



### **GAIL registers highest ever half-yearly turnover**

GAIL registered its highest ever half-yearly turnover and profit in H1 FY22, clocking a turnover of Rs 38,829 crore as against Rs 25,671 crore in the last fiscal, an increase of 51%. The Profit before Tax (PBT) increased by 201% to Rs 5,736 crore vis a vis Rs 1,907 crore in H1 of previous year. Profit after Tax (PAT) also jumped by 194% to Rs 4,393 crore for the half year as against Rs 1,495 crore in H1 FY 21. On quarterly basis, Turnover increased by 24% to Rs 21,477 crore in Q2 FY22 as against Rs 17,352 crore in Q1 FY22.

# CNG package for bus operators

**KINSUK BASU**

**Calcutta:** The Bengal government is working on a package for private bus operators to switch from diesel to CNG.

This move is part of the state's initiative to stand by the bus operators who are struggling to cope with the increasing diesel prices and diminishing returns.

"The state government will help private bus operators switch to the CNG mode by offering them incentives indirectly so that their burden is partly taken care of," state transport minister Firhad

Hakim said on Wednesday, soon after meeting a section of private bus operators in Kasba.

Private bus operators have been demanding a fare revision for some time because of declining revenue amid the pandemic.

Senior officials of the transport department have been trying to negotiate with private bus owners to nudge them into rolling out more buses as commuters have been complaining of the lack of buses since last week.

On Wednesday, the state government made it clear to

the bus operators that it would not revise the fares immediately.

As an alternative, the government was willing to help the bus owners switch to the CNG mode.

"Even the transport department is struggling to run its fleet of buses because of rising diesel prices. But the state government offers subsidies, which the private bus owners don't get. So there has to be a way out that will help the private bus industry survive and hence the decision to switch to CNG," Hakim said.

The West Bengal Trans-

port Corporation has signed an agreement with the Bengal Gas Company Limited (BGCL), a joint venture of GAIL (India) and the Greater Calcutta Gas Supply Corporation Limited, to supply CNG to bus depots.

The first refill station will be operational at the Kasba depot by December.

Over the next five years, the BGCL will set up CNG facilities in various government bus depots and other similar facilities. Eight bus depots have been identified where CNG stations will be set up in the first phase.