



GAIL said to plan \$4.9 billion ethane cracker unit in India

GAIL (India) Ltd., the country's top gas supplier, plans to build a ₹400-billion (\$4.89 billion) ethane cracker near its liquefied natural gas import plant in Western India, two sources with direct knowledge of the matter said, as it seeks to meet an expected surge in demand. India's per capita petrochemical consumption is about one-third of the global average. Asia's third-largest economy annually consumes 25-30 million tonnes of petrochemicals. REUTERS

GAIL plans \$5 bn ethylene unit

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NEW DELHI

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Indian companies are boosting their petrochemical production capacity as the expanding economy boosts the need for goods ranging from plastics to paints and adhesives. A cracker produces ethylene, required for products such as plastics. Demand for petrochemicals could nearly triple by 2040, according to estimates by top refiner Indian Oil, forcing companies to make big investments to set up new facilities across the country.

GAIL is looking for land in the coastal region of Dabhol in Maharashtra state for the 1.5 million tonnes a year (mtpa)



The company plans to import ethane from the United States for the project.

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cracker project, one of the sources told Reuters. GAIL operates a 5 mtpa LNG plant at Dabhol.

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"We are trying to sort out challenges around acquiring land, most likely, in or around Dabhol ... we are hoping to receive financial support from the state government," the

source said.

GAIL is also exploring the possibility to acquire land in Madhya Pradesh, which neighbours Maharashtra, if a deal in Dabhol doesn't materialise, the person said.

The proposed dual-feed cracker will also have capability to crack up to 40% liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), enabling the option to switch to less expensive feedstock to maximise margins. India's per capita petrochemical consumption is about one-third of the global average.



GAIL felicitates IIT JEE Mains qualified candidates



GAIL (India) Limited's flagship CSR initiative for underprivileged students, 'GAIL Utkarsh', marked another resounding success this year with all 100 stu-

dents from its Kanpur centre qualifying for the JEE Mains examination. GAIL Director (Human Resources) Ayush Gupta felicitated all the students.