

Biofuel Blending on Track, Saved ₹91K Cr on Import Bills: Puri

Our Bureau

Bengaluru: Union petroleum & natural gas minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Tuesday said India was on track in biofuel blending performance and would exceed the 20% target set for 2030 five years ahead of the schedule. The blending rate has reached 16.9%, the minister said, expressing happiness at the pace of progress on this front.

The Union government's biofuel initiative has helped the country save ₹91,000 crore in oil import bills. This has also given a big boost to the agriculture sector, the minister said, after kicking off the energy technology meet (ETM-2024) in Bengaluru.

India has the capability to process over 250 types of crude oil, with refining capacity anticipated to grow from the current 258 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA) to 310 MMTPA, Puri said. India's refining expansion, coupled with petrochemical integration, positions India well on its way towards flexible, efficient energy transition.

On digital innovation in the energy sector, the minister referred to the BCG report forecasting India's Artificial Intelligence market to reach \$70 billion by 2027, and said digitalization had immense potential to drive efficiency in energy operations.

Chairman of IndianOil, V Satish



Union petroleum & natural gas minister Hardeep Singh Puri. ANI

Kumar, said the future of the energy industry hinged on integrating green energy solutions into refining processes. "Through cutting-edge technologies and resource optimisation, we can build a resilient and environmentally responsible industry. ETM-2024 opens rich opportunities for our refining and petrochemicals sector that can play a significant role in catalysing the nation's aspirations."

About 1300 delegates from India and overseas, including domain experts, academia, licensors, R&D scientists and other professionals from the Hydrocarbon sector are participating in the three-day event. ETM 2024 will feature technical sessions on renewable integration, hydrogen production, waste-to-energy innovation, and strategies for carbon neutrality.



Crude oil steadies on lower demand outlook



Crude oil prices steadied as investors absorbed OPEC's latest downward revision for oil demand and the market's disappointment over China's latest stimulus plan. Brent crude futures rose 19 cents to \$72.02 a barrel; US WTI were up 16 cents at \$68.20. REUTERS

Don's Gonna Get Slick With Oil-Sell



Sanjeev Choudhary

Donald Trump's return to the White House could ripple through India's energy sector in two distinct ways: by reshaping bilateral energy ties, and by altering the broader currents of the global oil and gas market.

During Trump 1.0, India's energy ties with the US deepened. The latter received its first US crude shipment in 2017 after Washington lifted the export ban in 2015, and its first US LNG cargo under a long-term deal in 2018. During Trump's tenure, an Indian company faced pressure to stitch an LNG deal, involving equity in a US liquefaction terminal project, but the deal fell through. India was also urged to buy and store oil in the US strategic petroleum reserve to help manage the Covid-induced oil glut. But the idea faded as the market stabilised.

Trump often leveraged cross-border deals to demonstrate his dealmaking abilities, framing them as victories for the US. He consistently pressured countries, including India and China, to take more US crude and LNG.

In the years that Trump was out of the White House, global oil and gas

trade flows radically changed due to the sanctions triggered by the Ukraine war, which shut out most Russian oil and gas from Europe, redirecting supplies to India and China. This shift benefited the US, as half of its oil exports and two-thirds of its LNG exports now go to Europe, up from the levels during Trump 1.0.

Rising oil and gas output in the US and an expected global LNG glut from 2026 onwards mean that Trump may continue pushing countries to import more US energy. The US is India's 6th-largest crude supplier, and 2nd-largest long-term LNG supplier.

The bigger picture, however, involves how Trump's policies will affect global oil and gas markets. The oil market, burdened by oversupply and weak Chinese demand, barely reacted to Trump's re-election, though his approach

is likely to differ from Biden's. During his presidency, Trump enjoyed a decent equation with Saudi Arabia, even as the kingdom was caught in the controversy over the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi. Trump's price-critical tweets were interpreted by the oil market as calming signals.

In contrast, Biden had a frosty start with the Saudis, whose supply decisions strongly affect oil prices. The kingdom didn't respond to his call for increased production after the oil market went berserk in early 2022 following the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Biden shifted strategy to release an unprecedented volume from the US strategic reserve to stabilise the market.

Biden imposed massive sanctions on Russia, the world's 2nd-largest crude exporter; but allowed Russian oil to flow to the global market to ensure price stability. He was also lenient with Iran's oil exports, which Trump had sanctioned. Iran's exports almost entirely go to China. This leniency helped maintain market stability at a time when OPEC+ had curtailed about 5% of global supplies, and the West was reeling from high inflation.

Trump, with his strong views on Iran and China, may enforce stricter sanctions on Iran, potentially reducing global supplies by 1-1.5%. However, this may not destabilise the global market, as Saudi Arabia could seize the opportunity to fill the supply gap by releasing barrels it has withheld and is now desperate to bring back.

The US is today the world's largest oil and gas producer, and nearly insulated from supply disruptions. But it remains exposed to price shocks.

Trump dreams of America's 'energy dominance', not just 'energy independence', and has promised support to the local oil and gas industry. 'As president, I will set a national goal of ensuring that America has the No. 1 lowest cost of energy of any industrial country anywhere on Earth,' he said during his campaign. Trump's policies will need to balance returns on investment for the industry with consumer affordability.

Trump has claimed he could end the Ukraine war in 24 hours, and if he succeeds in brokering peace, easing sanctions could become part of the deal. However, it's unlikely he would let Russian oil and gas freely flow back to Europe, as US energy exports to Europe have become increasingly important. If Moscow's exports to Europe remain constrained, discounts on Russian oil could continue to benefit Indian and Chinese refiners. Lower oil prices in general would aid Indian refiners' profits.

In India, petrol and diesel prices are mostly insulated from global fluctuations, as state-run companies follow GoI signals more than international market trends. But expect Trump to keep pressing India to sign more oil and LNG deals with the US.



'Oil! Get some quality American oil!'

sanjeev.choudhary@timesofindia.com



EV Charging Facility Now Available at Every Fifth Petrol Pump

Facilities are available at about 17,900 pumps, with state-run oil cos accounting for 95% of these

Sanjeev Choudhary

New Delhi: Every fifth petrol pump across the country now offers an EV charging facility as oil companies quadrupled the number of pumps with chargers in two years despite installation and consumer demand challenges.

EV charging facilities are available at about 17,900 pumps, with state-run oil companies accounting for 95% of these, according to the oil ministry data. Two years ago, only 4,100 pumps offered EV charging.

Indian Oil Corp is the leader with EV facilities available at 10,057 pumps. Hindustan Petroleum operates 3,705 pumps with chargers and Bharat Petroleum 3,146.

Utilization remains extremely low as charging stations haven't been able to address some fundamental challenges of EV owners, said an oil company executive engaged in setting up charging facilities at pumps.

"Most EVs are getting charged at home with slow chargers. It doesn't make sense for people to drive to pumps to use slow chargers and return to collect their cars hours later," he said, adding that the current demand is mostly for top-up charges by

CHANGING LEADERS

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fast chargers, which take about 45 minutes to charge 80% of a car battery compared to 6 hours for a slow charger.

Just about a fifth of the chargers at petrol stations are fast chargers, according to the executive. More fast chargers are on the way. In addition, car manufacturers advise drivers to use fast chargers infrequently to prevent battery damage.

Even fast chargers find users only at large filling stations on highways with eating joints or other facilities where car drivers can use their waiting time, executives said. Smaller filling stations in cities find fewer customers.

Another challenge has been petrol pump dealers' lukewarm approach to EV charging, which emanates mainly from limited returns. On average, a dealer can make ₹50 per hour in commission using a fast charger while he can make the same amount in minutes in his traditional petrol dispensing job, according to executives.

The falling cost of chargers has aided the expansion of charging facilities at pumps. Fast chargers' cost has dropped by half in just two years, according to executives.



Govt's biofuel drive has saved ₹91K cr in oil import bills: Puri

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BENGALURU

Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Tuesday that India's current biofuel blending rate has reached 16.9 per cent, putting the country on track to reach the 20 per cent target set for 2025-26.

"As a result of the Govt. of India's biofuel initiatives, we have saved Rs 91,000 crore in import bills parallelly giving a much-needed boost to the agriculture sector," he added. He also said that India ranks second globally in biofuel blending, underscoring its leading position in sustainable

fuel practices.

The minister was speaking at the inauguration of the Energy Technology Meet (ETM) 2024, organised by the Centre for High Technology (CHT) and co-hosted by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. The three-day event commenced here, bringing together industry experts, researchers, policymakers, and innovators under the theme 'Green Energy Horizons: Advancing Sustainable Refining and Petrochemicals'. It highlights India's commitment to sustainable energy innovations and the transition towards greener energy solutions.

Govt's biofuel initiative saves ₹91,000 cr in import bills: Puri

OUR CORRESPONDENT

BENGALURU: Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri has said through biofuel blending, the country saved 91,000 crore rupees on the import bills parallelly giving a much-needed boost to the agriculture sector.

Inaugurating the 27th Energy Technology Summit in Bengaluru on Tuesday, he said India has achieved the second position in biofuel blending globally.

He expressed confidence that India will achieve the target of 20 per cent biofuel blending by next year, much ahead of schedule.

As our refineries take to green energy, the country will succeed in the goal towards green hydrogen, the Minister



said. The Minister said India's energy demand will grow by two and a half times by 2047. He said India's crude oil refining capacity has reached 400 to 450 million metric tons per annum, which is one-third of the global average.

He said the country will have to double the efforts to

achieve the net carbon zero emission target by 2070. Energy security, sustainability and technology innovation should go hand-in-hand to achieve the targets in the energy sector, the Minister said.

The three-day Energy Technology Meet has been organised by the Centre for High

'India will achieve target of 20% biofuel blending by next year'

Technology and Indian Oil Corporation Limited 1200 participants are attending the Meet, in which 60 papers will be presented.

V Satish Kumar, Chairman & Director (Marketing), IndianOil, in his address said, "The future of the energy industry hinges on integrating green energy solutions into refining processes. Through cutting-edge technologies and resource optimization, we can build a resilient and environmentally responsible industry. ETM-2024 opens rich oppor-

tunities for our refining and petrochemicals sector; that can play a significant role in catalysing the nation's aspirations."

This flagship event of MoP&NG is marked by the presence of Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and several top cadre leaders of the Petroleum industry and Government of India.

Over 1300 delegates from India and abroad including domain experts, academia, licensors, R&D scientists, and other professionals from the Hydrocarbon sector are participating in this 3-day event.

23 Exhibitors will be showcasing their latest technologies. The Minister distributed the best energy efficient technology awards instituted by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry for the year 2023-24.

Govt's biofuel drive has saved ₹91,000 crore in oil import bills, says Hardeep Puri

AGENCIES

BENGALURU, 12 NOVEMBER

Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Tuesday that India's current biofuel blending rate has reached 16.9 per cent, putting the country on track to reach the 20 per cent target set for 2025-26.

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The three-day event from November 12-14 commenced here, bringing together industry experts, researchers, policy-makers, and innovators under the theme 'Green Energy Horizons: Advancing Sustainable Refining and Petrochemicals'.

It highlights India's commitment to sustainable energy innovations and the transition



towards greener energy solutions.

Referring to International Energy Agency (IEA) figures, the minister said that the nation's energy needs are expected to grow by 2.5 times by 2047. Additionally, India is expected to account for 25 per cent of the overall global growth in energy demand in the next two decades.

Puri lauded the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and private energy companies for their proactive approach in achieving net-zero targets. He also affirmed the readiness of the industry to support the Prime Minister's vision of a 'Viksit Bharat' through advancements in ethanol, hydrogen, and biofuels.

Further, emphasising India's refining sector, Puri said, "India has the capability to process over 250 types of crude oil,

with refining capacity anticipated to grow from the current 258 MMTPA to 310 MMTPA." India's refining expansion, coupled with petrochemical integration, positions India well on its way towards a flexible, efficient energy transition.

Addressing the role of digital innovation, the Minister referred to the BCG report forecasting India's Artificial Intelligence market to reach \$70 billion by 2027, underscoring digitalisation's potential to drive efficiency in energy operations.

V Satish Kumar, Chairman & Director (Marketing), IndianOil, in his address said, "The future of the energy industry hinges on integrating green energy solutions into refining processes. Through cutting-edge technologies and resource optimisation, we can build a resilient and environmentally responsible industry. ETM-2024 opens rich opportunities for our refining and petrochemicals sector, that can play a significant role in catalysing the nation's aspirations."

Over 1,300 delegates from India and abroad including domain experts, academia, licensors, R&D scientists, and other professionals from the Hydrocarbon sector are participating in this 3-day event.



INDIA INCREASING REFINING CAPACITY, TURNING INTO HUB

New Delhi, Nov. 12: India, the world's No.3 oil importer and consumer, is expected to rely on fossil fuels until at least 2040 and is positioning itself as a refining hub, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Tuesday.

While global refining centres are downsizing as energy transition progresses at an unpredictable pace, India's rising daily crude utilisation means it will rely on fossil fuels until at least 2040, Puri said at the sidelines of a refining conference in Bengaluru.

"Our existing refineries will increase in terms of capacity and they will also become regional hubs in terms of providing to other countries," Puri said.

India, the world's third-largest emitter of greenhouse gases, has pledged to achieve a net zero carbon emission target by 2070. It has a target of 500 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy by 2030. Puri reiterated that India is looking to scale its refining capacity by 81 per cent to as much as 450 metric tonne per annum (mtpa), from about 249 mtpa.

— Reuters



India to rely on fossil fuels till 2040: Centre

BENGALURU, NOVEMBER 12

India, the world's No 3 oil importer and consumer, is expected to rely on fossil fuels until at least 2040 and is positioning itself as a refining hub, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri told international media on Tuesday.

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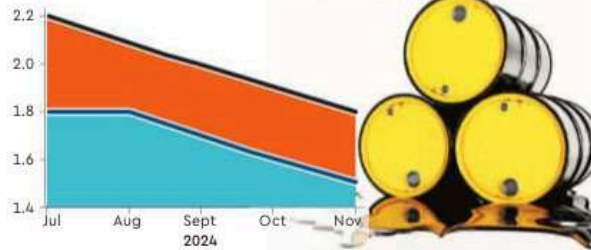
and they will also become regional hubs in terms of providing to other countries," Puri said. India, the world's third-largest emitter of greenhouse gases, has pledged to achieve a net zero carbon emission target by 2070. It has a target of 500 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy by 2030.

Puri reiterated India was looking to scale its refining capacity by 81% to as much as 450 metric tonne per annum (mtpa), from about 249 mtpa, or about 5 million barrels per day (bpd), currently. He did not provide a timeline.

Smaller refineries would no longer be economically viable, Puri said. — Reuters

OPEC RETREATS AGAIN

Cartel cuts demand forecasts a fourth time (million B/D)



Source: OPEC monthly report, Bloomberg

OPEC cuts oil demand growth forecast again

GRANT SMITH
November 12

OPEC CUTS ITS oil demand growth forecasts for this year and next for a fourth consecutive month as it belatedly recognised a slowdown in top consumer China. Global oil consumption will increase by 1.8 million barrels a day — just under 2% — in 2024, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries in a monthly report. That’s 107,000 barrels a day less than previously forecast after data from across Asian nations like China and India, as well Africa, arrived below expectations, it said.

OPEC has scaled back this year’s demand growth projections by almost a fifth since July, in keeping with a sharp retreat in crude prices. Yet the cartel’s outlook remains significantly more bullish than other forecasters — from Wall Street banks and trading houses, and even Saudi Arabia’s oil company, Aramco. It’s roughly double the rate anticipated by the International Energy Agency.

The group’s members have shown a lack of confidence in the Vienna-based secretariat’s forecasts. Led by Saudi Arabia, OPEC and its allies have twice delayed the restart of production halted since 2022.

A series of modest monthly increases is due to start early next year — pushed back from October — and will be reviewed at a meeting on

December 1.

International crude futures have declined roughly 18% since early July, trading near \$72 a barrel in London, as traders grow increasingly confident that conflict in the Middle East won’t disrupt the region’s exports. Instead, they’ve focused on a slowdown in China, where demand contracted several months in a row as Beijing grapples with an array of economic challenges.

The outlook may be shaken by the return next year of President-Elect Donald Trump, who has threatened to impose severe trade tariffs on China and

other countries. During his previous term, Trump choked oil exports from OPEC member Iran in a dispute over Tehran’s nuclear program, and often scolded the cartel for keeping prices high.

In the meantime, OPEC’s leadership may take consolation from the improving performance of some members that have lagged in implementing their output cutbacks.

Kazakhstan reduced production by 292,000 barrels a day to 1.29 million a day in October, according to the report. That’s below its quota, meaning the country has made a start on the additional curbs it pledged as compensation for previous overproduction. The reduction may simply reflect temporary maintenance at the nation’s giant Kashagan oil field. —BLOOMBERG

OPEC has scaled back this year’s growth projections by a fifth since July in keeping with a sharp retreat in crude prices

Short take

OPEC cuts oil demand growth forecasts

Reuters

OPEC cut its forecast for global oil demand growth in 2024 and lowered its projection for next year on Tuesday, highlighting China, India and other regions, marking the producer group's fourth consecutive downward revision.

The weaker outlook highlights the challenge facing OPEC+, which comprises the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies such as Russia, which earlier this month postponed a plan to start raising output in December against a backdrop of falling prices.

In a monthly report on Tuesday, OPEC said world oil demand will rise by 1.82 million barrels per day in 2024, down from growth of 1.93 million bpd forecast last month.

Until August, OPEC had kept the outlook unchanged since it was first made in July 2023.

China accounted for the bulk of the 2024 downgrade. OPEC trimmed its Chinese growth forecast to 450,000 bpd from 580,000 bpd and said diesel use in September fell year on year for a seventh consecutive month. "Diesel has been under pressure from a slowdown in construction amid weak manufacturing activity, combined with the ongoing deployment of LNG-fuelled trucks," OPEC said with reference to China.

Reliance Industries to invest ₹65,000 cr in AP biogas venture over five years

MEGA PLANS. This is the largest clean energy investment by the company in India outside of Gujarat

Our Bureau
Hyderabad

Reliance Industries (RIL) will be setting up 500 Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) plants with an investment of ₹65,000 crore in Andhra Pradesh over the next four-five years. This is the largest clean energy investment by RIL in India outside of Gujarat

The company entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Andhra Pradesh government in Amaravati on Tuesday. The AP Energy department and Reliance Industries signed and exchanged the MoU copies in the presence

of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu.

CREATING BENEFITS

Each plant will cost ₹130 crore, and this investment will create direct and indirect employment for about 2.5 lakh with estimated financial benefit of ₹57,650 crore over 25 years through State Goods & Service Tax (SGST) collection, electricity duty and taxes on employment, the government said in a release.

With the CBG plants coming up in future, farmers will be able to earn around ₹30,000 per acre per annum by cultivating energy crops (Napier Grass). The production of around 39 lakh tonnes



Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu GIRI KVS

of CBG per annum (7,800 tonnes per plant) will give a fillip to the State GDP by aiding industrial growth.

CBG produced from 500 plants can provide renewable fuel to 9.38 lakh light commercial vehicles daily, replacing fossil fuels with

KEY FEATURES

- RIL to set up 500 CBG plants
- Each plant will cost ₹130 crore
- To create direct and indirect employment for about 2.5 lakh

green energy, said a government release.

“Andhra Pradesh has a favourable climate for renewable energy, with abundant solar and wind resources, and a supportive policy and regulatory environment. The State has already made signi-

ficant progress in development of renewable energy and announced the Integrated Clean Energy Policy, taking the target to generate CBG of 10,000 tonnes per day,” it said.

FAVOURABLE POLICY

Tata Power had recently announced its plans to invest ₹40,000 crore in the State’s solar energy sector.

The State provides incentives to biofuel projects with 20 per cent capital subsidy on the fixed capital investment.

This subsidy is available only for plants with minimum capacity of 10 TPD of CBG plant, and for the first 1,000 plants.

RIL signs MoU to invest ₹65K cr in AP

Plans to set up 500 compressed biogas plants; agreement signed in presence of CM Naidu

S VISWANATH @ Vijayawada

THE Andhra Pradesh government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Reliance Industries for the establishment of 500 compressed biogas (CBG) plants with a total investment of around ₹65,000 crore (₹130 crore per plant). All the available wastelands will be utilised for the project. The deal was signed in the presence of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu at the state secretariat on Tuesday.

The plants would create direct and indirect employment for around 2.50 lakh people with estimated financial benefit of around ₹57,650 crore over a period of 25 years through State Goods and Service Tax collection, electricity duty and taxes on employment.

Terming the MoU a landmark, Naidu in a post on X said, "Out of Reliance's national target of 2,000 CBG plants, 500 state-of-the-art CBG plants will be built throughout Andhra Pradesh over the next three years. This will make our state a frontrunner in clean energy and sustainable development.



Reliance Industries signs an MoU with the AP Industries Department in the presence of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu | EXPRESS

With Reliance's commitment to enhancing lives and livelihoods in AP, this partnership will also drive growth across multiple sectors. By attracting such transformative investments, our Integrated Clean Energy Policy is proving instrumental in positioning our state as a preferred destination for industries, a swing in AP's favour."

Stating that Andhra Pradesh would be known as an ideal destination for 'Speed of Doing

Business', he observed that the attractive policies rolled out by the state government has resulted in investor confidence.

Appointing Andhra Pradesh Transmission Corporation Joint Managing Director Keerthi Chekuri as the escort officer for the project, Naidu assured complete support to the company for the quick completion of the project.

In response of Naidu's suggestion to produce gas through

solid wastes, which would be provided by the state government, representatives of Reliance Energy said they will construct the plants viable for production through municipal solid waste.

"We have rolled out Clean Energy Policy 2024 with a target to attract investments to the tune of ₹10 lakh crore. We are also mulling over establishing a clean energy university. Besides solar and wind, we are also looking at pumped storage energy," the Chief Minister explained.

Naidu also lauded Ministers Gottipati Ravi Kumar (Energy) and TG Bharat (Industry) for expeditiously taking decisions regarding the MoU.

Terming the development historic, IT Minister Nara Lokesh highlighted that the MoU was signed in just 30 days of his meeting with Reliance Industries chairman Mukesh Ambani and Reliance Energy director Anant Ambani in Mumbai.

"This will invigorate the policies of Speed of Doing Business that are being implemented in the state," Lokesh said.

RIL to invest ₹65K cr in AP for biogas plants

PTI

AMARAVATI

The Andhra Pradesh government and Reliance Group on Tuesday signed a Rs 65,000 crore agreement to set up 500 compressed bio-gas (CBG) plants in the state over the next three years.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in the presence of Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, Energy Minister Gottipati Ravi Kumar, and senior officials from Reliance Group at the state secretariat in Amaravati.



"Very happy to sign an MoU with Reliance. This initiative will see the establishment of 500 CBG plants over the next three years," Naidu said in a statement from the Chief Minister's Office (CMO).

According to the Chief Minister, Reliance will invest

Rs 130 crore per plant, generating an estimated 2.5 lakh jobs.

Naidu emphasised that the project is expected to bring Rs 57,000 crore in revenue over 25 years through SGST collections, electricity duty, and other streams. He also announced that IAS officers

would be appointed as escort officers to ensure smooth implementation of the mega project. The initiative will not only boost revenue but also support environmental sustainability, with the state providing solid waste to the plants for gas production. The government also plans to build plants for converting municipal solid waste into gas.

Naidu highlighted Andhra Pradesh's Clean Energy Policy-2024, which aims to attract Rs 10 lakh crore in investments. The state is also considering establishing a clean energy university.

RIL to invest ₹65K cr in 500 CBG plants in Andhra Pradesh

Foundation for this maiden biofuel project in the state will be laid on December 28 at Kanigiri in Prakasam district

AMRITHA PILLAY

Mumbai, 12 November

Mukesh Ambani-promoted Reliance Industries (RIL) on Tuesday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to invest ₹65,000 crore in setting up of 500 compressed biogas (CBG) plants in Andhra Pradesh (AP).

“Today, the GoAP has signed a landmark MoU with Reliance Industries, securing a ₹65,000 cr investment for Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) projects. This partnership is set to generate 2.5 lakh employment opportunities in our State. Out of Reliance’s national target of 2,000 CBG plants, 500 state-of-the-art CBG

plants will be built throughout Andhra Pradesh over the next three years. This will make our state a frontrunner in clean energy and sustainable development. With Reliance’s commitment to enhancing lives and livelihoods in AP, this partnership will also drive growth across multiple sectors. By attracting such transformative investments, our Integrated Clean Energy Policy is proving instrumental in positioning our State as a preferred destination for industries — a swing in AP’s favour,” Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu said in a tweet.

AP’s Minister for Education, Information Technology and Electronics Nara Lokesh said the foun-

ation for this maiden biofuel project in the State will be laid on December 28 at Kanigiri in Prakasam district.

The MoU was signed by representatives of RIL and senior officers of the State government at the Secretariat in the presence of Naidu.

This is by far RIL’s biggest investment announcement for the CBG segment. To put the 500 CBG plants number into perspective, there are only 109 functional CBG/Bio CNG plants in India, according to GOBARDHAN (Galvanising Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan) data.

In its FY24 annual report, RIL said it has launched the first commercial-scale CBG plant in Barabanki, Uttar

Pradesh (UP), and plans to expand to 25 CBG plants across India, with a goal for 100 CBG plants in the next five years. UP is the chosen-ground for RIL’s only other competitor in the CBG segment, Gautam Adani-promoted Adani Total Gas, which has so far supplied 208 tonnes of CBG to GAIL from its Barsana unit in the State.

CBG can be blended as a cleaner fuel with other fossil-based gases such as compressed natural gas (CNG), the primary driver of the recent rise in investments in this space. Industry estimates put India’s current Bio-CNG potential at 32 million tonnes.

Gaurav Kedia, chairman for Indian Biogas Association, noted that ball-

park CBG is 20 per cent cheaper to procure compared to fossil-based gas CNG. However, he added: “The 20 per cent margin is absorbed at the oil marketing company (OMC) level, so anyone producing and selling CBG to OMCs will need to negotiate their own margins.”

On the profile of off-takers for such a production, Kedia said: “Retail outlets that sale to OMCs or other users of natural gas are the likely off-takers for CBG production. In addition to off-take, a large-scale investment will trickle down the benefits to engineering, farming, and pipeline infra companies that will help set up these CBG units.”



Andhra CM Chandrababu Naidu (2nd from left) along with RIL representatives and government officials during the signing of the MoU in Amaravati on Tuesday

PHOTO: X

Shell wins appeal against landmark carbon-emissions ruling

Jenny Strasburg
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A Dutch court ruled in favor of an appeal by Shell against a 2021 landmark decision that said it was partially responsible for climate change and must sharply cut its carbon emissions.

The ruling is a setback for efforts by nonprofits and other groups to hold energy companies and other multinationals responsible for the effects of climate change.

The landmark 2021 decision by The Hague district court ordered the oil-and-gas giant—at the time based in the Netherlands—to reduce its carbon emissions by 45% by the end of 2030 from 2019 levels.

The Hague Court of Appeal on Tuesday ruled that while Shell is obliged to reduce its emissions, the court was unable to determine which percentage should apply. “There is currently insufficient consensus in climate science on a specific reduction percentage to which an individual company like Shell should adhere,” it said.

EET JOURNAL

It said it therefore rejected the claims of Milieudefensie, the Dutch arm of environmental group Friends of the Earth.

The court added that Shell is already working to reduce its own emissions and that an obligation for the company to reduce emissions caused by buyers of its products would be ineffective.

Milieudefensie called the appeals court decision a shocking setback, but said that it showed companies are under pressure to reduce carbon emissions, even if targets aren’t legally binding.

“Large polluters are powerful. But united, we as people have the power to change them,” said Donald Pols, director of Milieudefensie.

The nonprofit didn’t say



The ruling is a setback for efforts by nonprofits and other groups to hold energy companies and other multinationals responsible for the effects of climate change.

BLOOMBERG

whether it planned an appeal to the Dutch supreme court, a process that could extend the legal fight for years. The group’s statement included a plea for financial support, adding, “We know this is a tough battle, and sometimes losing is part of it. This judgment will change nothing about our eagerness to keep fighting.”

Observers of the case said they expected Shell to benefit from recent shifts in perceptions about the role of oil and gas in the global economy. European companies including Shell and BP dialed back on earlier green-energy pledges amid record energy prices spurred in part by Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and natural-gas shortages in Europe.

Investors in the energy giants have pushed back against spending on low-carbon projects such as solar and wind, demanding that the companies maintain shareholder distributions through dividends and buybacks rather than invest in projects that take longer to pay off.

In a response to the ruling, Shell reiterated that it believed a court ruling would

do little to reduce emissions as it wouldn’t dent customer demand for gasoline, diesel and gas. “We are pleased with the court’s decision, which we believe is the right one for the global energy transition,” Chief Executive Wael Sawan said.

Shell said in response to the 2021 ruling that it would speed up its own emissions cuts but argued it was wrong to hold any single company

responsible for the greenhouse-gas emissions of its customers. Shell framed the push to lower emissions as a societal issue requiring support from government and markets at large scale.

Otherwise, Shell has argued, the company could be forced to shrink by selling assets and curbing oil-and-gas output to meet emissions targets, merely driving polluting business elsewhere while Shell itself plays a smaller role in meeting global energy demands.

Milieudefensie and other advocates of the lawsuit

argued that Shell’s oil-and-gas production fueled climate change, in the process violating a responsibility to those affected by it.

The company’s obligations to human rights meant it should be forced to reduce its environmental impact, the nonprofit said.

“We share a common objective of a transition to a net zero economy,” Sawan said in an October interview

with The Wall Street Journal. “Where we differ is our belief that this is firstly not something to be decided by courts. It should be something that is done at the governmental

level.”

Sawan took over as CEO in 2023 and has rolled back some of the company’s green-energy targets and pledged to pump out more fossil fuels, with a focus on natural gas.

The company has faced pressure from clean-energy advocates while many investors clamor for payoffs fueled by oil and gas

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The court had asked the oil-and-gas giant to cut its carbon emissions by 45% by the end of 2030 from 2019 levels

उद्घाटन**बायोपयूल मिश्रण से देश ने आयात बिल में बचाए 91000 करोड़ रुपए**

पुरी ने ऊर्जा प्रौद्योगिकी सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किया

तैभव न्यूज ■ नई दिल्ली

सेंटर फॉर हाई टेक्नोलॉजी (सीएचटी) द्वारा आयोजित और इंडियन ऑयल कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड (इंडियनऑयल) द्वारा सह-आयोजित एनर्जी टेक्नोलॉजी मीट (ईटीएम) 2024 बेंगलुरु में शुभारंभ हुआ। हरित ऊर्जा क्षितिज सतत शोधन और पेट्रोकेमिकल्स को आगे बढ़ाना की थीम पर आयोजित इस कार्यक्रम में उद्योग विशेषज्ञ, शोधकर्ता, नीति निर्माता और नवप्रवर्तक आदि भाग ले रहे हैं। यह तीन दिवसीय कार्यक्रम (12-14 नवंबर 2024) स्थायी ऊर्जा नवाचारों और हरित ऊर्जा समाधानों की ओर संक्रमण के प्रति भारत की प्रतिबद्धता दर्शाता है। कार्यक्रम का उद्घाटन करते हुए पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री, हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा कि एक मंच के रूप में ईटीएम-2024 ने ऊर्जा सुरक्षा, स्थिरता और तकनीकी



नवाचार को एक साथ लाने के लिए अपनी भूमिका को बरकरार रखा। वैश्विक ऊर्जा परिदृश्य में भारत द्वारा निभाई गई महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका पर अपने विचार व्यक्त करते हुए एवं अंतर्राष्ट्रीय ऊर्जा एजेंसी (आईईए) के आंकड़ों का उल्लेख करते हुए, माननीय मंत्री ने टिप्पणी की कि हमारे देश की ऊर्जा मांग 2047 तक दोगुनी हो जाएगी और अकेले भारत से अगले दो दशकों के भीतर मांग में 25प्र. की पर्याप्त वृद्धि की उम्मीद है पुरी ने नेट-

शून्य लक्ष्य हासिल करने में सक्रिय दृष्टिकोण के लिए तेल विपणन कंपनियों और निजी ऊर्जा कंपनियों की सराहना की और इथेनॉल, हाइड्रोजन और जैव ईंधन में प्रगति के माध्यम से प्रधान मंत्री के विक्सत भारत के दृष्टिकोण का समर्थन करने के लिए भारत की तत्परता की पुष्टि की। मंत्री ने भारत की जैव ईंधन उपलब्धियों पर प्रकाश डाला और खुलासा किया कि भारत की वर्तमान जैव ईंधन सम्मिश्रण दर 16.9प्र तक

पहुंच गई है, जिससे देश 2030 के लिए निर्धारित 20प्र. लक्ष्य को निर्धारित समय से पांच साल पहले हासिल करने की राह पर अग्रसर है। परिणामस्वरूप, भारत सरकार के की जैव ईंधन पहल से, हमने आयात बिल में 91,000 करोड़ रुपये की बचत की है, जिससे समानांतर रूप से कृषि क्षेत्र को बहुत जरूरी बढ़ावा मिला है। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि भारत जैव ईंधन सम्मिश्रण में विश्व स्तर पर दूसरे स्थान पर है।

बेंगलुरु में एनर्जी टेक्नोलॉजी मीट, हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने उद्घाटन किया



नई दिल्ली | सेंटर फॉर हाई टेक्नोलॉजी (सीएचटी) द्वारा आयोजित और इंडियन ऑयल कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड (इंडियनऑयल) द्वारा सह-आयोजित एनर्जी टेक्नोलॉजी मीट (ईटीएम) 2024 बेंगलुरु में शुभारंभ हुआ। "हरित ऊर्जा क्षितिज: सतत शोधन और पेट्रोकेमिकल्स को आगे बढ़ाना" की थीम पर आयोजित इस कार्यक्रम में उद्योग विशेषज्ञ, शोधकर्ता, नीति निर्माता और नवप्रवर्तक आदि भाग ले रहे हैं। यह आयोजन 12 से 14 नवंबर तक किया जा रहा है। कार्यक्रम का उद्घाटन करते हुए माननीय पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री,

हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा कि एक मंच के रूप में ईटीएम-2024 ने ऊर्जा सुरक्षा, स्थिरता और तकनीकी नवाचार को एक साथ लाने के लिए अपनी भूमिका को बरकरार रखा। वैश्विक ऊर्जा परिदृश्य में भारत द्वारा निभाई गई महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका पर अपने विचार व्यक्त करते हुए एवं अंतर्राष्ट्रीय ऊर्जा एजेंसी (आईईए) के आंकड़ों का उल्लेख करते हुए, माननीय मंत्री ने टिप्पणी की कि हमारे देश की ऊर्जा मांग 2047 तक दोगुनी हो जाएगी और अकेले भारत से अगले दो दशकों के भीतर मांग में 25% की पर्याप्त वृद्धि की उम्मीद है।

भारत ने बायोफ्यूल मिश्रण के माध्यम से करोड़ों रुपए की बचत की

सवेरा न्यूज/आकाश द्विवेदी

नई दिल्ली, 12 नवंबर : भारत के पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा कि बायोफ्यूल मिश्रण के माध्यम से देश 91,000 करोड़ रुपये बचा सकता है, जिसे कृषि क्षेत्र में उपयोग किया जा सकता है। बंगलुरु में 27वें ऊर्जा प्रौद्योगिकी शिखर सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन करते हुए मंत्री ने कहा कि भारत ने बायोफ्यूल मिश्रण में वैश्विक स्तर पर दूसरा स्थान प्राप्त किया है और वह अगले वर्ष तक 20 फीसदी बायोफ्यूल मिश्रण के लक्ष्य को हासिल करेगा।

मंत्री ने कहा कि भारत की ऊर्जा मांग 2047 तक दोगुनी हो जाएगी और शून्य कार्बन उत्सर्जन का लक्ष्य 2070 तक पूरा करना होगा। उन्होंने यह भी बताया कि देश की क्रूड ऑयल रिफाइनिंग क्षमता अब 400 से 450 मिलियन मीट्रिक टन प्रति वर्ष तक पहुँच गई है।

इस सम्मेलन में 1200 प्रतिभागी शामिल हैं और 60 शोध पत्र प्रस्तुत किए जा रहे हैं। मंत्री ने 2023-24 के लिए पेट्रोलियम मंत्रालय द्वारा स्थापित सर्वश्रेष्ठ ऊर्जा कुशल प्रौद्योगिकी पुरस्कार भी वितरित किए।



माननीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री ने उद्घाटन किया, बेंगलुरु में एनर्जी टेक्नोलॉजी मीट (ईटीएम) 2024

नई दिल्ली। सेंटर फॉर हार्ड टेक्नोलॉजी (सीएचटी) द्वारा आयोजित और इंडियन ऑयल कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड (इंडियनऑयल) द्वारा सह-आयोजित एनर्जी टेक्नोलॉजी मीट 2024 बेंगलुरु में शुभारंभ हुआ। हरित ऊर्जा क्षितिज- सतत शोधन और पेट्रोकेमिकल्स को आगे बढ़ाने की थीम पर आयोजित इस कार्यक्रम में उद्योग विशेषज्ञ, शोधकर्ता, नीति निर्माता और नवप्रवर्तक आदि भाग ले रहे हैं। यह तीन दिवसीय कार्यक्रम (12-14 नवंबर 2024) स्थायी ऊर्जा नवाचारों और हरित ऊर्जा समाधानों की ओर संक्रमण के प्रति भारत की प्रतिबद्धता दर्शाता है। कार्यक्रम का उद्घाटन करते हुए माननीय पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री, श्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा कि एक मंच के रूप में ईटीएम-2024 ने ऊर्जा सुरक्षा, स्थिरता और तकनीकी नवाचार को एक साथ लाने के लिए अपनी भूमिका को बरकरार रखा। वैश्विक ऊर्जा परिदृश्य में भारत द्वारा निभाई गई महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका पर अपने विचार व्यक्त करते हुए एवं अंतर्राष्ट्रीय ऊर्जा एजेंसी (आईईए) के आंकड़ों का उल्लेख करते हुए, माननीय मंत्री ने टिप्पणी की कि हमारे देश की ऊर्जा मांग 2047 तक दोगुनी हो जाएगी और अकेले भारत से अगले दो दशकों के भीतर मांग में 25% की पर्याप्त वृद्धि की उम्मीद है। श्री पुरी ने नेट-शून्य लक्ष्य हासिल करने में सक्रिय दृष्टिकोण के लिए तेल विपणन कंपनियों (ओएमसी) और निजी ऊर्जा कंपनियों की सराहना की।