



'PSU Refiners may Switch to Gulf Crude'



Indian state refiners may shift away from Russian oil due to slimmer discounts and payment troubles and increase their intake of crude from their traditional Gulf suppliers such as Iraq and the UAE, which are willing to offer increased credit periods, a petroleum ministry official said.

'NON-FULFILMENT OF REQUIREMENTS' Adani's bid for Noida gas licence rejected

MANISH GUPTA
New Delhi, July 17

THE PETROLEUM AND Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) has rejected Adani Total Gas's (ATGL's) application for a licence to retail CNG to automobiles and piped gas to household kitchens in Noida "due to non-fulfilment of the requirements."

"It would not be out of place to mention that there is no data with respect to the entity's present progress in Noida GA available with PNGRB," the oil regulator said. Adani has been looking for city gas distribution licence (CGD) in areas near Delhi.

As per current rules, a company can retail CNG or piped natural gas in a geographical area only if it has the approval of the regulator or has the permission from the government before the regulator came into being in March 2006.

"From their submission, it is observed that the entity is not operating in Noida at present and the current health status of their pipeline laid in Noida is also uncertain. In addition, it is also observed that although ATGL was allocated land for CNG sta-

FOR Foothold IN DELHI AREA



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tions in Noida geographical area (GA), the entity is not operating any CNG station in Noida," said the order dated July 14. ATGL, which earlier was Adani Energy (AEL) before French oil major TotalEnergies took a stake in the company in 2008, claimed licence for the development of CGD network for the Noida GA.

The regulator said that the petroleum ministry had made a gas allocation to Indraprastha Gas (IGL) for retailing CNG and PNG in Noida in 2004. And, AEL was not included in that allocation. The company did not sub-

mit any documentary proof to support its claim that it got the gas allocation, it said.

While IGL, which is a JV of state-run firms, had been authorised for the National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi since the 1990s, Adani has challenged IGL's claim for adjoining cities. IGL got a similar approval from the central government in 2004.



ADNOC to supply gas to Indian Oil

State-run Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) has signed an agreement with Abu Dhabi Gas Liquefaction Company Ltd (ADNOC LNG) for long term supplies of liquified natural gas. The companies have executed a head of agreement (HoA) to establish a long term LNG sale and purchase agreement, said people in the know of the developments.

Under this long-term contract, ADNOC LNG would be supplying LNG to Indian Oil starting from 2026 for next 14 years, till 2039 for an annual volume up to 1.2 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA). The agreement would diversify the supply source of LNG for Indian Oil and would help in meeting the growing demand of cleaner and more sustainable fuel source.

Earlier, *Mint* had reported that Indian Oil is in talks with ADNOC for long term contracts of LNG supplies.

In another development, Indian Oil and TotalEnergies Gas and Power Ltd are set to execute a HoA to establish a long term LNG sale and purchase agreement.

RITURAJ BARUAH

India dials Iraq as Russian oil loses charm

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU

NEW DELHI, JULY 17

INDIA'S PUBLIC sector refiners are in talks with their traditional West Asian suppliers of crude oil, particularly Iraq, to increase purchases amid a significant decline in discounts on Russian crude and likelihood of payment-related problems as Moscow's flagship Urals crude trades above the G7 price cap of \$60 per barrel, as per a senior government official.

The discount on Russian crude has contracted drastically in recent weeks and public sec-

tor refiners are not looking to buy from Russia if they are charged more than the G7 price cap, said the official, who did not wish to be identified.

India has asked Iraq to consider better payment terms, like increasing the credit period to 90 days from the current 60, in lieu of higher offtake of Iraqi oil by Indian public sector refiners Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL), and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL).

"It is the cleaner deal," the official said, referring to buying oil from India's traditional suppliers like Iraq. "Iraq has been sup-

portive and a good trade partner. They have given us good discounts in the past as well," the official added, but did not elaborate on the discounts and additional volumes under consideration. Prior to the war in Ukraine, Iraq was India's largest supplier of crude oil. Russia, which used to be a marginal player, emerged as India's largest source of crude over the past 15 months, thanks to deep discounts offered by Moscow to Indian refiners. Russia currently accounts for over 40 per cent of India's oil imports by volume.

FULL REPORT ON

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India's fuel price mirage

Lack of oil pricing reform is yielding supernormal profits for state-owned companies but dissuading global majors from investing

SDINAKAR
17 July

It is axiomatic from the pattern of their operations worldwide that global oil majors are willing to invest wherever oil flows, irrespective of whether the country is a democracy or a dictatorship. What these companies look for is policy and tax stability. That's because returns are earned over decades; it can take years of exploration to strike oil and cost hundreds of millions of dollars to drill a well. Predictably, they are wary of investing in a country in which the government announces reforms and concessions and then reverses them, potentially causing crippling financial losses.

India's fuel retail business is one such story.

This weakness was vividly demonstrated between November 2021 and March 2022 when India's leading fuel retailers IOC, BPCL and HPCL collectively incurred a substantial revenue loss of \$2.25 billion though crude oil prices averaged \$111 per barrel in March compared to around \$82 in early November. Such losses would have left a private retailer bankrupt. Reliance and Essar had to close their retail operations 15 years ago after India reversed the first phase of fuel price reforms that lifted price controls from the original practice of state-set prices.

Investors are not blind to this. Opaque pricing of petrol and diesel, the dominance of state oil companies, and an unseen hand over fuel pricing have eroded India's credibility among investors, foreign and domestic. It has cost the nation tens of billions of dollars in investments that the Shells and Aramcos would have made without a need for billions of dollars in electric vehicle subsidies or production-linked investment schemes, an industry official said.

Since 2014, Reliance has added only around 200 outlets, Nayara around 5,000 and Shell 243. In contrast, in the last nine years, state refiner IOC added 12,400 outlets and coupled with fellow state oil companies the figures add up to nearly 30,000 outlets in the same time frame, according to oil ministry data. That compares with hardly 6,000 out-



The slippery slope

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diesel, the dominance of state oil companies, and an unseen hand over fuel pricing have eroded India's credibility among investors, foreign and domestic

■ Why would one invest in a business where the price of petrol and diesel has not moved an inch over the past year while

international prices swing between \$146 a barrel and \$85 a barrel?

■ The question remains whether oil companies will consider passing on such handsome gains to consumers. Allowing market forces to determine prices is critical to incentivise fuel retail investments

lets set up by private sector retailers.

Currently, private sector retailers put together have less than 9,000 outlets compared to 78,000 for state oil companies. IOC leads with 36,400 outlets, with BPCL and HPCL operating over 21,000 outlets each.

It is hard to imagine that Reliance, which implemented a multi-billion dollar deepwater gas project in the 2000s, without prior exploration experience, and in record time in the KG basin, can only add a handful of fuel retail outlets in a \$200-billion business that is growing at 5-6 per cent annually.

Despite the lucrative potential of India's fuel market and the blue chip credentials of refiner BPCL, New Delhi failed to find a buyer during the pandemic. This, at a time when Japan's 7/11 paid \$21 billion in 2020 for US independent Marathon Oil's fuel retail business. Indian state oil companies have also failed to find investors for their downstream chemical units and refineries for several years.

"While the Indian retail fuel market holds significant growth poten-

tial, the industry currently faces challenges stemming from the prolonged freeze on diesel and petrol prices. This has resulted in substantial marketing losses and created obstacles for future investments," said Brajesh Singh, managing director and president, Arthur D. Little India.

Why would one invest in a business where the price of petrol and diesel has not moved an inch over the past year while international prices swing between \$146 a barrel and \$85 a barrel?

"The intention of fuel price freezes is to provide relief to consumers from increasing global oil prices but the impact on downstream investments is adverse," said Sourav Mitra, director-consulting, CRISIL Market Intelligence and Analytics. "A freeze on fuel prices introduces uncertainties and undermines the attractiveness of the Indian market with an inability to increase prices when global crude lurches upwards, and it hampers the profitability of private players." Mitra also said high taxation by both central and state governments makes it diffi-

cult for foreign players to compete against government oil marketing companies (OMCs).

Singh added that an unprecedented freeze on diesel and petrol prices for 137 days between November 2021 and March 2022 left private retailers, such as Nayara Energy (backed by Rosneft), Shell and Jio-bp, with the difficult choice of either raising prices and risking customer attrition or restricting sales to minimise financial losses.

Climate concerns have further queered the pitch for investments in fuel retailing. "Given the growing recognition of the role of fossil fuels in climate change, major players in the oil and gas industry, including BP, Shell and Exxon, are increasingly focusing on low-carbon investments and lucrative upstream assets," Singh said. "Unfortunately, retailing petrol and diesel falls under the downstream sector, and investment in downstream assets such as refineries and retail outlets appears to be of lower priority."

Lifting price controls on diesel, India's most consumed and most

subsidised product, in October 2014 was one of the first decisive achievements of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's administration on stepping into office. "Instructions have been issued today i.e. on 18th October 2014 to make the price of diesel market determined with effect from midnight of 18th-19th October 2014. The prices of diesel will be market determined at both Retail and Refinery Gate level for all consumers thereafter," the government release said.

Despite the fact that Reliance, Essar Oil and Shell were burnt earlier — when similar reforms introduced by Atal Behari Vajpayee's administration was scrapped after a Congress-led coalition came to power — private retailers harboured hopes of competing with well-entrenched state OMCs on an even footing.

But fuel price reforms have turned into a mirage, dissolving gradually into oblivion over the years. If forecasts on first quarter earnings of oil marketing companies by Nomura Research and other analysts are to be believed, then Indian oil companies are expected to post healthy profits in the April-June quarter. Oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri said that oil marketing companies may consider cutting pump prices if the first quarter results are good.

Brokerage Nomura expects robust earnings at OMCs driven by a surge in marketing margins. Blended fuel marketing margins increased to ₹10.7 per litre in the week ended July 10, 2023, remaining sharply above normative levels of ₹3 a litre.

Diesel marketing margins have increased 6 per cent quarter-on-quarter to ₹10.9 a litre in 1QFY24, while Indian retail prices remain unchanged. Based on current prices, diesel marketing margins remain at super-normal levels (average margins are ₹2 to ₹3/litre) of ₹7.6 per litre.

IOC's Ebitda may increase to ₹22,800 crore in the April-June quarter vs ₹15,300 crore in the previous one; BPCL may increase earnings by 25 per cent to ₹14,000 crore vs ₹11,200 crore; and HPCL earnings may increase 91 per cent to ₹9,200 crore vs ₹4,800 crore in the same quarter period.

The question remains whether oil companies will consider passing on such handsome gains to consumers. Allowing market forces to determine prices are critical to incentivise fuel retail investments, CRISIL's Mitra said. Additionally, the country needs innovative business models with regards to sharing of existing infrastructures to act as an enabling factor for private sector participation in fuel retailing in India.

Indian Oil signs LNG deals with TotalEnergies, ADNOC LNG

MANISH GUPTA
New Delhi, July 17

INDIA'S LARGEST REFINER

Indian Oil Corp Limited has signed long-term deals with France's TotalEnergies and UAE's ADNOC LNG to procure 2 million metric tonne per annum (mtpa) of liquefied natural gas.

Under this long-term contract valid for 10 years starting 2026, TotalEnergies will be supplying annually up to 0.8 MMT LNG to Indian Oil. This will be the first long-term LNG contract for TotalEnergies in India.

Indian Oil signed a similar agreement with Abu Dhabi Gas Liquefaction Co Ltd (ADNOC LNG) to establish a long-term LNG sale and purchase agreement (SPA). Under this, ADNOC LNG will supply 1.2 mtpa of LNG to Indian Oil starting from 2026 for next 14 years (till 2039).

The long-term LNG deals were signed during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to France last week.

Indian Oil has been looking for long-term deals to procure LNG as it wants to strengthen its gas infrastructure. As part of energy transition, Prime Minister Modi has set a target to increase the share of gas in India's energy mix from 6.2% currently to 15% by 2030.





IOC signs LNG deals with Adhoc, TotalEnergies

India's top oil firm IOC has signed deals to import liquefied natural gas (LNG) from UAE's Abu Dhabi Gas Liquefaction Co Ltd and TotalEnergies of France on a long-term basis. Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) signed the deals during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to France and the UAE last week.



Petrol sales dropped 10.5% to 1.25 million tonnes during the first half of July.

HT

Monsoon dampens demand for fuel

Petrol and diesel consumption fell in the first half of July as fury of monsoon flipped travel plans and reduced the demand in the agri sector, preliminary industry data showed.

Demand for diesel, the most consumed fuel in the country accounting for about two-fifths of the demand, fell 15% to 2.96 million tonnes in 1-15 July, compared to the year-ago period.

Consumption of diesel, which had soared 6.7% and 9.3% in April and May, respectively, as agriculture demand picked up and cars yanked up air-conditioning to beat the summer heat, has tapered since the second half of June after the monsoon set in. Month-on-month sales fell almost 20%, when compared with 3.68 million tonnes of diesel consumed in 1-15 June.

Petrol sales dropped 10.5% to 1.25 million tonnes during the first half of July, when compared with the same period last year. Sales were down 10.8% month-on-month, the data showed.

Both the manufacturing and services sectors in India have been in expansion territory to support oil demand for over one year. This led to petrol and diesel sales rising since the second half of March.

PTI

Oil Dips Over 1% as Chinese GDP Dents Demand Hopes



HOUSTON: Oil dropped by more than 1% on Monday after weaker than expected Chinese economic growth raised doubts over the strength of demand in the world's second biggest oil consumer, and a partial restart of halted Libyan output also pressured prices. Brent crude fell \$1.11 or 1.4%, to \$78.78 a barrel and U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude dropped by \$1.06, or 1.4%, to \$74.35 on a second straight day of losses for both contracts.

China's gross domestic product (GDP) grew 6.3% year-on-year in the second quarter, compared with analyst forecasts of 7.3%, as its post-pandemic recovery lost momentum. – **Reuters**

Oil refiners look for more term contracts amid uncertain market

SUKALP SHARMA
NEW DELHI, JULY 17

INDIA'S PUBLIC sector refiners Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL), and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL) are scouting for more crude oil term contracts on favourable terms as they look to reduce the share of spot cargoes in their oil imports and diversify their crude supply basket amid volatility and uncertainty in the international oil market, sources with direct knowledge of the matter said.

India is the world's third-largest consumer of crude oil and depends on imports to meet over 85 per cent of its requirement. Currently, about 70 per cent of the public sector refiners' oil imports are through term deals, while the rest are through spot purchases, a senior government official said. Spot contracts, as the name suggests, are immediate purchases from suppliers or traders with the shortest-possible delivery cycle. On the other hand, term contracts are longer-term deals for oil purchases with fixed volumes and pricing mechanisms.

"We feel even 30 per cent (spot purchases) are on the higher side. We want to reduce it so that our companies can better estimate and manage their financials, like spends on oil purchase and their debt levels. It is also an important tool to achieve our objective of diversification of our sources of crude oil and creates opportunities for discounts and beneficial payment terms," the government official said, requesting anonymity. The official did not elaborate on the optimal term-spot ratio that the refiners may be aiming for.

In April, India's largest refiner IOC signed a major term contract with Russian oil major Rosneft. Although IOC did not disclose the supply volume under the contract, a Reuters report said that it was close to 1.5 million tonnes a month.



File

In June, Reuters reported that BPCL was in talks with Rosneft to ink a term deal for around 6 million tonnes per year of Russian crude. Efforts are underway at the government-to-government level between India and Guyana to secure oil supplies from the Caribbean nation, and there are indications that better payment terms are being negotiated with Iraq, already a top supplier of crude to India. In September last year, IOC inked term contracts with Brazilian oil producer Petrobras and Colombia's Ecopetrol.

Over the past seven-eight years, Indian refiners had increased the share of spot purchases of crude in their portfolio to take advantage of low spot prices in a market with plentiful supplies. In the years preceding 2015, spot buys made up less than 20 per cent of the public sector refiners' oil purchases.

Usually, spot purchases are beneficial for refiners when supplies are abundant and prices are on the decline. But in times of high volatility in prices as well as availability, term contracts are considered better as they provide surety of supply and an agreed pricing mechanism.

In the aftermath of Russia's February 2022 invasion of Ukraine, the global oil market has been witness to severe volatility. Although the volatility is not as extreme currently, recent output cuts by major oil producers in an effort to prop up crude oil prices has led to concerns of a tighter market and high spot prices going forward.

FULLREPORT ON

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Oil regulator rejects Adani's Noida city gas licence bid

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

Oil regulator PNGRB has rejected Adani Total Gas Ltd.'s application for a licence to retail CNG to automobiles and piped gas to household kitchens in Noida, on the outskirts of the national capital, on grounds that it does not meet criteria.

The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) in an order dated July 14 said Adani Total Gas does not fulfill the requirements of law and so its application is rejected.

Oil slides more than 1% as China GDP dents hope of demand rise

Reuters

feedback@livemint.com

Oil dropped by more than 1% on Monday after weaker than expected Chinese economic growth fuelled concern over demand in the world's second-biggest oil consumer while a partial restart of halted Libyan output also pressured.

China's gross domestic product (GDP) grew 6.3% year on year in the second quarter, compared with analyst forecasts of 7.3%, with its post-pandemic recovery faltering rapidly owing to weakening demand at home and abroad.

"The GDP came in below expectations, so will do little to



China is the world's second-biggest oil consumer.

ease concerns over the Chinese economy," said Warren Patterson, ING's head of commodities research.

Brent crude fell \$1.39, or 1.7%, to \$78.48 a barrel by 1015 GMT and U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude dropped

by \$1.34, or 1.8%, to \$74.08 on a second straight day of losses for both contracts.

"China data was always looked forward to with a degree of hope; well, for bulls anyway," John Evans of oil broker PVM said in a report. "However, the contemporary economic backdrop for Asia's driver seems to now be wheeled out for the bears."

Oil briefly rose after a Reuters news alert on Saudi Arabia extending a voluntary output cut. The alert was subsequently withdrawn because it repeated news published on June 4. Both benchmarks had notched three weeks of gains and touched their highest since April last week.

Oilcos may Skip Russia Crude on Payment Woes, Slim Discount

Our Bureau

New Delhi: Indian state refiners may shift away from Russian oil due to slimmer discounts and payment troubles and increase their intake of crude from their traditional Gulf suppliers such as Iraq and the UAE, which are willing to offer increased credit periods, a petroleum ministry official said.

The discount on Russian oil has now deeply eroded and so it doesn't make sense to buy much from Russia, said the official, who didn't want to be named. The official didn't give details on the current level of discount.

Indian state refiners have never enjoyed discounts comparable to the ones reported by the assessment agencies as they take all Russian supplies on a delivered-at-port basis, which means the entire risk of logistics is with the suppliers. At their peak last year, discounts available to Indian state refiners were about \$12-13 per barrel while the discounts quoted in the international markets were about \$30-32/barrel. Discounts available to Indian refiners quickly



fell to \$6-7 per barrel. Now they have further reduced.

Urals, the flagship Russian crude, has now breached the G-7 price cap of \$60, presenting another headache for refiners. Payment is an issue and state-run refiners will not be able to pay for Russian oil if prices stay above the cap, the official said. And if they are not able to pay, it will hurt their credibility, the official said, adding that state refiners have taken only those Russian grades that traded below the price cap.

Indian state refiners have paid in yuan, dirham and dollars for Russian oil but all these imports were priced below the cap.

Iraq and the UAE are willing to offer longer credit periods

and are closer to the Indian shores, the official said, arguing that it will make more sense to source more from these countries than Russia. The official didn't give details on whether prices offered by Iraq and the UAE were as competitive as Russia despite the decline in discounts on Russian oil. Usually, suppliers offer a credit period of 30 days but Iraq and the UAE are offering 60 days, the official said.

Industry executives, however, said it won't be easy to replace Russian oil so quickly because it comprises 40% of India's crude imports now. Two-thirds of Russian supplies go to Indian state-run refiners. A discount of just a dollar per barrel is also a big gain for refiners since the volume involved is huge and, therefore, Indian refiners will not like to leave it, said the executive. The credit period is not as big an attraction as the price discount as the former involves currency risk, the executive added.

Urals has gained about \$7 per barrel in a fortnight to \$62, rising in line with the global benchmark Brent, which has touched \$80 per barrel, aided by supply cuts by producers, mainly Saudi Arabia and Russia.

Petrol, diesel sales fall as monsoon ebbs demand

PTI / New Delhi

India's petrol and diesel consumption fell in the first half of July as fury of monsoon flipped travel plans and reduced the demand in the agri sector, preliminary industry data showed.

Demand for diesel, the most consumed fuel in the country accounting for about two-fifths of the demand, fell 15 per cent to 2.96 million tonnes in July 1-15, compared to the year-ago period.

Consumption of diesel, which had soared 6.7 per cent and 9.3 per cent in April and May, respectively, as agriculture demand picked up and cars yanked up air-conditioning to beat the summer heat, has tapered since the second half of June after the monsoon set in.

Month-on-month sales fell almost 20 per cent, when compared with 3.68 million tonnes of diesel consumed in June 1-15.

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Press Trust of India

New Delhi

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REDUCED DEMAND

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to support oil demand for over one year. This led to petrol and diesel sales rising since the second half of March. But the arrival of monsoon has cooled temperatures and reduced demand for running diesel gensets to irrigate fields as well as cut down consumption in tractors and trucks.

For the year, India's oil demand is forecast at 0.2 million barrels per day year-on-year, according to oil cartel OPEC's monthly oil bulletin.

Consumption of petrol during July 1 to 15 was 12.5 per cent more than Covid-marred July 2021 and 16.6 per cent more than pre-pandemic July 1-15, 2019. Diesel consumption was up 10.1 per cent over July 1-15, 2021 but 1.1 per cent less than in the first half of July 2019. With the continuing rise in passenger traffic at airports, jet fuel (ATF) demand rose 6.1 per cent to 3,01,800 tonnes during July 1 to 15, as compared to the same period last year.

Petrol, diesel sales fall as monsoon ebbs demand

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI, JULY 17

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OUR CORRESPONDENT

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It was more than double that of the first half of July 2021, but 5.9 per cent lower than pre-Covid July 1-15, 2019.

Month-on-month jet fuel sales fell 6.7 per cent when compared with 323,500 tonnes in June 1-15, 2023.

The country's oil demand during the last few months was supported by strong industrial activity, industry officials said.

Cooking gas LPG sales were down 6.3 per cent year-on-year to 1.27 million tonnes in July 1-15. LPG consumption was 6 per cent higher than in July 2021 and 3.7 per cent more than pre-COVID July 1-15, 2019.

Month-on-month, LPG demand was up 3.8 per cent compared to 1.22 million tonnes of LPG consumption during the first half of June, the data showed.

● DIVERSIFYING CRUDE SUPPLY BASKET

Refiners scout for term contracts amid uncertainty

SUKALP SHARMA
New Delhi, July 17

INDIA'S PUBLIC SECTOR refiners Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL) are scouting for more crude oil term contracts on favourable terms as they look to reduce the share of spot cargoes in their oil imports and diversify their crude supply basket amid volatility and uncertainty in the international oil market, sources with direct knowledge of the matter said.

India is the world's third-largest consumer of crude oil and depends on imports to meet over 85% of its requirement. Currently, about 70% of the public sector refiners' oil imports are through term deals, while the rest are through spot purchases, a senior government official said. Spot contracts, as the name suggests, are immediate purchases from suppliers or traders with the shortest-possible delivery cycle. On the other hand, term contracts are longer-term deals for oil purchases with fixed volumes and pricing mechanisms.

"We feel even 30% (spot purchases) are on the higher side. We want to reduce it so that our companies can better estimate and manage their financials, like spend on oil purchase and their debt levels. It is also an important tool to achieve our objective of diversification of our sources of crude oil and creates opportunities for discounts and beneficial payment terms," the government official said, requesting anonymity. The official did not elaborate on the optimal term-spot ratio that the refiners may be aiming for.

In April, India's largest



In April, India's largest refiner IOC signed a major term contract with Russian oil major Rosneft. FILE PHOTO

HOW IT WORKS

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■ But in times of high volatility in prices as well as availability, term contracts are considered better as they provide surety of supply and an agreed pricing mechanism

refiner IOC signed a major term contract with Russian oil major Rosneft. A Reuters report said that it was close to 1.5 million tonnes a month.

In June, Reuters reported that BPCL was in talks with Rosneft to ink a term deal for around 6 million tonnes per year of Russian crude. Efforts are underway at the government-to-government level between India and Guyana to secure oil supplies from the Caribbean nation, and there are indications that better payment terms are being negotiated with Iraq, already a top supplier of crude to India. In September last year, IOC inked term contracts with Brazilian oil producer Petrobras and Colombia's Ecopetrol. Over the past seven-eight years, Indian refiners had increased the share of spot pur-

chases of crude in their portfolio to take advantage of low spot prices in a market with plentiful supplies. In the years preceding 2015, spot buys made up less than 20 per cent of the public sector refiners' oil purchases. Usually, spot purchases are beneficial for refiners when supplies are abundant and prices are on the decline. But in times of high volatility in prices as well as availability, term contracts are considered better as they provide surety of supply and an agreed pricing mechanism.

"When there is abundant availability (of oil) and prices are down, spot contracts are good. But imagine a situation with very high prices and a scramble for cargoes in the spot market. In such an environment, surety of supply is of paramount importance," an official said.



Waive late submission fee of ₹225 crore: Oil firms to RBI

MANOJIT SAHA
Mumbai, 17 July

Some of the large companies in the oil and gas sector have written to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to waive a late penalty of roughly ₹225 crore that they need to pay for not reporting their overseas investments in time.

In a circular issued in August 2022, the RBI had said that any Indian entity that did not submit evidence of investment within the specified time frame could make such a submission or file it along with a late submission fee (LSF).

A late submission was allowed within three months, failing which the entity would not be allowed to make new remittances.

According to sources with direct knowledge of the development, several banks reported to the central bank that the reporting of overseas investment had not been completed since the August 2022 circular became effective.

Sources said such reporting was important for the central bank from a capital account convertibility point of view.

“The RBI needs to know how much overseas investment has been carried out, in which sectors, and how much in the form of equity, loans, guarantees, etc.,” informed a source.

“The idea is to simplify the ease of doing business. Simultaneously, we expect discipline from market participants,” said the source, interpreting the rationale behind the August 2022 circular, which made the penalty system straightforward.

ON SLIPPERY GROUND

■ RBI's August 2022 circular makes it mandatory to report overseas investment


■ For late reporting, a late submission fee imposed

■ Every time the entity remits, it needs to quote that UIN

■ When an entity makes an overseas investment, the RBI allots a unique identification number (UIN)

■ A form needs to be filled out with relevant information, which is shared with the RBI

■ Petroleum Ministry writes to the Finance Ministry; a meeting is likely soon



“The idea is not to disrupt business if you have a commitment overseas that needs to be honoured. Otherwise, it will reflect on the nation as well,” the person added, explaining why banks continued with remittances from such companies, notwithstanding previous investments not being reported.

Regardless of not reporting the earlier investment, entities are still allowed to send funds abroad since banks are now taking prior approval from the regulator every time a new investment is made. Sources said the RBI cannot simply waive the penalty. Firstly, another notification needs to be issued. Secondly, and more importantly, it would be unfair to entities that have paid the LSF. The RBI has collected approximately ₹25 crore as LSF.

State Bank of India (SBI), the country's largest lender, was the banker for most of these transactions. It said the bank was not at fault and has reported all such investments based on documentation furnished by remitting entities.

“LSF has been introduced by the RBI with retrospective effect vide Foreign Exchange Management (Outside India) Regulation, 2000. Regularisation of the submission of overseas direct investment (ODI)-related data by companies to the RBI under a specific unique identification number assigned to each project through their ‘authorised dealer’ banks covers several thousands of ODI remittances processed since 2000. SBI has invariably reported all ODIs, based on documents provided by the remitting entities, to the RBI in line with applicable guidelines at the material time,” SBI said in a written response to *Business Standard*.

Under the Foreign Exchange Management Act, the onus to share the details of investments is on the entity that is remitting the money.

An email sent to the central bank for its observations remained unanswered until the time of going to press.

To break the deadlock, sources said the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has written to the Department of Financial Services in the finance ministry, and a high-level meeting is likely to discuss the matter soon.

Yellen: Working with India to hasten its energy transition

PRASANTA SAHU
Gandhinagar, July 17

US TREASURY SECRETARY Janet Yellen said on Monday that the United States is looking forward to working with India on an investment platform to deliver a lower cost of capital and increased private investment to speed up India's energy transition.

The US and India are endeavouring to develop a multibillion-dollar investment platform aimed at providing catalytic capital and de-risking support to accelerate the deployment of greenfield renewable energy, battery storage, and emerging green technology projects in India.

"I also look forward to furthering our bilateral interests through development cooperation and new investment opportunities through Alternate Investment platforms for renewable energy," Sitharaman said in her bilateral meeting with Yellen on the sidelines of G20 meeting.

India has committed to be net-zero by 2070 as part of the global decarbonisation effort.

Yellen also appreciated India's focus on finalizing the historic Two-Pillar global tax deal in the Inclusive Framework.

"I believe that we are close to reaching an agreement," Yellen added.

The reform was agreed in 2021 by the members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)/G20 Inclusive Framework — a body with

We look forward to working with India on an investment platform to deliver a lower cost of capital and increased private investment to speed India's energy transition - **JANET YELLEN**,

US TREASURY SECRETARY



now 142 members tasked to address international tax avoidance by multinational companies and deal with the tax challenges arising from digitalization of the economy.

Pillar 1 includes a new method to allocate profits to countries where multinational companies may have significant business but few/no local operations.

Pillar 2 introduces a global minimum effective tax rate of 15%. According to an IMF estimate, the potential for low-income countries to increase their tax revenues by as much as 8% of GDP through domestic tax increases.

Sitharaman said India and the US will actively further the G20 agenda including addressing critical global issues such as strengthening the Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and taking coordinated climate action.

They will also facilitate consensus on intractable issues associated with the rising indebtedness of low and middle-income countries. Other areas of cooperation include harnessing opportunities presented by crypto-assets and digital public infrastructure for financial inclusion, Sitharaman said.

अडानी समूह का गैस लाइसेंस के लिए आवेदन खारिज

नई दिल्ली। तेल एवं गैस नियामक पीएनजीआरबी ने अडानी समूह की कंपनी अडानी टोटल गैस लिमिटेड के नोएडा में सीएनजी की खुदरा बिक्री और पाइप से घरों तक रसोई गैस पहुंचाने के लिए लाइसेंस लेने के आवेदन को खारिज कर दिया है। पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस नियामकीय बोर्ड (पीएनजीआरबी) ने 14 जुलाई को जारी आदेश में कहा कि नोएडा में गैस वितरण को लेकर अडानी टोटल गैस लिमिटेड नियमों के अनुरूप शर्तें पूरी नहीं करती है।

सीएनजी की खुदरा बिक्री या रसोई घरों तक पाइप से गैस पहुंचाने का कारोबार करने के लिए इच्छुक कंपनी को पीएनजीआरबी से लाइसेंस लेना होता है। पीएनजीआरबी ने अपने आदेश में कहा, अडानी समूह की कंपनी की तरफ से 25 जून, 2008 को आवेदन के साथ जमा किए गए दस्तावेजों पर गौर करने के बाद बोर्ड ने यह आवेदन खारिज करने का फैसला किया है।

**भाजपा नेता गोयल ने सीएम से किया अनुरोध**

छोटे उद्यमियों को सीएनजी व पीएनजी जनरेटर लगाने पर मिले आवश्यक छूट

हरिभूमि न्यूज ► गुरुग्राम

छोटे उद्यमियों को सीएनजी व पीएनजी जनरेटर में छूट देने के लिए पर्यावरण संरक्षण विभाग भाजपा हरियाणा प्रमुख नवीन गोयल ने मुख्यमंत्री मनोहर लाल से आग्रह किया है। नवीन गोयल की ओर से मुख्यमंत्री को पत्र भेजकर कहा गया है कि आपके कुशल नेतृत्व में हरियाणा का चहुंमुखी विकास हुआ है। लगातार हर क्षेत्र में विकास के आयाम स्थापित हो रहे हैं। व्यापारी वर्ग को भी हरियाणा सरकार की नीतियों का लाभ पहुंच रहा है। इस तरह से औद्योगिक क्षेत्र भी तरक्की कर रहा है। नवीन गोयल ने सीएम मनोहर लाल को छोटे व्यापारियों, उद्यमियों की समस्या से अवगत कराया है। सीएनजी और पीएनजी



जनरेटर स्थापित करने की आवश्यकता पर छूट देने का अनुरोध किया है। सरकार स्वच्छ ईंधन के उपयोग के लिए प्रोत्साहित कर रही है। छोटे उद्योगों को मौजूदा नीति के तहत 1 अक्टूबर से डीजल के जनरेटर बंद करने पड़े तो यह उन पर अतिरिक्त आर्थिक बोझ पड़ेगा। अगर उन्हें इसके स्थान पर सीएनजी व पीएनजी के सेट लगाने पड़े तो

उनकी कीमत लाखों में है, जिसे वे वहन नहीं कर पाएंगे। सीएनजी व पीएनजी जनरेटर इतनी संख्या में उपलब्ध भी नहीं हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि जो छोटी इंडस्ट्री के व्यापारी हैं, उनके पास 20-25 केवी का जनरेटर है। उन पर आर्थिक बोझ न पड़े, इसके लिए समाधान निकाला जाए।

उन्होंने कहा कि इस मुद्दे को दो तरीकों से हल किया जा सकता है। पहला सरकार छोटे व्यापारियों को सीएनजी या पीएनजी जनरेटर खरीदने में सब्सिडी दे। दूसरा विकल्प सरकार छोटे व्यापारियों को डीजल जनरेटर के स्थान पर बायो डीजल से चलने वाले जनरेटर चलाने की अनुमति दे सकती है। जो पर्यावरण की दृष्टि से भी एक उपयोगी कदम होगा।

छोटे उद्यमियों को सीएनजी-पीएनजी पर मिले छूट : नवीन गोयल

गुरुग्राम, 17 जुलाई (हप्र)

छोटे उद्यमियों को सीएनजी व पीएनजी जनरेटर में छूट देने के लिए पर्यावरण संरक्षण विभाग भाजपा

हरियाणा प्रमुख नवीन गोयल ने मुख्यमंत्री मनोहर लाल से आग्रह किया है। नवीन गोयल की ओर



से मुख्यमंत्री को पत्र भेजकर कहा गया है कि आपके कुशल नेतृत्व में हरियाणा का चहुंमुखी विकास हुआ है। लगातार हर क्षेत्र में विकास के आयाम स्थापित हो रहे हैं। व्यापारी वर्ग को भी हरियाणा सरकार की नीतियों का लाभ पहुंच रहा है। इस तरह से औद्योगिक क्षेत्र भी तरक्की कर रहा है। गोयल ने मुख्यमंत्री मनोहर लाल को छोटे व्यापारियों, उद्यमियों की समस्या से अवगत कराया है। सीएनजी और पीएनजी जनरेटर स्थापित करने की आवश्यकता पर छूट देने का अनुरोध किया है। सरकार स्वच्छ ईंधन के उपयोग के लिए प्रोत्साहित कर रही है। इस कार्य को वे भी सही मानते हैं और भविष्य के लिए जरूरी है। छोटे उद्योगों को मौजूदा नीति के तहत एक अक्टूबर से डीजल के जनरेटर बंद करने पड़े तो यह उन पर अतिरिक्त आर्थिक बोझ पड़ेगा।

नोएडा में गैस वितरण लाइसेंस के लिए अडाणी समूह का आवेदन खारिज नई दिल्ली, 17 जुलाई (भाषा)।

तेल एवं गैस नियामक पीएनजीआरबी ने अडाणी समूह की कंपनी अडाणी टोटल गैस लिमिटेड के नोएडा में सीएनजी की खुदरा बिक्री और पाइप से घरों तक रसोई गैस पहुंचाने के लिए लाइसेंस लेने के आवेदन को खारिज कर दिया है।

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस नियामकीय बोर्ड (पीएनजीआरबी) ने 14 जुलाई को जारी आदेश में कहा कि नोएडा में सीएनजी एवं पीएनजी वितरण को लेकर अडाणी टोटल गैस लिमिटेड नियमों के अनुरूप शर्तें पूरी नहीं करती है।

लिहाजा, उसका आवेदन खारिज किया जाता है। किसी भी क्षेत्र में सीएनजी की खुदरा बिक्री या रसोई घरों तक पाइप से गैस पहुंचाने का कारोबार करने के लिए इच्छुक कंपनी को पीएनजीआरबी से लाइसेंस लेना होता है।

नोएडा में गैस वितरण लाइसेंस के लिए अडाणी समूह का आवेदन खारिज

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा)। तेल एवं गैस नियामक पीएनजीआरबी ने अडाणी समूह की कंपनी अडाणी टोटल गैस लिमिटेड के नोएडा में सीएनजी की खुदरा बिक्री और पाइप से घरों तक रसोई गैस पहुंचाने के लिए लाइसेंस लेने के आवेदन को खारिज कर दिया है। पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस नियामकीय बोर्ड (पीएनजीआरबी) ने 14 जुलाई को जारी आदेश में कहा कि नोएडा में सीएनजी एवं पीएनजी वितरण को लेकर अडाणी टोटल गैस लिमिटेड नियमों के अनुरूप शर्तें पूरी नहीं करती है लिहाजा उसका आवेदन खारिज किया जाता है।

किसी भी क्षेत्र में सीएनजी की खुदरा बिक्री या रसोई घरों तक पाइप से गैस पहुंचाने का कारोबार करने के लिए इच्छुक कंपनी को पीएनजीआरबी से लाइसेंस लेना होता है। पीएनजीआरबी के गठन से पहले यह अनुमति केंद्र सरकार देती थी।

राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली में गैस वितरण के लिए इंद्रप्रस्थ गैस लिमिटेड (आईजीएल) को मंजूरी मिली हुई है लेकिन अडाणी टोटल गैस ने दिल्ली से सटे इलाकों में उसके दावेदारी को चुनौती दी थी।

आईजीएल 1990 के दशक के अंतिम

वर्षों से ही दिल्ली और आसपास के इलाकों में सीएनजी का वितरण कर रही है। उसे दिल्ली से सटे नोएडा में भी अप्रैल, 2004 में केंद्र सरकार से वितरण प्राधिकार मिला था।

हालांकि अडाणी टोटल गैस (पूर्व में अडाणी एनर्जी लिमिटेड) ने जून, 2008 में नोएडा के भौगोलिक क्षेत्र में प्राकृतिक गैस वितरण नेटवर्क खड़ा करने के लिए दावा पेश किया था। लेकिन उस समय पीएनजीआरबी उस आवेदन पर कोई निर्णय नहीं कर पाया और मामला उच्चतम न्यायालय में चला गया।

उच्चतम न्यायालय ने गत वर्ष सितंबर में इस याचिका का निपटान करते हुए कहा था कि नियामक इस आवेदन पर निर्णय लेने के लिए स्वतंत्र है। उसके बाद से पीएनजीआरबी अडाणी समूह की कंपनी के आवेदन पर गौर कर रही थी। नियामकीय बोर्ड के तीन में से दो सदस्यों- गजेंद्र सिंह और ए के तिवारी ने आवेदन को खारिज करने के पक्ष में मत दिया। हालांकि तीसरे सदस्य अजीत कुमार पांडेय का मत था कि मामले के अपीलीय न्यायाधिकरण में विचाराधीन होने से नियामक के लिए आदेश पारित करना सही नहीं होगा।

नोएडा में गैस वितरण लाइसेंस के लिए अडाणी समूह का आवेदन खारिज

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी): तेल एवं गैस नियामक पीएनजीआरबी ने अडाणी समूह की कंपनी अडाणी टोटल गैस लिमिटेड के नोएडा में सीएनजी की खुदरा बिक्री और पाइप से घरों तक रसोई गैस पहुंचाने के लिए लाइसेंस लेने के आवेदन को खारिज कर दिया है।

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस नियामकीय बोर्ड (पीएनजीआरबी) ने 14 जुलाई को जारी आदेश में कहा कि नोएडा में सीएनजी एवं पीएनजी वितरण को लेकर अडाणी टोटल गैस लिमिटेड नियमों के अनुरूप शर्तें पूरी नहीं करती है लिहाजा उसका आवेदन खारिज किया जाता है।

किसी भी क्षेत्र में सीएनजी की खुदरा बिक्री या रसोई घरों तक पाइप से गैस पहुंचाने का कारोबार करने के लिए इच्छुक कंपनी को पीएनजीआरबी से लाइसेंस लेना होता है। पीएनजीआरबी के गठन

सेंसेक्स नए रिकॉर्ड स्तर पर

मुंबई, (पंजाब केसरी): स्थानीय शेयर बाजारों में तेजी का सिलसिला सोमवार को लगातार तीसरे कारोबारी सत्र में भी जारी रहा और बीएसई सेंसेक्स 529 अंक की छलांग के साथ एक बार फिर नये रिकॉर्ड स्तर पर बंद हुआ। नेशनल स्टॉक एक्सचेंज का निफ्टी भी अपने अबतक के उच्चतम स्तर पर पहुंच गया।

विश्लेषकों के अनुसार, वैश्विक बाजारों में मिले-जुले रुख के बीच घरेलू कंपनियों के पहली तिमाही के परिणाम उम्मीद के अनुरूप रहने के साथ विदेशी संस्थागत निवेशकों की लिवाली से स्थानीय

529
अंक की छलांग
के साथ
66,589.93 अंक
पर बंद हुआ

शेयर बाजारों में तेजी आई। तीस शेयरों पर आधारित बीएसई सेंसेक्स 529.03 अंक यानी 0.80 प्रतिशत की बढ़त के साथ 66,589.93 अंक पर बंद हुआ। यह इसका अब तक का सर्वकालिक उच्च स्तर है। कारोबार के दौरान सेंसेक्स 595.31 अंक की बढ़त के साथ रिकॉर्ड 66,656.20 अंक तक चला गया था। नेशनल स्टॉक एक्सचेंज का निफ्टी भी 146.95 अंक यानी 0.75 प्रतिशत की बढ़त के साथ अब तक के उच्चतम स्तर 19,711.45 अंक पर बंद हुआ।

से पहले यह अनुमति केंद्र सरकार देती थी।

राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली में गैस वितरण के लिए इंद्रप्रस्थ गैस लिमिटेड (आईजीएल) को मंजूरी

मिली हुई है लेकिन अडाणी टोटल गैस ने दिल्ली से सटे इलाकों में उसके दावेदारी को चुनौती दी थी। आईजीएल 1990 के दशक के अंतिम वर्षों से ही दिल्ली और

आसपास के इलाकों में सीएनजी का वितरण कर रही है। उसे दिल्ली से सटे नोएडा में भी अप्रैल, 2004 में केंद्र सरकार से वितरण प्राधिकार मिला था।



पेट्रोल टैंकरों में थिनर की मिलावट करने वाले गिरोह का पर्दाफाश

गुरुग्राम, 17 जुलाई (हप)

आज सीएम फ्लाईंग की टीम ने खाद्य एवं पूर्ति विभाग के अधिकारियों के साथ मिलकर गांव कांकरोला, राजपुताना होटल पंचगांव के नजदीक पेट्रोल लेकर आए टैंकर में थिनर की मिलावट करने के मामले का पर्दाफाश किया। एक गुप्त सूचना की के आधार पर सीएम फ्लाईंग ने आज यह कार्रवाई की है उद्योग नगरी मानेसर में सीएम खिलाएंगे रेवाड़ी से गुरुग्राम के लिए आ रहे पेट्रोल के दो टैंकरों पर छापाकारी की एक जंगल में दोनों टैंकरों में चोरी चोरी से थिनर मिलाया जा रहा था। मौके पर एक मोटर भी मिली है जिसका प्रयोग कर टैंकरों में थिनर चढ़ाया जा रहा था पेट्रोल के टैंकर भारत सरकार के अधिकृत तेल कंपनियों के यहां से लोड होकर चले थे।

झाड़ियों की आड़ में टैंकर खड़े कर यह कार्य किया जा रहा था। कई लोग मौके से फरार हो गए हैं लेकिन 3 लोग पकड़े गए हैं। गांव कांकरोला राजपुताना होटल पंचगांव के नजदीक पाया कि वहां इंडियन ऑयल कारपोरेशन से आया एक तेल टैंकर खड़ा था। यह टैंकर मैसर्ज फयूल सैक्टर- 15 पार्ट, 1 एनएच 8 गुरुग्राम के नाम से रजिस्टर्ड है।

प्राप्त जानकारी के अनुसार सीएम फ्लाईंग को मौके पर 12 ड्रम थिनर बरामद हुआ है। ज्ञात हुआ है कि टीम को दो ट्रक चालक के अलावा एक और व्यक्ति भी पकड़ में आया है। अब मानेसर थाना पुलिस इन सभी लोगों से पूछताछ कर रही है। टीम ने मौका पर पेट्रोल टैंकर की जांच की तो टैंकर में निर्धारित मात्रा से कम पेट्रोल पाया गया। टीम ने यहां से तेल के सैम्पल



गुरुग्राम में सोमवार को सीएम फ्लाईंग द्वारा रेवाड़ी से गुरुग्राम लाए जा रहे पेट्रोल के टैंकों में थिनर भरने का मंडाफोड़ किया गया है। मानेसर में पेट्रोल के टैंकरों में थिनर बंद भरने के ड्रम मोटर आदि बरामद हुई है।- हप

लेकर जांच के लिए भेजे।

इस मामले में मानेसर पुलिस ने सोमवार को ड्राइवर सुशील के खिलाफ आवश्यक वस्तु अधिनियम के तहत मामला दर्ज कर जांच शुरू कर दी। मौका पर से कुल 27 ड्रम पेट्रोल भरे हुए 220 लीटर प्रति ड्रम, 2 बैरल भरे हुए 1000 लीटर प्रति बैरल कुल 7940 लीटर मौका से बरामद हुआ। इस पर टीम ने इस तेल के सैम्पल लेकर जांच के लिए लैब भेजे।

खाद्य एवं पूर्ति विभाग गुरुग्राम के विजय कुमार सहायक खाद्य एवं पूर्ति विभाग ने बताया कि जब उन्होंने इंडियन ऑयल कारपोरेशन के चालान बारे पड़ताल की तो पता चला कि चालान के अनुसार गाड़ी में 20 हजार लीटर पेट्रोल भरा गया था लेकिन मौके पर यह 300 लीटर कम पाया गया। कम तेल को पुरा करने के लिये उसी के साथ एक टैंकर न. जो 20 हजार लीटर थिनर से भरा हुआ था। पर्मींग सेट के माध्यम से पेट्रोल के टैंकर में थिनर से पेट्रोल की पूर्ति की जा रही थी।

इस पर विजय कुमार सहायक खाद्य एवं पूर्ति विभाग द्वारा इस बारे पुलिस को शिकायत दर्ज करवाई। मौका से ड्राइवर सुशील पुत्र प्रेम सिंह वासी गांव उगवाना खुर्द जिला झुझुन राजस्थान को मौका से गिरफ्तार किया गया व 7/8 अन्य मौके से फरार हो गये। मौका से एक पेट्रोल से भरा टैंकर, एक थिनर से भरा टैंकर, दो मोटरसाइकिल, एक मारुति सुपर कैरी, दो पर्मींग सेट, एक ईजन, एक बिजली मोटर व मापतोल का सामान पुलिस द्वारा बरामद किया गया।

इसी के साथ सीएम फ्लाईंग व नगर निगम मानेसर की संयुक्त टीम ने ओल्ड राजपुताना होटल पंचगांव जो नगर निगम की जमीन पर अवैध रूप से बनाया हुआ था को नगर निगम मानेसर द्वारा तोड़फोड़ करके ध्वस्त किया गया। व मालिक सुरजभान पुत्र मलखान वासी पंचगांव के खिलाफ एसडीओ श्री शशिकांत द्वारा बिजली का कनेक्शन चेक किया गया तो बिजली चोरी होना भी पाया गया। जिसकी बिजली विभाग द्वारा कार्यवाही की गई।

मानसून ने घटाई पेट्रोल, डीजल की मांग

नई दिल्ली, 17 जुलाई (एजेंसी): देश में पेट्रोल और डीजल की खपत में जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े में गिरावट आई है। उद्योग के शुरूआती आंकड़ों से यह जानकारी मिली है।

आंकड़ों के अनुसार मानसून के दौरान देश के विभिन्न हिस्सों में भारी बारिश की वजह से लोगों ने अपनी यात्रा की योजना टाल दी है। इसके अलावा कृषि क्षेत्र में भी ईंधन की मांग घट गई है। इससे पेट्रोल, डीजल की कुल मांग प्रभावित हुई है।

आंकड़ों के अनुसार देश में सबसे ज्यादा खपत वाले ईंधन डीजल की मांग 1 से 15 जुलाई के दौरान 15 प्रतिशत घटकर 29.6 लाख टन रह गई। कुल ईंधन मांग में डीजल का हिस्सा करीब 40 प्रतिशत है।

गर्मियों में वाहनों में 'ए.सी.' का इस्तेमाल बढ़ने तथा कृषि क्षेत्र की मांग में उछाल से अप्रैल और मई में डीजल की मांग क्रमशः 6.7 प्रतिशत और 9.3 प्रतिशत बढ़ी थी। मानसून के आने के



साथ ही जून के दूसरे पखवाड़े से इस ईंधन की मांग घटने लगी थी। मासिक आधार पर डीजल की बिक्री में करीब 20 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई है। एक से 15 जून के दौरान डीजल की बिक्री 36.8 लाख टन रही थी। समीक्षाधीन अवधि में पेट्रोल की बिक्री भी 10.5 प्रतिशत घटकर 12.5 लाख टन रह गई। मासिक आधार पर पेट्रोल की बिक्री 10.8 प्रतिशत घटी है।

भारत में विनिर्माण और सेवा क्षेत्र दोनों आगे बढ़ रहे हैं जिससे देश में ईंधन की मांग भी तेज रही है। इसकी



वजह से मार्च के दूसरे पखवाड़े में पेट्रोल और डीजल की मांग बढ़ी थी। हालांकि, मानसून के आगमन के साथ इन ईंधन की मांग सुस्त पड़ी है।

ए.टी.एफ. की मांग बढ़ी

हवाई यात्राओं में लगातार वृद्धि के साथ विमान ईंधन (ए.टी.एफ.) की मांग एक से 15 जुलाई के दौरान पिछले वर्ष की समान अवधि की तुलना में 6.1 प्रतिशत बढ़कर 3,01,800 टन हो गई। यह जुलाई, 2021 के पहले पखवाड़े की तुलना में दोगुना से ज्यादा

है। हालांकि, महामारी-पूर्व की अवधि एक से 15 जुलाई, 2019 की तुलना में 5.9 प्रतिशत कम है। मासिक आधार पर विमान ईंधन की बिक्री में करीब 6.7 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई है। एक से 15 जून के दौरान ए.टी.एफ. की बिक्री 3,23,500 टन रही।

उद्योग के अधिकारियों ने बताया कि पिछले कुछ महीनों में देश में औद्योगिक गतिविधियां तेज होने के कारण ईंधन की मांग तेज रही है। रसोई गैस यानी एल.पी.जी. की बिक्री वार्षिक आधार पर 6.3 प्रतिशत घटकर 12.7 लाख टन रह गई है।

रसोई गैस की खपत बढ़ी

रसोई गैस की खपत जुलाई 2021 की तुलना में 6 प्रतिशत अधिक और महामारी-पूर्व की अवधि एक से 15 जुलाई 2019 की तुलना में 3.7 प्रतिशत अधिक है। मासिक आधार पर जून के पहले पखवाड़े में 12.2 लाख टन की तुलना में रसोई गैस की मांग 3.8 प्रतिशत बढ़ी है।

मानसून की वजह से जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े में घटी पेट्रोल, डीजल की मांग

एजेंसी ■ नई दिल्ली

देश में पेट्रोल और डीजल की खपत में जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े में गिरावट आई है। उद्योग के शुरुआती आंकड़ों से यह जानकारी मिली है। आंकड़ों के अनुसार, मानसून के दौरान देश के विभिन्न हिस्सों में भारी बारिश की वजह से लोगों ने अपनी यात्रा की योजना टाल दी है। इसके अलावा कृषि क्षेत्र में भी ईंधन की मांग घट गई है। इससे पेट्रोल, डीजल की कुल मांग प्रभावित हुई है। आंकड़ों के अनुसार, देश में सबसे ज्यादा खपत वाले ईंधन डीजल की मांग एक से 15 जुलाई के दौरान 15 प्रतिशत घटकर 29.6 लाख टन रह गई। कुल ईंधन मांग में डीजल का हिस्सा करीब 40 प्रतिशत है। गर्मियों में वाहनों में एसी का इस्तेमाल बढ़ने तथा कृषि क्षेत्र की मांग



में उछाल से अप्रैल और मई में डीजल की मांग क्रमशः 6.7 प्रतिशत और 9.3 प्रतिशत बढ़ी थी। मानसून के आने के साथ ही जून के दूसरे पखवाड़े से इस ईंधन की मांग घटने लगी थी। मासिक आधार पर डीजल की बिक्री में करीब 20 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई है। एक से 15 जून के दौरान डीजल की बिक्री 36.8 लाख टन रही थी। समीक्षाधीन अवधि में

पेट्रोल की बिक्री भी 10.5 प्रतिशत घटकर 12.5 लाख टन रह गई। मासिक आधार पर पेट्रोल की बिक्री 10.8 प्रतिशत घटी है। भारत में विनिर्माण और सेवा क्षेत्र दोनों आगे बढ़ रहे हैं जिससे देश में ईंधन की मांग भी तेज रही है। इसकी वजह से मार्च के दूसरे पखवाड़े में पेट्रोल और डीजल की मांग बढ़ी थी। हालांकि, मानसून के आगमन के साथ इन ईंधन

की मांग सुस्त पड़ी है। जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े एक से 15 जुलाई के दौरान पेट्रोल की खपत कोविड प्रभावित जुलाई, 2021 की तुलना में 12.5 प्रतिशत अधिक और महामारी-पूर्व की अवधि एक से 15 जुलाई, 2019 की तुलना में 16.6 प्रतिशत अधिक रही है। इसी तरह डीजल की खपत एक से 15 जुलाई, 2021 से 10.1 प्रतिशत बढ़ी है, जबकि जुलाई, 2019 के पहले पखवाड़े की तुलना में यह 1.1 प्रतिशत कम रही है। हवाई यात्राओं में लगातार वृद्धि के साथ विमान ईंधन (एटीएफ) की मांग एक से 15 जुलाई के दौरान पिछले वर्ष की समान अवधि की तुलना में 6.1 प्रतिशत बढ़कर 3,01,800 टन हो गई। यह जुलाई, 2021 के पहले पखवाड़े की तुलना में दोगुना से ज्यादा है। हालांकि, महामारी-पूर्व की अवधि

एक से 15 जुलाई, 2019 की तुलना में 5.9 प्रतिशत कम है। मासिक आधार पर विमान ईंधन की बिक्री में करीब 6.7 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई है। एक से 15 जून के दौरान एटीएफ की बिक्री 3,23,500 टन रही। उद्योग के अधिकारियों ने बताया कि पिछले कुछ महीनों में देश में औद्योगिक गतिविधियां तेज होने के कारण ईंधन की मांग तेज रही है। रसोई गैस यानी एलपीजी की बिक्री वार्षिक आधार पर 6.3 प्रतिशत घटकर 12.7 लाख टन रह गई है। रसोई गैस की खपत जुलाई, 2021 की तुलना में छह प्रतिशत अधिक और महामारी-पूर्व की अवधि एक से 15 जुलाई, 2019 की तुलना में 3.7 प्रतिशत अधिक है। मासिक आधार पर जून के पहले पखवाड़े में 12.2 लाख टन की तुलना में रसोई गैस की मांग 3.8 प्रतिशत बढ़ी है।