

Government ramps up efforts to resume Mozambique gas ops

Rituraj Baruah

rituraj.baruah@livenmint.com

NEW DELHI

India is ramping up efforts to resume operations at a gas project in a terrorist-affected province of Mozambique where an ONGC Videsh-led Indian consortium has a 30% stake.

An Indian team is expected to visit the African nation soon to take stock of the project. "A team will soon visit the project (in Mozambique). We are looking at having a soft start to the operations," said a person aware of the development.

The \$20 billion 'Offshore Area I' project has been under force majeure since April 2021 following attacks by Islamic State terrorists in the coastal town of Palma in Cabo Delgado province. "Considering the evolution of the security situation", the TotalEnergies-operated Mozambique LNG had announced a withdrawal of all project personnel from the site.

Total E&P Mozambique Area I Limitada, a subsidiary of TotalEnergies, holds 26.5% in the plant.

Force majeure is a clause that allows removal of liability for natural disasters and catastrophes created by humans.

Three state-run companies hold a total of 30% stake in the project. ONGC Videsh holds 16%, while BPCL Ventures Mozambique BV, a subsidiary of BPCL, and Oil India Ltd hold 10% and 4% respectively.

TotalEnergies also has been



TotalEnergies also has been making efforts to resume operations at the plant.

AFF

making efforts to resume operations at the plant. Last month, the chairman and CEO of TotalEnergies, Patrick Pouyanne, visited Cabo Delgado to review the security and humanitarian situation. A company statement said he met with President Filipe Nyusi. Pouyanne entrusted Jean-Christophe Rufin, an expert in humanitarian action and human rights, with an independent mission to assess the humanitarian situation in Cabo Delgado.

According to another person in the know, efforts have been underway to resume operations for the past few months amid volatility in the global energy market and concerns over low availability of gas due to the Ukraine war. The person said: "It is one of the most prolific gas assets. Its just a three-day journey from there to India. So, once the supplies start, it would significantly and immediately add to the LNG availability in the country."

I Squared may sell stake in Think Gas

I Squared Capital is considering selling a minority stake in Think Gas Distribution Pvt that could value the Indian natural gas supplier at more than \$1 billion, according to people familiar with the matter. The private equity firm is working with an adviser to sell as much as a 30% stake in Think Gas, said the people, who asked not to be identified as the information is private. The asset could attract investment funds and pension funds, the people said. Deliberations are at an early stage and I Squared could still decide against proceeding with a deal, the people said. Representative of I Squared and Think Gas didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

Established by I Squared in 2018, Think Gas operates across 13 districts in India and supplies natural gas to domestic, commercial, industrial and automotive sectors, according to its website.

BLOOMBERG

Indian Oil to consolidate green assets under single vertical

Our Bureau

New Delhi

Oil marketing company (OMC) Indian Oil will consolidate all its existing green energy assets under one vertical for better synergies, its Charman and Managing Director SM Vaidya said on Wednesday.

In his inaugural address at IOC's first green energy summit, Vaidya said: "While we look to diversify our existing petroleum and gas product offerings, we will consolidate our green assets under one vertical."

IOC VISION

The OMC aims to achieve Net Zero operational emissions by 2046. IOC's vision is to establish the state-run refiner as one of India's leading integrated green energy and decarbonisation major offering products across biofuels, renewables, green hydrogen and new low carbon value chains including carbon offsets and Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS), he added.

The company aims to establish a portfolio of 3 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy (RE) and 0.6 million tonnes of biofuel capacity by 2025. Besides, another 35 GW of RE, 4 MT biofuels and 1 MMT Biogas is planned to be achieved by 2030. By 2050, IOC plans to have a 200 GW portfolio of RE, 7 MT of biofuels and 9 MT Biogas.



NEW VISION. SM Vaidya, Charman and Managing Director

"We are thus scaling up our green endeavours with a definitive focus and going forward; we will consolidate our green assets under one umbrella for better synergy. Our ambitious green roadmap also involves forging effective collaborations to nurture commercial-scale green businesses. We shall provide opportunities to investors and technology providers across the globe to partner in our journey," Vaidya said.

At present, IOC accounts for 9 per cent of the energy needs of the world's third largest energy consumer, which it aims to grow to 12 per cent per cent by 2030.

GREEN ASSETS

At present, IOC's RE portfolio stands at 239 MW. The company is collaborating with NTPC to augment its capacity by around 2.8 GW. There is also greening of the supply chain through solarising 20,705 retail outlets with an installed capacity of

121 MW. Initiatives in EVs are being intensified by setting up 4,700 charging stations and 66 battery swapping stations. A collaboration has been formed with Phinergy, an Israeli start-up company specialising in hybrid lithium-ion and aluminium-air battery systems.

Besides, it has firmed-up collaboration with ReNew Power and Larson & Toubro for the green hydrogen business. A 7 kilo tonne per annum (KTPA) capacity is under development at its Panipat refinery.

It has set up a paddy straw based 2G Ethanol plant and refinery off-gas-based 3G Ethanol plants at the Panipat refinery. IOC has also commissioned 20 CBG plants under the SATAT initiative.

The refiner has set up 100 tonnes per day (TPD) of Cattle Dung to CBG Plant in Jaipur and a 200 TPD mixed waste (paddy straw, press mud, cattle dung) to CBG Plant in Gorakhpur.

■ IOC Floats New Unit for Clean Energy Business



NEW DELHI Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has floated a new subsidiary under low-carbon, clean and green energy business as the nation's

biggest oil refining and fuel marketing company pivots a transition plan to achieve net zero emissions from its operations by 2046. In a stock exchange filing, IOC said its board in its meeting held on March 14 "has accorded approval for the formation of a wholly owned subsidiary in India, subject to the approval from NITI Aayog, DIPAM etc., to operate in the domain of low carbon, new, clean and green energy businesses".

IOC floats new unit for green biz

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, March 15

INDIAN OIL (IOC) has floated a new subsidiary for low carbon, clean and green energy business as the nation's biggest oil refining and fuel marketing company pivots a transition plan to achieve net zero emissions from its operations by 2046.

In a stock exchange filing, IOC said its board at the meeting held on March 14 "has accorded approval for the formation of a wholly-owned subsidiary (WoS) in India to operate in the domain of low carbon, new, clean and green energy businesses".

The move is aimed at consolidating all existing green assets under one umbrella and rapidly expanding its footprint across sustainable energy avenues like biofuels, renewables, green hydrogen and carbon offsets (CCUS or carbon capture, utilisation and storage).

Alongside being the nation's largest producer of traditional fuels like petrol, diesel and LPG, IOC is targeting 200 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2050 as well as 7 million tonne of biofuels (oil produced from biomass) and 9 million tonnes of biogas (gas generated from decomposed plant and animal waste).

A company statement quoted IOC chairman Shrikant Madhav Vaidya as saying that while the company is committed to energising India's exponentially rising energy needs, it is also determined to be the flagbearer of the country's green energy transition.



IOC floats new unit for low-carbon energy biz

PTI

feedback@livemint.com

NEW DELHI

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"The proposed WoS will focus and pursue Indian Oil's low carbon and green energy business to meet the operational requirements of the net zero target and beyond," it added.

IOC chairman Shrikant Madhav Vaidya had last month said in an interview that the company is remodelling its business with an increased focus on petrochemicals to hedge volatility in the fuel business, while at the same time turning petrol pumps into energy outlets that offer electric vehicle (EV) charging points and battery swapping options besides conventional fuels as it looks to make itself future-ready.

Also, the company plans to set up green hydrogen plants at all its refineries as part of a ₹2 trillion green transition plan to achieve net-zero emissions from its operations by 2046, he had said.

IOC sets up arm to consolidate new energy biz

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: State-run IndianOil Corporation (IOC) on Wednesday said it will set up a wholly owned subsidiary to consolidate all new and low-carbon energy businesses under a single umbrella to speed up its net zero journey.

“We plan to offer a diverse portfolio of both molecules and electrons. While we look to diversify our existing petroleum and gas product offerings, we will consolidate our green assets under one vertical,” company chairman S M Vaidya said at an industry function.

The road map envisages 3 gigawatts (GW) renewables and 0.6 million tonnes (MT) biofuels capacity by 2025.

IOC, NTPC JV to set up renewable energy plants

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

INDIAN OIL CORPORATION (IOCL), refiner and fuel retailer and NTPC will form joint ventures to set up renewable energy plants in the country.

The firms said the term sheet has been executed between Indian Oil and NTPC Green Energy, and the JV will be formed with 50:50 equity participation. IOCL is expanding portfolio in renewable energy to achieve Net Zero emissions by 2046, and its 650MW additional power requirement of new projects will be met from renewable energy. "Our present power need of IOCL refineries and petrochemical complex is 900MW, which is met from captive power plants. We have taken a conscious decision to tie up with NTPC," said SM Vaidya, Chairman of IndianOil.

Over 50% of rural households use fossil fuel for cooking: NSSO

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

THE National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) carried out the Multiple Indicator Survey (MIS) covering the entire country in its 78th round. The survey says that over 50% of rural households do not use clean source of energy for cooking food.

Overall, around 37 per cent of households still use polluted sources of energy for cooking purposes. It raises questions over the success of Government of India's flagship scheme, Pradhan Mantri Ujjawala Yojana (PMUY), under which over 9.58 crore households received LPG cylinders. However in a stark difference, 92% of urban households use clean energy sources for cooking. Here clean fuel refers to LPG, other natural gas, gobar gas, other biogas, electricity (including solar/ wind power generators) and solar cooker.

Experts say that higher costs of LPG are major hindrances against the scheme. The filling rate of the LPG cylinder has been low. However, last year Rameshwar Teli, Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas in Lok Sabha, informed Parliament that the per capita consump-

Households using fossil fuels			
Sources of energy	Rural	Urban	All
Cooking	50.2	8	36.9
Lighting	1.3	0.3	1
Heating	81.3	23.1	63.4
Cooking and Lighting and Heating	83.6	24.1	65.3

Fossil Fuels and Non-Renewable for Cooking, Lighting, Heating (in percent)

Source: 78th round NSSO Report on the Multiple Indicator Survey report



Pollution unlimited in rural areas

People are using firewood, chips and crop residue, kerosene, dung cake and other traditional sources of fuels for household cooking, which is the primary source of emissions of Particulate Matters (PM) 2.5

tion of PMUY beneficiaries increased from 3.01 refills in 2019-20 to 3.68 in 2021-22. Domestic emission is one of the major sources of pollution in the Indo-Gangetic plains, one of the most polluted regions of the planet. People are using firewood, chips and crop residue, kerosene, dung cake and other traditional sources of fuels for household cooking, which is the primary source of emissions of Particulate Matters (PM) 2.5 in Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Chandigarh and Delhi.

"The unclean fuels contribute nearly 19 per cent of the total emissions in the region," said Bhupender Yadav, Union minister for environment, forest and climate change, told the Lok Sabha. The NSSO survey was scheduled for January-December 2020, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the survey continued up until August 15, 2021. The report also says that 99 per cent of households lighting their house and 36.6 per cent households heating their house are using a clean energy source.

Reliance shifts most traders to oil hub Dubai

Bloomberg

feedback@livemint.com

Reliance Industries Ltd has shifted most of its oil traders from Mumbai to Dubai, executing a plan announced in 2021, but which now coincides with the city's growing stature as a commodities hub after Russia's war in Ukraine.

Most of the refiner's oil procurement and trading are now conducted out of the United Arab Emirates' biggest city, said people familiar with the matter, asking not to be named as they're not authorized to speak publicly.

While Reliance's ambitions

in Dubai predate Russia's war, its presence in what has been dubbed new Switzerland means it can more conveniently utilize the growing number of trading, logistics and financing services established to facilitate flows of Russian crude and oil products to buyers, said traders.

A spokesperson for Reliance Industries declined to comment when contacted on the matter.

India and China have become key consumers of dis-

counted Russian crude after most others shunned the Opec+ producer's barrels following the invasion of Ukraine. A flood of oil mer-

The move coincides with Dubai's growing stature as a commodities hub since Russia's war on Ukraine began

chants, middlemen, financiers and shippers have relocated to Dubai since last year after Western sanctions made it harder for them to handle Moscow-related deals in hubs

such as Switzerland and Singapore.

Reliance is among Indian refiners that have already used United Arab Emirates dirham

to pay for some shipments of Russia crude, people familiar with the matter said last month, as Russia encourages a shift away from the dollar. Payments vary from cargo to cargo, they added.

Russian-linked companies such as Litasco SA, an arm of energy giant Lukoil PJSC, moved some of its operations to Dubai from Geneva and Singapore, while Rosneft PJSC and Gazprom Neft PJSC were also in different stages of exploring a presence in the Middle Eastern city.

Reliance has ramped up its purchases of Russian crude, naphtha and fuel oil since the war.

Russia's oil revenue drops sharply as price caps work: IEA

Russia's oil-export revenue fell to lowest in more than a year in February as buyers of the nation's barrels largely complied with price caps and sanctions, according to the International Energy Agency. The flow of money into the country from international oil sales fell to \$11.6 billion last month, down more than 40% from a year earlier, according to the IEA. February crude oil and product exports averaged 7.5 million barrels a day, the lowest since September, the agency estimated. "Although it has been relatively successful in sustaining volumes, Russia's oil revenue has taken a hit," the IEA said on Wednesday in its monthly report. Western countries and their allies have taken a number of steps to reduce Russia's oil proceeds in order to limit the Kremlin's ability to finance its war in Ukraine. The coalition of nations have imposed ceilings on the price of Russian crude oil and refined products. **BLOOMBERG**

Russian crude accounted for 40% of India's oil imports in February, says IEA report

Rishi Ranjan Kala
New Delhi

Russia accounted for around 40 per cent of India's total crude oil imports in February this year. This makes Russia the largest supplier of crude for the fourth straight month.

"Russia accounted for around 40 per cent and 20 per cent of Indian and Chinese crude imports, respectively, in February," said the International Energy Agency's (IEA) in its oil market report for March 2023, which was released on Wednesday.

According to energy intelligence firm Vortexa, India imported around 1.6 million barrels per day (mb/d) of Russian crude oil in February 2023. India and China, the world's top fossil fuel consumers, procured more than 70 per

cent of Russia's crude exports last month, which stood at 7.5 mb/d, the global agency added.

OIL EXPORTS

Even as Russian oil production sustained near pre-war levels in February, its exports globally fell over 500,000 barrels per day last month.

"The market is caught in the cross-currents of supply outstripping still-lacklustre demand, with stocks building to levels not seen in 18 months. Much of the supply overhang reflects ample Russian barrels racing to re-route to new destinations under the full force of EU embargoes," the IEA pointed out.

Over the past year, 4.5 mb/d of Russian oil previously going to the EU, North America and OECD Asia Oceania has had to find alternative outlets.



"Willing buyers in Asia, namely India and, to a lesser extent, China, have snapped up discounted crude oil cargoes, but increasing volumes on the water suggest the share of Russian oil in their import mix may be getting too big for comfort," IEA has warned.

A senior government official said: "Nobody wants Russian supply to stop. The objective is to dilute its export earnings from crude

oil, and till the time rates are below the G7 price cap (\$60 per barrel), there are no issues."

BETTER OMC MARGINS

State-controlled and private refiners in India, which were Russia's biggest crude oil buyers since October-November 2022, have been lapping up cheap Russian crude oil, particularly the Ural blend, which now constitutes almost 80 per cent of India's inbound shipments from Russia, said trade sources.

Russia is offering discounts on Ural to Indian refiners, which has aided the oil marketing companies (OMCs) to shore up their financial metrics that were severely impacted due to the retail price freeze on petrol and diesel since April last year.

The discounts are in the range of \$15-20 per barrel, said one of the sources.

Shipping, insurance costs cloud India's Russia oil purchase price

Bloomberg

feedback@livemint.com

En route to New Delhi this month, US officials proclaimed themselves satisfied that India is buying Russian oil below G-7 price caps designed to undercut Moscow's war in Ukraine without disrupting global energy flows.

Market experts — and even some of those involved in the energy trade — say it's not so clear.

India's consumption of Russian crude was minimal and sporadic before President Vladimir Putin's forces attacked Ukraine, but it has soared since, becoming a key tool for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's bid to fight energy inflation.

Yet the structure of India's oil trade means that the final price it pays includes shipping, insurance and other costs upon arrival at its ports, without a detailed breakdown. That makes it hard to know how much it's actually paying Russia, and whether it's undercutting the goal of limiting Moscow's revenue



India is buying Russian oil below G-7 price caps. REUTERS

from crude sales.

"The reality is this market has become extremely opaque," said Vandana Hari, founder of Vanda Insights in Singapore. "It is near-impossible to get middlemen costs."

Uncertainty about how much India pays is part of the murkiness around Russian oil flows more generally, as the trade shifts from the Atlantic basin to Asia and from large traders to smaller entities. And it highlights the uphill struggle by Ukraine's allies to enforce or even encourage

compliance with the curbs imposed over the past year.

India's oil ministry, Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of External Affairs did not respond to requests for comments.

Since Modi's government never signed up to the G-7 cap, it doesn't have an obligation to comply with it — so long as it is not using Western insurance or shipping services. And while people familiar with the matter say the government won't break the sanctions — and has asked banks and traders to adhere to the rules — the challenge comes in monitoring or enforcing such vows.

For instance, to supply buyers in places such as India and China, which continue to rely on Russian crude, a "gray fleet" of tankers has emerged.

That's helped push down the costs of crude transport overall, according to Viktor Katona, lead analyst at Kpler. But the rise of the gray fleet and other middlemen in the Russian oil trade makes dissecting price data even harder, and official figures are of little help.

RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

SJVN & IOC sign MoU to form JV

SHIMLA: Nand Lal Sharma, Chairman & MD, SJVN, informed that SJVN has entered into an MoU with Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) for formation of a Joint Venture (JV) for development of Renewable Energy Projects, viz Solar, Wind, Hydro & Hybrid Power. The company will also develop Energy Storage Systems such as Battery Storage and Pumped Storage Projects for supply of Round the clock (RTC) Power. The power generated from these projects will be supplied to Refineries of IOC, other establishments of IOC and will also be sold to third parties through

energy exchanges.

Sharma further said that, both the companies will work together to leverage their core strength in project development. The JV company will also venture into Electric Mobility Infrastructure, Production of Green Hydrogen and other Green Synthetic Fuels. He further said that the power produced by the projects of this JV will also help in the mitigation of the carbon footprint of IOC. The JV will bring together SJVN and IOC, on a common platform and the association will certainly play a vital role in the growth story of the Nation.

He further said in line with the targets set by the Union Government, SJVN has ambitious goals for development of Renewable Energy. This MOU will be a step towards meeting SJVN's targets of developing Renewable Energy as well as IOCL's target to achieve net-zero operational emissions by the year 2046.

The MOU was signed by R K Gupta, Chief GM, SJVN, and Shantanu Gupta, Executive Director, IOC in the gracious presence of Shrikant Madhav Vaidya, Chairman, IOCL and Geeta Kapoor, Director (Personnel) SJVN.

MPOST

आईओसी ने स्वच्छ ऊर्जा कारोबार के लिए नई इकाई शुरू की

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा)। इंडियन ऑयल कॉरपोरेशन (आईओसी) ने कम कार्बन, स्वच्छ और हरित ऊर्जा कारोबार के तहत एक नई अनुषंगी कंपनी शुरू की है। देश की सबसे बड़ी तेल शोधन और ईंधन विपणन कंपनी ने 2046 तक अपने परिचालन में शुद्ध रूप से शून्य उत्सर्जन का लक्ष्य हासिल करने की योजना बनाई है। नई सहायक कंपनी इस लक्ष्य को हासिल करने की दिशा में मददगार होगी। आईओसी ने शेयर बाजार को बताया कि उसके निदेशक मंडल ने 14 मार्च को हुई बैठक में भारत में स्वच्छ और हरित ऊर्जा व्यवसायों के क्षेत्र में पूर्ण स्वामित्व वाली सहायक कंपनी के गठन को मंजूरी दे दी है। इसके लिए नीति आयोग, दीपम (निवेश और लोक परिसंपत्ति प्रबंधन विभाग) आदि की मंजूरी ली जानी है। कंपनी ने बताया कि शुद्ध शून्य उत्सर्जन के लक्ष्य को हासिल करने और आगे की परिचालन जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए कम कार्बन उत्सर्जन और हरित ऊर्जा व्यवसाय पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया जाएगा। आईओसी के चेयरमैन श्रीकांत माधव वैद्य ने पिछले महीने पीटीआई-भाषा से कहा था कि कंपनी ईंधन कारोबार में उतार-चढ़ाव से बचाव के लिए पेट्रोकेमिकल पर अधिक ध्यान देने के साथ अपने कारोबार को पुनर्गठित कर रही है। इसके तहत कंपनी अपने पेट्रोल पंपों पर ईवी चार्जिंग केंद्र शुरू करने पर भी काम कर रही है।

क्रिस वुड का पसंदीदा शेयर 52 सप्ताह के निचले स्तर पर

पुनीत वाधवा
नई दिल्ली, 15 मार्च

यह शेयर जेफरीज में इक्विटी रणनीति के वैश्विक प्रमुख क्रिस्टोफर वुड की सबसे बड़ी होल्डिंग (ओएनजीसी के साथ साथ) में से एक है और उनके 'इंडिया लॉन्ग-ओनली' पोर्टफोलियो में इसका 10 प्रतिशत भारांक है। वहीं 6 प्रतिशत भारांक के साथ यह शेयर उनके एशिया एक्स-जापान लॉन्ग-ओनली थीमेटिक पोर्टफोलियो में भी शामिल है।

हालांकि अरबपति उद्योगपति मुकेश अंबानी के नियंत्रण वाली रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज (आरआईएल) का शेयर 2,236.85 रुपये के अपने 52 सप्ताह के निचले स्तर पर आ गया है, और वह कैलेंडर वर्ष 2023 में सेंसेक्स के सबसे खराब प्रदर्शन वाले शेयरों में से एक बन गया है।

आरआईएल का शेयर कैलेंडर वर्ष 2023 में अब तक करीब 11 प्रतिशत गिर चुका है, जबकि बीएसई के सेंसेक्स में इस अवधि के दौरान करीब 5 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई है।

जियोजित फाइनेंशियल सर्विसेज के वरिष्ठ उपाध्यक्ष गौरांग शाह के अनुसार, इस शेयर में गिरावट मुख्य तौर पर बाजार धारणा में आई कमजोरी के अनुरूप है, जिससे आरआईएल समेत कई लाजिकैप शेयर प्रभावित हुए। शाह ने कहा, 'कंपनी मजबूत स्थिति में है और ताजा ऊंचे स्तरों से 52 सप्ताह के निचले स्तर तक की गिरावट संपूर्ण कमजोर बाजार धारणा की वजह से आई है।'

एचडीएफसी सिक््योरिटीज में रिटेल रिसर्च के उप-प्रमुख देवार्थ वकील का भी मानना है कि कंपनी में बुनियादी तौर पर कोई कमी नहीं है।

उन्होंने कहा, 'शेयर में गिरावट विदेशी कारोबारियों द्वारा जोखिम से दूर रहने की धारणा को ध्यान में रखकर की गई बिकवाली पर आधारित हो सकती है। मैं इस शेयर

शेयर का हाल

■ विदेशी निवेशकों द्वारा की गई बिकवाली से आरआईएल के शेयर पर दबाव बढ़ गया है

■ आरआईएल का शेयर 2,236.85 रुपये के अपने 52 सप्ताह के निचले स्तर पर आ गया है

■ आरआईएल का शेयर 2023 में करीब 11 प्रतिशत गिर चुका है, जबकि सेंसेक्स में इस अवधि के दौरान करीब 5 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई है

पर उत्साहित हूं और निवेशकों को दीर्घावधि के नजरिये से गिरावट पर खरीदने का सुझाव देना चाहता हूं।'

हालांकि आईडीबीआई कैपिटल के शोध प्रमुख ए के प्रभाकर का मानना है कि शेयर में गिरावट की एक संभावित वजह आरआईएल की विस्तार योजनाओं की वजह से बढ़ता कर्ज हो सकता है। यह कर्ज ऐसे समय में बढ़ा है जब ब्याज दरों में इजाफा हो रहा है।

सिस्टमैटिक्स इंस्टीट्यूशनल इक्विटीज की फरवरी 2023 की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, आरआईएल का पूंजीगत खर्च अगले कुछ वर्षों के दौरान ऊंचा बना रह सकता है, क्योंकि उसके द्वारा पेट्रो रसायन विस्तार पर 9 अरब डॉलर, नवीन ऊर्जा पर 10 अरब डॉलर, 5जी स्पेक्ट्रम, 5जी पेशकश और अन्य सेगमेंटों में नियमित पूंजीगत खर्च पर 880 अरब रुपये का निवेश किए जाने की संभावना है। कुल मिलाकर, वित्त वर्ष 2023ई/वित्त वर्ष 2024ई/वित्त वर्ष 2025ई के दौरान 1.4/1.3/1.4 लाख करोड़ रुपये के पूंजीगत खर्च का अनुमान है।

हाल में भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग ने जर्मन रिटेलर मेट्रो एजी के भारतीय व्यवसाय का 2,850 करोड़ रुपये में आरआईएल द्वारा अधिग्रहण के प्रस्ताव को हरी झंडी दी है।

गैस पाइपलाइन के लिए एकीकृत शुल्क 1 अप्रैल से

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एक दर्जन से अधिक गैस पाइपलाइन से मिलकर बने राष्ट्रीय गैस ग्रिड की पाइपलाइन 1 अप्रैल से एकीकृत शुल्क ढांचे के तहत आएंगी। यह जानकारी पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस नियामक बोर्ड (पीएनजीआरबी) के अधिकारी ने मंगलवार को दी।

यह एकीकृत शुल्क 'एक देश, एक ग्रिड और एक टैरिफ' के सिद्धांत पर कार्य करेगा। पीएनजीआरबी के बोर्ड के सदस्य एके तिवारी ने पीएचडी चैम्बर ऑफ कॉमर्स एंड इंडस्ट्री के अंतरराष्ट्रीय एलएनजी कॉन्क्लेव में कहा कि लंबी दूरी तक और कई पाइपलाइनों के जरिये ईंधन को लेकर जाने वाले ग्राहकों को एकीकृत शुल्क से फायदा होगा। वर्तमान समय में उपभोक्ताओं को कई पाइपलाइनों और परस्पर जुड़ी पाइपलाइनों का इस्तेमाल करने पर अतिरिक्त शुल्क अदा करना पड़ता है। इसका परिणाम यह होता है

क्या है नया

- शुल्क क्षेत्रों का दायरा दो से बढ़ाकर तीन
- पहले क्षेत्र का शुल्क पूर्ववर्ती शुल्क के करीब रहेगा
- दूसरे क्षेत्र में जोड़े जाने वाले शुल्क से कम नया शुल्क होगा
- तीसरे क्षेत्र में जोड़े जाने वाले शुल्क से कहीं कम शुल्क होगा
- अभी औद्योगिक गैस के खरीदारों को लंबी दूरी तक गैस लेकर जाने पर अधिक शुल्क अदा करना पड़ता है



कि तट से अधिक दूरी पर लेकर जाने पर उपभोक्ताओं को अधिक शुल्क अदा करना पड़ता है जबकि कम दूरी पर लेकर जाने पर कम शुल्क अदा करना पड़ता है। लिहाजा इस क्षेत्र के नियामक ने एकीकृत शुल्क को आसान बनाने के लिए इकाई स्तर पर समन्वित प्राकृतिक गैस पाइपलाइन के शुल्क की शुरुआत की।

शुल्क के इस नए तरीके में खरीदार को तीन क्षेत्रों तक गैस लेकर जाने पर निर्धारित

शुल्क वसूला जाएगा जबकि पहले यह दो क्षेत्रों तक ही सीमित था। तिवारी ने बताया कि इसके तहत स्रोत (गैस फ़िल्ड या एलएनजी आयात टर्मिनल) से 300 किलोमीटर, 300 -1200 किलोमीटर और 1200 किलोमीटर हैं। उन्होंने बताया, "पहले क्षेत्र में वर्तमान शुल्क के करीब बराबर ही शुल्क रहेगा। दूसरे क्षेत्र में शुल्क जोड़े जाने वाले शुल्क से कम होगा और तीसरे क्षेत्र में जोड़े जाने वाले शुल्क से कहीं कम शुल्क होगा।"

हालांकि पहले पीएनजीआरबी ने कहा था कि पहले क्षेत्र का शुल्क दूसरे क्षेत्र के शुल्क का 40 फीसदी होगा। हालांकि इसमें सरकार ने कई संशोधनों को शामिल किया जैसे कितनी भी गैस को अनुमति, मोराटोरियम अवधि और कंपनी की अधिकतम क्षमता के उपयोग को शामिल किया गया। एकीकृत शुल्क योजना का हिस्सा पाइपलाइन होंगी। इस योजना में राज्य संचालित गेल इंडिया संचालित हजिरा-बिजयपुर-जगदीशपुर

(एचबीजे) और उसकी सहायक दहेज-विजयपुर लाइन और दहेज (गुजरात) से उरण-दाभोल-पनवेल (महाराष्ट्र) पाइपलाइन हैं। इस योजना में रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज की आनुषांगिक द्वारा संचालित शहडोल-फूलपुर लाइन होगी। यह लाइन सीबीएम ब्लॉक में है। यह लाइन मध्य प्रदेश से उत्तर प्रदेश तक है। इसी तरह रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज के पूर्व स्वामित्व वाली पूर्व-पूर्व पाइपलाइन भी होगी जो आंध्र प्रदेश के काकीनाड़ा से गुजरात के भरूच तक है।

वर्तमान समय में देश में 35,000 किलोमीटर की प्राकृतिक गैस पाइपलाइन पर काम जारी है जबकि उपयोग में 23,000 किलोमीटर पाइपलाइन है। लिहाजा अगले चार-पांच साल में प्राकृतिक गैस मिशन साकार हो जाएगा। प्राकृतिक गैस की मात्रा में कमी और पाइपलाइन की कम उपयोगिता एक चुनौती बरकरार रहेगी। तिवारी के मुताबिक, "देश में किसी भी पाइपलाइन का उपयोग करीब 40 फीसदी है। कुछ मामलों में पाइपलाइन का इस्तेमाल 10 फीसदी है।"

भारत को कच्चे तेल की आपूर्ति घटाएगा कुवैत

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कुवैत ने एशिया के कुछ तेलशोधकों को अपने सालाना सौदे से कम तेल लेने को कहा है, क्योंकि उसे उम्मीद है कि अल जोउर रिफाइनरी में इस साल के अंत तक पूरी तरह उत्पादन शुरू हो जाएगा। इस मामले से जुड़े 3 रिफाइनिंग सूत्रों ने यह जानकारी दी है।

कुवैत से कम आपूर्ति होने पर पश्चिम एशिया से एशिया को आपूर्ति घटेगी और खासकर चीन में मांग बढ़ने से कीमतों को समर्थन मिलेगा। चीन विश्व का सबसे बड़ा आयातक है और उम्मीद है कि इस साल चीन में मांग सामान्य हो जाएगी। भारत के दो रिफाइनरों और एक जापानी रिफाइनर से जुड़े सूत्रों

ने रॉयटर्स से कहा कि केपीसी ने कुछ खरीदारों को सूचित किया है कि कुवैत एक्सपोर्ट ब्लेंड कूड की आपूर्ति अप्रैल से शुरू हो रहे नए सालाना कॉन्ट्रैक्ट में कम हो सकती है।

इस मामले से जुड़े एक व्यक्ति ने कहा कि भारत का सबसे बड़ा तेलशोधक इंडियन ऑयल कॉर्पोरेशन अप्रैल से शुरू हो रहे वर्ष में कुवैत से सालाना तेल खरीद में 20 प्रतिशत या 20,000 बीपीडी की कटौती करेगा।

भारतीय रिफाइनिंग के दूसरे सूत्र ने कहा कि कुवैत ने उनकी फर्म से भी संपर्क किया है और अगले वित्त वर्ष के दौरान हुए सावधि सौदे से कम तेल लेने को कहा है। इस सिलसिले में केपीसी ने कोई प्रतिक्रिया नहीं दी है।