

India firmed up gas projects totalling 3.5 bcm/year during 2024

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New Delhi

Gas development projects in India with a total anticipated production of 3.5 billion cubic metres (bcm) per year over the medium term reached final investment decision (FID) during 2024, said a report by the Gas Exporting Countries Forum (GECF).

During the last calendar year, India, the world's fourth largest liquefied natural gas (LNG) importer, brought online more than a dozen small gas fields with an initial combined production of around 1.8 bcm.

"Twenty-one new gas development projects reached the FID stage, with an anti-

cipated combined plateau production of 3.5 bcm per year over the medium-term," stated GECF's annual gas market report for 2025.

The report pointed out that a total of 13 relatively small new gas fields came on stream in 2024, with an initial combined production reaching 1.8 bcm and expected plateau production of 3 bcm annually. All of the newly-commissioned fields are conventional gas fields.

"In the short-term, India is anticipated to increase production, driven by the offshore sector," per the report.

HIGHER PRODUCTION

India's annual gas production was up 3.5 per cent, reaching 33.8 bcm in 2024.



WELL-OILED MACHINE. India's annual gas production saw a 3.5 per cent increase, reaching 33.8 bcm in 2024 REUTERS

This was driven by a government initiative to rejuvenate production from mature gas fields, leading to a noticeable increase in output, alongside the commissioning of new gas field development pro-

jects, particularly offshore, the report noted.

The majority of India's gas output came from conventional gas fields, accounting for 93 per cent of the total, while 4 per cent came from

coal bed methane (CBM) development, primarily in the West Bengal field, and 3 per cent from tight gas fields, it said.

"Offshore production made up 71 per cent of the total gas output; however, its share has decreased over the past decade, from 77 per cent in 2014. Additionally, associated gas production represented nearly 30 per cent of the overall output, a percentage that has remained stable over the last decade," it added.

India's reported proven gas reserves witnessed a decline over the last five years, to stand at 1.14 trillion cubic meters (tcm), with the majority being conventional proven gas reserves.

This was driven by a re-

duced number of new gas discoveries in India. Additionally, India is in possession of a considerable volume of technically recoverable shale gas resources, estimated at 2.15 tcm. These volumes are still untapped.

LNG ADOPTION

The report noted that India stands out in its approach to adopting LNG for the transport sector. "Although the country currently has fewer than 1,000 LNG-powered trucks, the government aims to have one-third of the truck fleet running on LNG within the next five to seven years," it added. India's high dependence on oil imports, which surpasses that of China, adds further impetus to this transition, it added.

Petroleum products exports rise 3% in FY25, value dips 7%

ARUNIMA BHARADWAJ
New Delhi, April 24

INDIA'S EXPORTS OF petroleum products grew by 3.4% in volume terms to 64.7 million tonnes in FY25, compared to 62.6 million tonnes in FY24, according to data from the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell. The rise in exports was primarily driven by increased shipments of motor spirit, petcoke, and fuel oil.

Even as the volumes registered an increase, in value terms, the exports declined by almost 7% to \$44.3 billion during the fiscal compared with \$47.7 billion in the year ago. The dip in export value was due to subdued prices in the current year compared to the year ago period.

In March, petroleum product exports remained at 5.7 million tonnes, similar to March 2024. The month, however, saw a 9% year on year decline in exports of petroleum products to \$3.9 billion, according to the PPAC data.

According to data by global real-time data and analytics provider, Kpler, the United Arab Emirates emerged as the top destination for the country's exports in March, followed by Singapore, and the Netherlands.

Imports of refined oil products increased by 4.9% to 51.1

UAE TOP BUYER



million tonnes during FY25, compared to 48.7 million tonnes in the previous fiscal. The import bill for these products also rose by 4.3% to \$23.9 billion, up from \$22.9 billion in FY24.

India's consumption of petroleum products during the year rose to 239.2 million tonnes, up from 234.3 million tonnes in the previous fiscal. This growth was attributed to higher demand for diesel, motor spirit, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and aviation turbine fuel (ATF).

While the demand for ATF increased by 9.7%, that of LPG and motor spirit grew by 5.4% and 7.5% respectively. Diesel consumption recorded a growth of 2% during FY25.



India cuts purchase of LNG

RAKESH SHARMA
April 24

INDIAN ENERGY IMPORTERS are switching from expensive liquefied natural gas to cheaper oil products, a move that will help ease tight global supplies of the super-chilled fuel.

Buyers including Gail India and Indian Oil cancelled LNG purchase tenders due to high prices, according to people with knowledge of the matter who didn't wish to be named due to the sensitivity of the trade.

India's LNG imports this month are estimated to average 1.9 million tons, down 5% from the same month last year and the lowest monthly volume since December 2023, according to data analytics firm Kpler.

Prices of LNG have been elevated due to a series of recent outages at export plants in Malaysia to Australia. That's in spite of fears that the global trade war will cut gas demand. Any reduction in Indian purchases will help to free up supply for rival buyers in Asia and Europe.

Spot prices have been trading between \$11 to \$12 per million British thermal units over the last few weeks, while naphtha rates in India are closer to \$8 to \$9 per million Btu thanks to a slump in crude.

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