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**GAIL (INDIA) IS** seeking long-term import deals for liquefied natural gas (LNG) amounting to 5.5 million tonne per year, raising its capacity to 21 MT per year by 2030, its finance chief Rakesh Kumar Jain said on Wednesday.

The country's largest gas pipeline utility has deals for supply of 15.53 million tonne of LNG per year, having recently signed supply deals with trader Vitol and Adnoc. The state-run company plans to raise loans of \$475.9 million in this financial year to fund its pipeline network expansion and boost petrochemicals capacity, Jain said. —REUTERS



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## Govt seeks industry inputs to address financing woes in setting up CBG plants

**Rishi Ranjan Kala**  
New Delhi

The Centre has asked the industry and stakeholders in the compressed biogas (CBG) sector to share ideas to fast track setting up of manufacturing facilities, including creation of a fund to address financing issues.

Advisor to Prime Minister Tarun Kapoor, in his address at the World Biogas Association's India congress 2024, on Wednesday, exhorted the industry to share suggestions on avenues to accelerate the process of setting up and running CBG manufacturing facilities.

"We all must work as a team and try to find solutions. Borrowing from financial institutions is a little bit of a problem, I know. We are willing to intervene there to either set up a fund or something else. You have to come up with ideas to push lending in this area, because I know that financial institutions are reluctant to lend," the former Oil Secretary said.

Carbon market will take some time to develop in the country, but it'll provide some financial strength too,



Tarun Kapoor, Advisor to the Prime Minister of India

he added. Under the Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT), a total of 2,212 active letters of intents (LoIs) have been issued as of September 1, 2024. A cumulative 75 CBG plants have been commissioned across the country, and around 72 plants are under various stages of construction. As per the SATAT portal, around 11,883 tonnes of CBG have been sold in FY25.

SATAT encourages entrepreneurs to set up manufacturing facilities to produce and supply CBG to oil marketing companies (OMCs) for sale as automotive and industrial fuels.

"From the government side, whatever support you people (industry) have asked

for, we have tried to provide," Kapoor emphasised.

"We are trying to push everyone in the government to support this sector, but we are still not moving at the pace we should. So, what do we need to do? You will have to tell us. In the next one and a half years, can we do at least 500 plants? For this, what are the steps required?," he asked the industry members and other stakeholders at the event.

Kapoor informed that CBG is one of the favourite areas of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "He constantly asks about the developments (in this sector) because he thinks that this is a sector where everyone stands to benefit," he noted.

"So all areas that need intervention from the government, please tell us. But the industry also must gear up and give us some targets... Because what I also find is that out of the total 70 or so plants which are commissioned... Only 40 are producing. Others are not running," he pointed out.

### SECTOR'S WOES

Speaking about the issues faced by the CBG industry, GAIL Executive Director SN Yadav pointed out that the biggest challenge is finding land and feedstock.

"It is a State government subject. Though Centre is supporting, equal support from the State governments is not coming, and that should be addressed," he added.

On feedstock, he said CBG producers are not sure whether they will get the right quantity or quantity of the feedstock for their plants. "Once the quality of CBG is ensured at par with the piped natural gas or the safety of the steel pipeline, then there will be no issues," Yadav said.

## 'Not much relevance in imposing windfall tax on crude now'

**Our Bureau**  
New Delhi

Advisor to Prime Minister Tarun Kapoor said on Wednesday that there is not much relevance in imposing windfall tax on crude oil at present. Kapoor, who was earlier the Oil Secretary, said that the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoPNG) has approached the Finance Ministry over the issue.

"I think MoPNG has written

to the Finance Ministry on removal of windfall Tax. It does not have much relevance now," Kapoor told reporters on the sidelines of the World Biogas Associations' India Congress 2023.

Now, the Finance Ministry will take a call on the issue. Imposed in 2022, Windfall Tax is to counterbalance the unusually high profits earned by oil and gas companies from high global crude oil prices.

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# दो से तीन रुपये प्रति किलो बढ़ेगी शहरी गैस वितरकों की लागत

■ गैल ने सभी वितरकों का गैस आवंटन 20% घटाया  
■ इससे कुल जरूरतों का आधा हो गया है गैस आवंटन  
■ इससे सभी कंपनियां लाभ मार्जिन बनाए रखने के लिए बढ़ा सकती हैं गैस के दाम

नई दिल्ली (भाषा)। रेटिंग एजेंसी क्रिसिल ने बुधवार को कहा कि प्रशासित मूल्य तंत्र (एपीएम) के तहत इनपुट प्राकृतिक गैस के आवंटन में कटौती होने से शहरी गैस वितरण (सीजीडी) कंपनियों की गैस खरीद लागत दो-तीन रुपये प्रति किलोग्राम तक बढ़ सकती है। शहरी इलाकों में गैस वितरण करने वाली कंपनियों को सीएनजी और पाइप से रसोई गैस पीएनजी की आपूर्ति के लिए पुराने गैस क्षेत्रों से नियंत्रित मूल्य पर गैस आवंटन किया जाता है। लेकिन हाल ही में इन कंपनियों ने बताया कि घरेलू गैस आवंटन के लिए नोडल एजेंसी गैल (इंडिया) लिमिटेड ने 16 अक्टूबर से प्रभावी सीएनजी खंड के लिए एपीएम गैस आवंटन में 20 प्रतिशत तक की कटौती कर दी है।

क्रिसिल ने इस संदर्भ में जारी एक नोट में कहा कि शहरी गैस वितरकों के लिए एपीएम पर गैस आवंटन अब उनकी सीएनजी जरूरत का लगभग 50 प्रतिशत रह जाएगा। रेटिंग एजेंसी ने कहा कि ऐसी स्थिति में पर्याप्त आपूर्ति बनाए रखने के लिए गैस वितरकों को घरेलू उच्च दबाव एवं उच्च तापमान (एचपीएचटी) वाले गैस क्षेत्रों या आयातित एलएनजी जैसे महंगे स्रोतों से गैस खरीदनी पड़ेगी। क्रिसिल रेटिंग्स के निदेशक अंकित हखू ने कहा, 'मौजूदा एपीएम गैस की कीमत 6.5 डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू (प्रति इकाई) है जबकि एचपीएचटी गैस का भाव 9.5 डॉलर और एलएनजी की कीमत 11-12 डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू है। इसका मतलब है कि शहरी गैस वितरकों की सीएनजी खंड के लिए इनपुट गैस की लागत 3.5-4.5 रुपये प्रति किलोग्राम तक बढ़ सकती है।' उन्होंने कहा कि लाभ मार्जिन बनाए रखने के लिए सीएनजी की बिक्री कीमत भी बढ़ सकती है क्योंकि आने वाले महीनों में कंपनियां धीरे-धीरे उपभोक्ताओं पर बढ़ी हुई लागत का दबाव डालेंगी।

# आवंटन घटने से शहरी गैस वितरकों की लागत दो-तीन रु. प्रति किलो बढ़ेगी : क्रिसिल

एजेंसी ■ नई दिल्ली

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