की कीमतों में 10 प्रतिशत तक की कटौती की जाएगी, जबकि सीएनजी में थोड़ी कम कमी होगी। पीएनजी और सीएनजी की दरें अगस्त 2022 तक एक साल में 80 प्रतिशत तक बढ़ गई हैं। इनकी कीमतें अंतरराष्ट्रीय ऊर्जा कीमतों के आधार पर तय होती हैं।

AMAR UJALA, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 1, Size:(11.02)cms X (9.41)cms.

नए फॉर्मूले से तय होंगे सीएनजी व पीएनजी के दाम, घटेंगी कीमतें

कैबिनेट ने दी मंजूरी, 10 फीसदी तक आएगी कमी, कीमतों को दायरे में रखने के लिए सीमा तय

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली। सरकार ने घरेलू प्राकृतिक गैस की कीमत तय करने के लिए नए फॉर्मूले को मंजूरी दी है। साथ ही, सीएनजी और पाइप से आपूर्ति की जाने वाली रसोई गैस की कीमतों की अधिकतम सीमा भी तय कर दी। इससे सीएनजी व पीएनजी के दाम 10 फीसदी तक घट जाएंगे।

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में हुई कैबिनेट बैठक में प्राकृतिक गैस पर किरीट पारिख समिति की सिफारिशों को मंजूरी दी गई। सूचना प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने बताया, पारंपरिक क्षेत्र से उत्पादित प्राकृतिक गैस (एपीएम) को अब अमेरिका-रूस की तरह कच्चे तेल की कीमतों से जोड़ा जाएगा। पहले गैस कीमतों के आधार पर मूल्य तय होता था। अब एपीएम गैस की कीमत भारतीय बास्केट में कच्चे तेल के दाम का 10 फीसदी होगी। हालांकि, यह कीमत 6.5 डॉलर प्रति दस लाख ब्रिटिश ताप इकाई (एमएमबीटीयू) से अधिक नहीं होगी। आधार मूल्य 4 डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू रखा गया है। मौजूदा गैस कीमत 8.57 डॉलर है।

कैबिनेट के निर्णयों की जानकारी देते केंद्रीय मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर व जितेंद्र सिंह।

हर महीने तय होंगी कीमतें

नए फॉर्मूले में दो साल तक सीलिंग फिक्स रहेगी। फिर 0.25 डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू की प्रतिवर्ष बढ़ोतरी होगी। सीएनजी-पीएनजी की कीमतों का निर्धारण अब हर महीने होगा। अभी दरें हर छह महीने में तय होती हैं।

20 फीसदी प्रीमियम के रूप में इंसेंटिव दिया जाएगा : गैस उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए प्रस्ताव है कि अतिरिक्त उत्पादन पर 20 फीसदी प्रीमियम दिया जाएगा। मौजूदा उत्पादक यदि गैस उत्पादन बढ़ाते हैं, तो उन्हें घोषित दाम के अलावा 20 फीसदी प्रीमियम के रूप में इंसेंटिव दिया जाएगा। उत्पादकों को इससे नई प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग करते हुए उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए प्रोत्साहन मिलेगा।

जीएसटी के दायरे में लाने की सिफारिश

पारिख समिति ने गैस को जीएसटी के दायरे में लाने की भी सिफारिश की है। इसमें गैस पर सामान्य कर लगाने की सिफारिश की गई है, जो 3 फीसदी से लेकर 24 फीसदी तक हो सकता है। इससे गैस बाजार को बढ़ावा देने में मदद मिलेगी।

एक साल में 80 फीसदी बढ़े दाम : अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में ऊर्जा की कीमतें बढ़ने से देश में सीएनजी और पीएनजी के दाम एक साल में 80 फीसदी बढ़ गए हैं।

दिल्ली में 6 व मेरठ में 8 रुपये तक कम होंगे दाम

इस फैसले से दिल्ली में सीएनजी व पीएनजी के दामों में 6 रुपये तक की कमी आ सकती है। दिल्ली में अभी सीएनजी 79.56 रुपये प्रति किलो व पीएनजी 53.59 रुपये हजार घन मीटर है। वहीं, मेरठ में सीएनजी आठ रुपये और पीएनजी 6.50 रुपये तक सस्ती हो सकती है।

अंतरिक्ष कार्यक्रमों में बढ़ेगी निजी क्षेत्र की भागीदारी

अंतरिक्ष नीति को मंजूरी

सरकार ने नई अंतरिक्ष नीति के तहत भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन (इसरो) के साथ न्यूस्पेस इंडिया लि. व अन्य निजी क्षेत्रों के संगठनों की भूमिका व जिम्मेदारी तय कर दी है। कैबिनेट ने भारतीय अंतरिक्ष नीति-2023 को भी मंजूरी दे दी। अंतरिक्ष कार्यक्रम को मजबूती देने के लिए इसे निजी क्षेत्रों के लिए पहले ही खोल दिया गया था। केंद्रीय मंत्री जितेंद्र सिंह ने बताया कि अब इन संगठनों की भूमिका में स्पष्टता आएगी। नीति का मकसद इसरो के अंतरिक्ष मिशन को मजबूती देना व अंतरिक्ष विभाग की भूमिका को बढ़ाना है। साथ ही, शोध, अध्ययन, स्टार्टअप्स और अंतरिक्ष उद्योग की भागीदारी को प्रोत्साहन देना है।

>> खगोलीय घटनाओं को समझने के लिए बनेगी गुरुत्वाकर्षी तरंगों वाली वेधशाला : पेज 15

HINDUSTAN, Delhi, 7.4.2023
Page No. 16, Size:(4.05)cms X (5.62)cms.

‘लीगो’ वेधशाला की स्थापना को मंजूरी मिली

कैबिनेट फैसले

नई दिल्ली, विशेष संवाददाता। केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने भारत में लेजर इंटरफेरोमीटर ग्रेवेशनल ऑब्जवेट्री (एलआईजीओ) इंडिया की स्थापना को मंजूरी प्रदान कर दी है। इसके जरिये ब्रह्मांड से जुड़े अध्ययनों जैसे न्यूट्रान स्टार्स, ब्लैक होल्स आदि के बारें गहन जानकारी जुटाने में मदद मिलेगी।

कैबिनेट की फैसले की जानकारी देते हुए केंद्रीय विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्यौगिकी मंत्री डॉ. जितेन्द्र सिंह ने कहा कि ग्रेवेशनल वेव्स के अध्ययन के लिए कम से कम तीन वेधशालाओं की जरूरत होती है। इसमें से दो अमेरिका में स्थापित हो चुकी हैं तथा तीसरी भारत में स्थापित की जाएगी।

30 मार्च 2016 को प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की उपस्थिति में अमेरिका के साथ हुए करार में तीसरे वेधशाला भारत में स्थापित किए जाने पर सहमति प्रकट की गई थी। इसके लिए आवश्यक यंत्र अमेरिका द्वारा उपलब्ध कराए जाएंगे। इस परियोजना की जिम्मेदारी परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग को दी गई है।

वेधशाला की स्थापना महाराष्ट्र के हिंगोली जिले में औंधा में 174 हेक्टेयर भूमि में की जाएगी। इसके लिए भूमि अधिग्रहण पहले ही किया जा चुका है। पर्यावरण से जुड़ी मंजूरी भी प्राप्त हो चुकी है। यह परियोजना मार्च 2030 तक पूरी कर ली जाएगी। परियोजना पर कुल 2600 करोड़ रुपये का व्यय होगा।

अमेरिका द्वारा इसके लिए करीब 560 करोड़ रुपये के उपकरण मुहैया कराए जाएंगे। इसके अलावा कैबिनेट ने नई अंतरिक्ष नीति को भी मंजूरी प्रदान कर दी है।

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पीएनजी-सीएनजी के दामों में हो सकती है कमी

कैबिनेट फैसला

नई दिल्ली, विशेष संवाददाता। केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने गुरुवार को घरेलू प्राकृतिक गैस के मूल्य से संबंधित 2014 के दिशा-निर्देशों में बदलावों को मंजूरी दे दी। इन बदलावों से घरेलू प्राकृतिक गैस (पीएनजी) और सीएनजी के दामों में दस फीसदी तक कमी आने की संभावना है।

केंद्रीय सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने बताया कि विशेषज्ञ समिति की सिफारिशों पर गैस मूल्य निर्धारण नीति में बदलाव किया गया है। अब घरेलू प्राकृतिक गैस की कीमतों को आयातित क्रूड की कीमतों से जोड़ा जाएगा। यह इंडियन क्रूड बास्केट के

अंतरराष्ट्रीय मूल्य के 10% के बराबर होगा। नई नीति में हर महीने गैस के मूल्यों का निर्धारण किया जाएगा। घरेलू गैस का उत्पादन बढ़ाने को अतिरिक्त उत्पादन पर 20% प्रीमियम दिया जाएगा। यानी गैस के दाम के अलावा 20% प्रोत्साहन राशि दी जाएगी। इससे पीएनजी के दामों में दस फीसदी तक कमी आने की उम्मीद है।

लीगो वेधशाला को मंजूरी P16

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गैस कीमत तय करने का फार्मूला बदला

सीएनजी, पाइपलाइन वाली रसोई गैस की कीमत घटेगी

नई दिल्ली, 6 अप्रैल (भाषा)।

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने गुरुवार को प्राकृतिक गैस की कीमत तय करने के लिए नए फार्मूले को मंजूरी दी। इसके साथ ही सीएनजी और पाइप से आपूर्ति की जाने वाली रसोई गैस की कीमतों पर अधिकतम सीमा भी तय की गई है, जिससे इनकी कीमतें 10 फीसद तक घटेंगी।

सूचना प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक के बाद यह जानकारी दी। उन्होंने बताया कि मंत्रिमंडल ने एपीएम गैस के लिए चार डालर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू के आधार मूल्य को मंजूरी दी है और अधिकतम मूल्य 6.5 डालर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू रखने पर मुहर लगाई है। उन्होंने बताया कि एपीएम गैस के रूप में जानी जाने वाली पारंपरिक या पुराने क्षेत्रों से उत्पादित प्राकृतिक गैस को अब अमेरिका, कनाडा और रूस जैसे अधिशेष देशों की तरह कच्चे तेल की कीमतों से जोड़ा जाएगा।

पहले इनका मूल्य निर्धारण गैस कीमतों के आधार पर होता था। इस फैसले के बाद एक अप्रैल से एपीएम गैस की कीमत भारतीय बास्केट में कच्चे तेल के दाम का 10 फीसद होगी। हालांकि, यह कीमत 6.5 डालर प्रति दस लाख ब्रिटिश ताप इकाई (एमएमबीटीयू) से अधिक नहीं होगी। मौजूदा गैस कीमत 8.57 डालर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू है।

उन्होंने बताया कि कीमतों का निर्धारण प्रत्येक महीने होगा, जबकि अब तक इनकी साल में दो बार समीक्षा की जाती थी।

उन्होंने कहा कि पाइपलाइन वाली रसोई गैस (पीएनजी) की कीमतों में 10 फीसद तक की कटौती की जाएगी, जबकि सीएनजी में थोड़ी कम कमी होगी।

पीएनजी और सीएनजी की दरें अगस्त 2022 तक एक साल में 80 फीसद तक बढ़ गई हैं। इनकी कीमतें अंतरराष्ट्रीय ऊर्जा कीमतों के आधार पर तय होती हैं। इस फैसले के बाद दिल्ली में सीएनजी की कीमत 79.56 रुपए प्रति किलो से घट कर 73.59 रुपए प्रति किलो और पीएनजी की कीमत 53.59 रुपए प्रति हजार घन मीटर से घट कर 47.59 रुपए प्रति हजार घन मीटर हो जाएगी।

मुंबई में सीएनजी की कीमत 87 रुपए की जगह 79 रुपए प्रति किलोग्राम और पीएनजी की कीमत 54 रुपए की जगह 49 रुपए प्रति हजार घन मीटर होगी।