MILLENNIUM POST, Delhi, 17.3.2023
Page No. 8, Size:(13.11)cms X (14.70)cms.

5,122 incidents of accidents involving LPG in 6 yrs: Govt

Highest no. of 1,151 such incidents were reported in 2017

DHIRENDRA KUMAR

NEW DELHI: In a startling revelation, it has come to notice that 5,122 incidents of accidents involving LPG have been reported in the last five years and till January in the current year.

In response to a question asked by BJP MP Dilip Saikia, who represents Mangaldoi parliamentary constituency in Assam, Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas Rameswar Teli told Lok Sabha that all reported accidents involving LPG are investigated by public sector marketing companies (OMCs) and after a detailed analysis, possible reasons for the accidents are ascertained.

As per the details provided by the OMCs, highest 1,151 such incidents were reported in the year 2017 followed by 1,019 in 2020 and 983 in 2018.

In 2019, when BJP came to power for the second time under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the incidents of accidents involving LPG reduced to 825 and returned further to 606 in 2021 and 538 in 2022 (till January 2023).


REPRESENTATIVE PIC

However, the minister, in his written reply, told the House that LPG distributors have been instructed by public sector oil marketing companies to release LPG connections after satisfying and meeting all the safety norms for installation of LPG connections.

The minister further said that 793 claims were settled in 2019-20 and Rs 24.09 were paid against the settled claims. In 2020-21, 815 claims were settled by OMCs and Rs 19.63 crore were paid to affected families. In 2021-22, 489 claims were settled and Rs 16.60 crore amounts were paid. In 2022-23 (April-2022-January 2023), Rs 7.30 crore were paid against the 187 settled claims.

Notably, OMCs take comprehensive insurance policy under 'Public Liability Policy for Oil Industries' which covers all LPG consumers registered with OMCs. Public Liability Insurance Policy taken by OMCs covers losses arising out of accidents where LPG is the primary cause of fire.

As per the policy, a personal accident cover of Rs 6 lakh per person is provided by the OMCs. In case of injury, the policy covers medical expenses of Rs 30 lakh per event with a maximum of Rs 2 lakh per person. Also, in case of property damage, the policy covers a maximum of Rs 2 lakh per event at authorised customer's registered premises.

Corporates likely to invest ₹16 trn in green hydrogen in next 10 years

High production cost may play spoilsport

RAJESH KURUP
Mumbai, March 16

THE RISING POPULARITY of green hydrogen in the country would lead to an investment of about ₹16 trillion over the next decade across the value chain. However, the rising price of its production could be a dampener.

Industry experts are of the view that a combination of technological advancements and regulatory support is needed to boost cost-competitiveness of green hydrogen in the country, compared with other energy sources.

At present, green hydrogen — produced by splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen using renewable power such as wind or solar — is not produced on a commercial scale in India. On the other hand, grey hydrogen — used for industrial purposes — is produced using fossil fuels, mostly natural gas.

"In terms of technology, while the electrolyser technology is well-tested, producing cost-competitive hydrogen versus alternate energy sources is the major hindrance faced. The levelised cost of green hydrogen is estimated at around $3-6 per kg.

The ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict had spiked the prices of natural gas to a record high level of $30 per metric million British thermal unit (mmBtu) in calendar year 2022, thereby putting grey and green hydrogen almost on a par in terms of cost," Naveen Vaidyanathan, director at Crisil Ratings, said. "However, on considering the historical long-term average price of natural gas of $10-13 per mmBtu, the cost of grey hydrogen could average $2-2.5 per kg, significantly below $3-6 per kg for green hydrogen," he added.

In January this year, the Union Cabinet approved a ₹19,744-crore incentive plan aimed at producing 5 million metric tonne (MMT) per annum by 2030, which would position India as a top producer.

"The government's initial aim to turn India into an export centre for hydrogen generation will gain momentum as a result of this announcement. The investment commitment will concentrate on the growth of indigenous electrolyser manufacturers and the development of green hydrogen. The production cost of electrolysers in India is currently high due to various factors such as low economies of scale and limited local manufacturing capabilities," Hussain Shariyarr, senior V-P & business head at Godrej Process Equipment said.

"The government has initiated several measures to promote domestic manufacturing of electrolysers and cut their costs. There has already been an increasing trend in terms of development of indigenous electrolyser manufacturers and technology tie-ups are being announced by various companies," Shariyarr added.

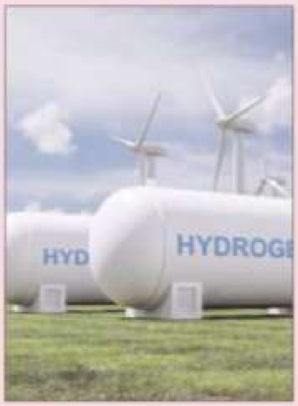
The firms which have already announced their green hydrogen intentions are Larsen & Toubro (L&T), Reliance Industries, Adani Group, ONGC, Bharat Petroleum and Indian Oil, among others.

"While price continues to be biggest impediment in mass adoption of green hydrogen, other factors include the need to expand the infra to handle hydrogen and rapid evolution in electrolysers which make economic redundancy a real threat. India has limited capacities for manufacturing of electrolyser stacks, which constitute 40-45% of the overall capex for a green hydrogen unit," Munish Aggarwal, MD, investment banking at Equirus, said.

According to Vish Iyer, global chief commercial officer at Jakson Green: "While globally the overall percentage of green hydrogen production within all hydrogen produced is less than $1, the current green hydrogen or green ammonia production capacity in India is almost next to none. Most announced sizeable green hydrogen projects are either at feasibility or final investment decision stages and yet to produce molecules, as producers are testing business cases and usability with pilot plants."

"Price is certainly one of the many niggling impediments, but that is expected to change with the national green hydrogen mission kicking off this year," Iyer added.

According to Subramanian Sarma, whole-time director and senior executive vice-president (energy) at L&T: "Looking at the multiple pathways that can bring down the cost of green hydrogen, L&T believes that it's only a matter of time for its full potential to materialise."



CLEAN ENERGY MIX

- At present, green hydrogen is produced by splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen using renewable power
- A combination of tech advancements and regulatory support needed to boost cost-competitiveness, say experts
- L&T, RIL, Adani, ONGC, Bharat Petroleum and Indian Oil have already announced green hydrogen plans

MINT, Delhi, 17.3.2023
Page No. 1, Size:(4.19)cms X (15.87)cms.

Crude oil cool off

A global recession, if it hits, will be bad for all, including India. For now, though, those concerns are spelling cold relief by helping cool demand expectations and, in turn, prices of crude oil, which on Thursday slid to a 15-month low. Brent traded below $75 per barrel and US WTI closer to $70 per barrel. Some of this may be part of the volatility set off by bank weaknesses coming to light, with major central banks in a scramble to shore them up. After the Fed acted in the US, Switzerland's monetary authority on Thursday opened a window for troubled Credit Suisse to borrow up to $54 billion. But high oil inventory levels are also helping soften prices. So far, New Delhi has shielded India's economy from the Ukraine war oil shock by buying discounted Russian crude, although our gains have been found to be less impressive than first assumed. We import more than four-fifths of our oil needs, and any easing of cost pressures is welcome. The Reserve Bank of India's current inflation forecasts assume a $95-per-barrel price level. If actual prices stay lower, it would brighten the chances of a rate-hike breather as overall retail price stability will get easier to achieve.

BUSINESS LINE, Delhi, 17.3.2023
Page No. 3, Size:(12.71)cms X (9.84)cms.

E&P sector needs more foreign participation in licensing rounds

Our Bureau
New Delhi

India's state-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has tapped TotalEnergies and other global oil majors for deepwater exploration, but the country's upstream sector can attract a steady inflow of overseas funds only through tax reforms and incentives.

According to the latest report of S&P Global Commodity Insights, as part of India's upstream push, TotalEnergies, ExxonMobil, Equinor and Baker Hughes are in discussions with State players to collaborate in exploring frontier areas and geologically challenging locations, including providing technical expertise and reducing greenhouse gas emissions during the development of deepwater blocks.

"The interest of global oil majors in India's upstream sector is a positive sign and partnering ONGC is the logical way to go," said Rajeev Lala, Associate Director (Upstream Companies and Transactions) at S&P Global Commodity Insights.

Although New Delhi has been taking steps in the right direction, additional financial incentives may be needed to woo foreign investors to the upstream sector in India, where oil and gas demand is decades away from reaching its peak, he added.

ROLLING IN THE DEEP. Global oil majors are in talks with Indian upstream players to explore frontier areas and geologically challenging locations for the development of deepwater blocks

LICENSING ROUNDS

S&P said that ONGC had, in last August, signed an agreement with the US energy major ExxonMobil for deepwater exploration of the country's east and west coasts. The tie-up focuses on the Krishna-Godavari and Cauvery basins in the eastern offshore region and the Kutch-Mumbai region in the western offshore area.

Similarly, the State-run upstream major had, in last September, signed an agreement with Chevron New Ventures, a subsidiary of California-based energy major Chevron Corporation, to assess exploration potential in India.

"What is worth noting is that these agreements are intended to assist the national oil company in technologically complex exploratory areas but do not affirm the commitment to developing India's hydrocarbon resources," S&P Global Senior Research Analyst Mansi Anand said.

The big story would be if the agreements result in participation in OALP (open acreage licensing policy) Bid Round VIII and the Special CBM (coal bed methane) bid round, she added.

Fuel sales decline after February fireworks

NEW DELHI: India's fuel demand fell in the first half of March after posting a record growth in the previous month, preliminary industry data showed on Thursday.

Fuel sales soared to the highest levels in February on the back of robust demand from the agriculture sector as well as transport picking up after the winter lull.

March saw the seasonal slowdown kicking in with rise in temperatures.

Petrol sales decreased by 1.4 per cent to 1.22 million tonnes in the first half of March when compared with the same period of last year. Sales fell 0.5 per cent month-on-month, the data showed.

Diesel, the most consumed fuel in the country, saw demand slip 10.2 per cent to 3.18 million tonnes during

March 1 to 15 when compared with 3.54 million tonnes sales in the same period a year back. Month-on-month the demand was down 4.6 per cent.

During the first half of February, petrol consumption had jumped by almost 18 per cent year-on-year while diesel sales were up nearly 25 per cent.

The consumption of petrol in the first half of March was 16.4 per cent more than Covid-marred first half of March 2021 and almost 23 per cent more than in the same period of 2020.

Diesel consumption was up 11.5 per cent over the first half of March 2021 and 20.2 per cent higher than 2020.

While cold conditions slowed truck movements in January, the onset of spring had revived demand in February.

With the continued opening of the aviation sector, India's overall passenger traffic at airports inched closer to pre-Covid levels.

Reflecting the trend, jet fuel (ATF) demand jumped 19.2 per cent to 2,94,900 tonnes during the first half of March when compared to the same period last year. It was 35.6 per cent higher than March 2021 but 8.2 per cent lower than March 2020. Month-on-month sales were almost flat.

Sources said while domestic air travel is back to pre-Covid levels, international traffic is lagging because of continued restrictions in some countries.

India's recovery has continued to gain momentum in recent months but has been accompanied by elevated inflation. This slowed the momentum a bit. The country's oil demand had been rising steadily since the easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

Cooking gas LPG sales fell 9.7 per cent year-on-year to 1.18 million tonnes in March 1-15. LPG consumption was 7.1 per cent higher than in March 2021 and 3.6 per cent more than in March 2020.

Month-on-month, the demand dropped 15.10 when compared to 1.39 million tonnes of LPG consumption during February 1-15, the data showed. PTI

STATESMAN, Delhi, 17.3.2023
Page No. 5, Size:(15.90)cms X (14.25)cms.

India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline to be inaugurated on 18 March

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, 16 MARCH

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline on 18 March via video-conference.

This is the first cross-border energy pipeline between India and Bangladesh, built at an estimated cost of INR 377 crore, of which the Bangladesh portion of the pipeline built at a cost of approximately INR 285 crore, has been borne by the Government of India under grant assistance.

The Pipeline has a capacity to transport one Million Metric Ton Per Annum (MMTPA) of High-Speed Diesel (HSD). It will supply High Speed Diesel initially to seven districts in northern Bangladesh. The operation of India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline will put in place a sustainable, reliable, cost-effective and environment friendly mode of transporting HSD from India to Bangladesh and will further enhance cooperation in energy security between the two countries.

MILLENNIUM POST, Delhi, 17.3.2023
Page No. 10, Size:(13.23)cms X (10.07)cms.

IOC floats WoS for clean energy biz

NEW DELHI: Indian Oil Corporation (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 renewble energy capacity by 2050 as well as 7 million tonnes 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.

"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," he said.

IOC 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 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 Rs 2 lakh crore green transition plan to achieve net-zero emissions from its operations by 2046, he said. MPOST

BIDS FILED by two Brazilian firms, a Vedanta entity TwinStar, and a Prudent ARC arm RKG Fund

Lenders to Videocon's Oil Arm to Vote on Four Resolution Plans

Sangita.Mehta@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Lenders of VOVL, the oil and gas exploration company of Videocon group will start voting on the four resolution plans received from the two Brazilian companies — Eneva Brazil and Petro Ria SA, a Vedanta entity and a fund of Prudent Asset Reconstruction Company, said two people aware of the development.

The resolution professional Pravin Navandar invited lenders to vote on the four plans from March 30.

Navandar did not respond to ET's request for comment.

VOVL, formerly known as Videocon Oil Ventures, promoted by Venugopal Dhoot is undergoing insolvency proceedings.

The Brazilian companies have given plans for specific oil blocks, unlike the two Indian bidders. Eneva Brazil has offered $250 million while Petro Ria SA has offered $20 million, said one of the persons cited above.

TwinStar Technologies, promoted by Anil Agarwal of Vedanta, and RKG Fund, owned by Prudent ARC too, have given separate resolution plans.

TwinStar and RKG Fund offered staggered payments of around ₹1,000 crore each, the person cited above said.

A significant portion of VOVL's value is derived from a participating interest in the oil & gas asset held in Videocon Energy Brazil (VEBL), a step-down subsidiary of VOVL in Brazil through a joint venture with Bharat Petroleum Ventures (BPRL).

The resolution professional has received plans that require transferring VEBL's stake in the joint venture with BPRL and subsequently giving the latter right of first refusal (ROFR) to match the offers it received under the corporate insolvency process, as reported by ET on January 2. The issuance of the notices for ROFR is a mandatory requirement under the contractual arrangements entered into by VEBL and BPRL, which is governed by Brazilian law. Giving BPRL a ROFR to match the highest bidder's offer is also one of the voting agenda items, people cited above said.

Eneva, which had offered $350 million in the first round of bidding, lowered its offer to $250 million. The company lowered its offer because the value of the company gets depleted every time there is a cash call for making payment for exploration of the oil, the people said. After VOVL was admitted for insolvency, BPRL has been paying for VEBL's cash calls, the people said.

"Lenders may reject all four offers since they are very low," said one of the lenders. The highest offer of $250 million (₹2,075 crore) equates to about a 6% recovery. The resolution professional has admitted ₹30,640 crore claims from financial creditors, according to the claim list.

Government-backed National Asset Reconstruction Co (NARCL) initially offered ₹860 crore to VOVL's lenders to acquire the debt. Subsequently, it was in talks with lenders to improve the offer to ₹1,200 crore under a 15:85 structure. Here, 15% of the consideration will be paid upfront, and the rest as security receipts payable on loan recover.

Early in December 2022, the National Company Law Tribunal approved a six-month extension to VOVL until May 22, 2023, to find a buyer.

FINANCIAL EXPRESS, Delhi, 17.3.2023
Page No. 10, Size:(6.71)cms X (15.08)cms.

DATA DRIVE

SAIKAT NEOGI

OMCs gain from crude fall

With global crude prices falling— from $103 a barrel in April last year to $76.4 a barrel now (Indian basket) —the gross marketing margins of oil market companies (OMCs) will rise. As of March 14, the gross marketing margins of diesel touched ₹4.6 from a loss of ₹7.9 per litre in August last year. Similarly, for petrol, the margin touched ₹7.8 a litre, compared to ₹2.6 a litre in August 2022. Demand for petrol and diesel remains strong despite the fact that retail selling prices of both these products have not changed since May last year.

1 As global crude prices fall...

Crude oil Indian basket (monthly avg); $/barrel

2 ... marketing margins of OMCs will rise

Gross marketing margins; ₹/litre Diesel Petrol

3 Demand for petrol, diesel remains high

Volume; million tonnes Petrol Diesel

Source: PPAC, Anand Rathi Research

*Data till Feb, annualised

MORNING STANDARD, Delhi, 17.3.2023
Page No. 10, Size:(7.38)cms X (15.58)cms.

OMCs will benefit from low crude prices: Experts

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

AS crude oil prices hurtle towards the sub-$70 level due to the ongoing banking crisis in the US and Europe, Indian oil marketing companies (OMCs) stand to gain from the latest fall.

According to the industry experts, upstream oil producers' realisation would decline but oil marketing companies such as IOCL, BPCL and HPCL will reap the benefits.

"The impact is negative for oil producers, whose realisations would decline. OMCs would benefit with improvement in marketing profits. In case the low prices sustain, the gas utilities sector would also see reduced prices of long-term LNG, which should increase demand," said Prashant Vashisht, vice-president of Corporate Ratings, ICRA.

After the SVB fiasco, Brent Crude sank to its lowest level since January 2023 and WTI dipped to its lowest since December 2022. Benchmark Brent Crude futures, which were trading above $80 a barrel a week ago, are now trading at $71 a barrel (19.30 PM IST) on Thursday.

Anuj Gupta, VP-Research at IIFL Securities, expects the crude to go down further, and could test $65 to $70 levels very soon. "Due to less demand from China, negativity in the system and Moody's downgrading the sector, crude prices have come down about 5%," said Gupta.

Currently, India imports more than 85% of its crude oil requirements from all over the world.

MINT, Delhi, 17.3.2023
Page No. 2, Size:(18.39)cms X (5.38)cms.

Petrol, diesel sales drop after record growth in February

New Delhi: India's fuel demand fell in the first half of March after posting a record growth in the previous month, preliminary industry data showed on Thursday. Fuel sales soared to the highest levels in February on the back of robust demand from the agriculture sector as well as transport picking up after the winter lull. March saw the seasonal slowdown kicking in with a rise in temperatures. Petrol sales decreased by 1.4% to 1.22 million tonnes in the first half of March when compared with the same period of last year. Sales fell 0.5% month-on-month, the data showed. **PTI**

BUSINESS STANDARD, Delhi, 17.3.2023
Page No. 4, Size:(24.90)cms X (13.47)cms.

Petronas offers $460 million for 20% stake in NTPC's green arm

Malaysia's Petronas has offered $460 million to buy a 20 per cent stake in the green energy arm of country's largest power producer, NTPC, in the first deal of its kind by a state-run firm, three sources said. The offer price was higher than NTPC had been expecting when it asked for expressions of interest in NTPC Green Energy (NGEL) last year and was 78 per cent above the second-highest bidder. It values the NGEL at $2.3 billion. NTPC and Petronas did not immediately respond to requests for comment. **REUTERS**

FINANCIAL EXPRESS, Delhi, 17.3.2023
Page No. 1, Size:(8.12)cms X (21.07)cms.

Petronas offers $460 mn for 20% in NTPC's green arm

SARITA CHAGANTI SINGH
New Delhi, March 16

MALAYSIA'S PETRONAS HAS offered $460 million (₹3,800 crore) to buy a 20% stake in the green energy arm of NTPC in the first deal of its kind by a state-run firm, three sources told Reuters. The offer price was higher than the ₹3,000 crore NTPC had been expecting when it asked for expressions of interest in NTPC Green Energy (NGEL) last year and was 78% above the second-highest bidder. It values NGEL at $2.3 billion.

NTPC and Petronas did not immediately respond to requests for comment. The sources declined to be named as the deal is still being finalised.

The deal was the first time a state-run company has offered a stake in a green energy arm and comes as the country's renewables sector is attracting increasing foreign investment.

Petronas outbid other local firms for the stake with an offer of ₹27.52 per share, one government official, an industry source and a banker said.

Continued on Page 4

FINANCIAL EXPRESS, Delhi, 17.3.2023
Page No. 1, Size:(8.12)cms X (21.07)cms.

Petronas offers $460 mn for 20% in NTPC's green arm

REC, the second-highest bidder, offered ₹15.47 per share, while IGL placed a bid of ₹6.67, the banker said.

REC and IGL were also not immediately available for comment.

NTPC plans to use the proceeds to expand its non-fossil businesses.

It has earmarked investments of over $30 billion in the next 10 years to raise the share of non-fossil energy in its portfolio to 45% from the present 9.41%.

he company has committed to adding 60 gigawatts of renewable energy by 2032 on a total group capacity of 130 gigawatts by that date. NGEL will drive the parent company's non-fossil businesses.

The government has set a goal to become net-zero by 2070 and has committed to have 50% of its installed electric power capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy by 2030.

The country targets 500 gigawatts of renewable energy generation by 2030. Renewable energy sources including wind, hydro and biomass, constitute 30% of the country's present installed capacity of 412 gigawatts.

Earlier this month, the CEO of Petronas' clean energy arm told Reuters that India and Australia are its key markets for growth and it expects to tap more financing to meet its ambitious targets.

The Petronas transaction needs to be approved by the government. **– REUTERS**

Petronas offers $460 mn for stake in NTPC green arm

REUTERS
NEW DELHI, MARCH 16

MALAYSIA'S PETRONAS has offered Rs 38 billion ($460 million) to buy a 20% stake in the green energy arm of India's largest power producer, NTPC, in the first deal of its kind by a state-run firm, three sources told *Reuters*.

The offer price was higher than the Rs 30 billion NTPC had been expecting when it asked for expressions of interest in NTPC Green Energy (NGEL) last year and was 78% above the second-highest bidder. It values the NGEL at $2.3 billion.

The deal was the first time an Indian state-run company has offered a stake in a renewable energy arm and comes as the country's renewables sector is attracting foreign investment.

Renewables are among the country's top five industries for overseas funds this fiscal year, taking a 5% share of all inflows from April to September 2022 against 3.3% in the same period a year earlier, data from the commerce ministry showed. Petronas outbid other local firms for the stake with an offer of Rs 27.52 per share, one government official, an industry source and a banker said. The second-highest bidder, REC Ltd, offered Rs 15.47 per share, while Indraprastha Gas Ltd placed a bid of Rs 6.67 per share, the banker said.

MINT, Delhi, 17.3.2023
Page No. 6, Size:(14.99)cms X (12.42)cms.

Petronas offers ₹3,800 cr for NGEL stake

Reuters
feedback@livemint.com
NEW DELHI

Malaysia's Petronas has offered ₹3,800 crore to buy a 20% stake in the green energy arm of India's largest power producer, NTPC, in the first deal of its kind by a state-run firm, three persons aware of the matter told *Reuters*.

The offer price was higher than the ₹3,000 crore NTPC had been expecting when it asked for expressions of interest in NTPC Green Energy (NGEL) last year and was 78% above the second-highest bidder. It values NGEL at $2.3 billion.

NTPC and Petronas did not immediately respond to requests for comment. The persons declined to be named as the deal is still being finalised.

The deal was the first time an Indian state-run company has offered a stake in a renewable energy arm and comes as the country's renewables sector is attracting increasing foreign investment.

Petronas' offer to buy 20% stake in NTPC Green Energy Ltd is higher than the ₹3,000 crore NTPC has been expecting. BLOOMBERG

Renewables are among the country's top five industries for overseas funds this fiscal year, taking a 5% share of all inflows from April to September 2022 against 3.3% in the same period a year earlier, data from India's commerce ministry showed.

Petronas outbid other local firms for the stake with an offer of ₹27.52 per share, one government official, a person from the industry and a banker said. The second-highest bidder, REC Ltd, offered ₹15.47 per share, while Indraprastha Gas Ltd (IGL) placed a bid of ₹6.67 per share, the banker said.

REC and IGL were also not immediately available for comment.

NTPC plans to use the proceeds from the sale to expand its non-fossil businesses. The company has earmarked investments of more than $30 billion in the next 10 years to raise the share of non-fossil energy in its portfolio to 45% from the present 9.41%.

The company has committed to adding 60 gigawatts of renewable energy by 2032 on a total group capacity of 130 gigawatts by that date.

NGEL will drive the parent company's non-fossil businesses.

India has set a goal to become net-zero by 2070 and has committed to have 50% of its installed electric power capacity from non-fossil fuel-based energy by 2030.

The country targets 500 gigawatts of renewable energy generation by 2030. Renewable energy sources, including wind, hydro and biomass, constitute 30% of the country's present installed capacity of 412 gigawatts.

Earlier this month, the CEO of Petronas' clean energy arm told *Reuters* that India and Australia are its key markets for growth and it expects to tap more financing to meet its ambitious targets.

The Petronas transaction needs to be approved by the federal government.

AMAR UJALA, Delhi, 17.3.2023
Page No. 1, Size:(4.71)cms X (5.11)cms.

तेल कंपनियों को 18,622 करोड़ का घाटा, सरकार ने दिए 22 हजार करोड़

नई दिल्ली। तीन बड़ी तेल कंपनियों आईओसीएल, बीपीसीएल व एचपीसीएल को अप्रैल से दिसंबर 2022 के दौरान 18,622 करोड़ का घाटा हुआ है। इसकी पूर्ति के लिए सरकार ने 22,000 करोड़ की मदद दी है।

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस राज्य मंत्री रामेश्वर तेली ने एक लिखित जवाब में यह आंकड़े सामने रखे। उन्होंने कहा कि दिसंबर 2021 से मार्च 2023 के बीच कच्चे तेल के भारतीय बास्केट मूल्य में 23% बढ़ोतरी हुई। इस दौरान दिल्ली में प्रट्रोल और डीजल के खुदरा मूल्य में क्रमशः 1.8% व 3.40% की वृद्धि हुई। ब्यूरो

सीएनजी दुनिया में 228 भारत में 83% महंगी

सीएनजी की कीमत को लेकर पूछे गए सवाल पर रामेश्वर तेली ने बताया कि जनवरी 2021 से फरवरी 2023 के दौरान अंतरराष्ट्रीय गैस सूचकांकों में सीएनजी की कीमत 228% तक बढ़ गई है। इसके विपरीत दिल्ली में इस दौरान कीमत में 83% की बढ़ोतरी ही हुई है।

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भारत बंगलादेश मैत्री पाइपलाइन का उद्घाटन मोदी हसीना करेंगे

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी और बंगलादेश की प्रधानमंत्री शेख हसीना शनिवार को वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंस के माध्यम से भारत बंगलादेश मैत्री ऊर्जा पाइपलाइन का उद्घाटन करेंगे।

नई दिल्ली ■ वार्ता

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी और बंगलादेश की प्रधानमंत्री शेख हसीना शनिवार को वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंस के माध्यम से भारत बंगलादेश मैत्री ऊर्जा पाइपलाइन का उद्घाटन करेंगे।

प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय के अनुसार शाम को पांच बजे दोनों नेता भारत और बंगलादेश के बीच सीमा पार पहली ऊर्जा पाइपलाइन का लोकार्पण करेंगे। इसे 377 करोड़ रुपये की अनुमानित लागत से बनाया गया है, जिसमें से पाइपलाइन के बंगलादेश में निर्मित हिस्से पर लगभग 285 करोड़ रुपये की लागत आई है जिसे अनुदान सहायता के तहत भारत सरकार ने वहन किया है।

इस पाइपलाइन में प्रति वर्ष दस लाख मीट्रिक टन हाई-स्पीड डीजल (एचएसडी) पहुंचाने की क्षमता है। यह शुरुआत में उत्तरी बंगलादेश के सात जिलों में हाई स्पीड डीजल की आपूर्ति करेगी। इस पाइपलाइन के संचालन से भारत से बंगलादेश तक एचएसडी लाने-ले जाने का एक स्थायी, विश्वसनीय, किफायती और पर्यावरण अनुकूल साधन स्थापित होगा और दोनों देशों के बीच ऊर्जा सुरक्षा में सहयोग को और बढ़ाएगा।

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मार्च के पहले पखवाड़े में घटी पेट्रोल, डीजल की मांग, विमान ईंधन की खपत बढ़ी

एजेंसी ■ नई दिल्ली

देश में ईंधन की मांग में मार्च के पहले पखवाड़े में गिरावट आई। इससे पहले फरवरी में पेट्रोल, डीजल की मांग में तेज उछाल आया था। बृहस्पतिवार को आए उद्योग के शुरुआती आंकड़ों से यह जानकारी मिली है। फरवरी में कृषि क्षेत्र में मांग बढ़ने और परिवहन में तेजी आने से ईंधन की बिक्री उच्चस्तर पर पहुंच गई थी। लेकिन मार्च में तापमान बढ़ने से इसमें नरमी आई है।आंकड़ों के मुताबिक, मार्च के पहले पखवाड़े में पेट्रोल की बिक्री सालाना आधार पर 1.4 प्रतिशत घटकर 12.2 लाख टन रह गई। मासिक आधार पर बिक्री 0.5 प्रतिशत गिरी है। देश में सबसे ज्यादा इस्तेमाल होने वाले ईंधन डीजल की बिक्री।-15 मार्च के दौरान सालाना आधार पर करीब 10.2 प्रतिशत घटकर 31.8 लाख टन रह गई। एक साल पहले समान अवधि में यह 35.4 लाख टन थी। मासिक आधार पर मांग 4.6 प्रतिशत घटी है। फरवरी के पहले पखवाड़े में पेट्रोल की खपत सालाना आधार पर करीब 18 प्रतिशत, डीजल की मांग करीब 25 प्रतिशत बढ़ी थी। हालांकि, मार्च के पहले पखवाड़े में पेट्रोल की मांग कोविड प्रभावित मार्च, 2021 के पहले पखवाड़े की तुलना में 16.4 प्रतिशत और 2020 की समान अवधि की तुलना में करीब 23 प्रतिशत अधिक है। वहीं डीजल की मांग मार्च, 2021 के पहले पखवाड़े के मुकाबले 11.5 प्रतिशत और 2020 की समान अवधि की तुलना में 20.2 प्रतिशत अधिक है। कोविड-19 संबंधी पाबंदियों के खत्म होने के साथ देश में ईंधन की मांग लगातार बढ़ रही है। समीक्षाधीन अवधि में रसोई गैस की बिक्री सालाना आधार पर 9.7 प्रतिशत घटकर 11.8 लाख टन रह गई। हालांकि, मार्च 2021 की तुलना में खपत 7.1 प्रतिशत बढ़ी है। मासिक आधार पर एलपीजी की मांग 15.10 प्रतिशत कम हुई है। विमान ईंधन यानी एटीएफ की बिक्री मार्च के पहले पखवाड़े में 19.2 प्रतिशत के उछाल के साथ 2,94,900 टन रही। मार्च, 2021 की तुलना में यह 35.6 प्रतिशत अधिक है। हालांकि, मार्च, 2020 के पहले पखवाड़े की तुलना में यह 8.2 प्रतिशत कम है।

मार्च के पहले पखवाड़े में घटी पेट्रोल, डीजल की मांग, विमान ईंधन की खपत बढ़ी

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा)। देश में ईंधन की मांग में मार्च के पहले पखवाड़े में गिरावट आयी। इससे पहले फरवरी में पेट्रोल, डीजल की मांग में तेज उछाल आया था। बृहस्पतिवार को आए उद्योग के शुरुआती आंकड़ों से यह जानकारी मिली है। फरवरी में कृषि क्षेत्र में मांग बढ़ने और परिवहन में तेजी आने से ईंधन की बिक्री उच्चस्तर पर पहुंच गई थी। लेकिन मार्च में तापमान बढ़ने से इसमें नरमी आई है। आंकड़ों के मुताबिक, मार्च के पहले पखवाड़े में पेट्रोल की बिक्री सालाना आधार पर 1.4 प्रतिशत घटकर 12.2 लाख टन रह गई। मासिक आधार पर बिक्री 0.5 प्रतिशत गिरी है। देश में सबसे ज्यादा इस्तेमाल होने वाले ईंधन डीजल की बिक्री।-15 मार्च के दौरान सालाना आधार पर करीब 10.2 प्रतिशत घटकर 31.8 लाख टन रह गई।