

## **Monthly Summary of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the month of September, 2020.**

1. Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas participated in:

A. The 3rd Annual Leadership Summit “Navigating New Challenges” organized by US-India Strategic Partnership Forum and delivered the keynote address on the roadmap for India-U.S. Energy Partnership on 02.09.2020.

B. The First World Solar Technology Summit organized by International Solar Alliance on 08.09.2020. Minister, PNG, stated that Indian oil and gas companies are focusing more on green energy investments to reduce carbon footprints and are being encouraged to become participants to this solar transition. Currently, India has 270 MW installed solar power capacity across the oil and gas operations value chain.

2. Secretary, PNG, co-chaired a meeting with Mr. U Than Zaw, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Electricity and Energy of Myanmar on 08.09.2020. During the meeting they had discussions on the minutes of the India- Myanmar JWG on Oil Gas and other topical issues related to the bilateral hydrocarbon cooperation. The meeting was followed by signing of the minutes of the 2nd India-Myanmar JWG on Oil and Gas.

3. The Sherpa level dialogue as preparatory for India-Canada Ministerial level Energy Dialogue was held on 17th September 2020 through video conference. The Indian side was led by Joint Secretary, International Cooperation, MoPNG and Canadian side was led by Mr. Jay Khosla, Senior Assistant Deputy Minister, Natural resources, Canada. Both sides discussed various issues viz. enhancing the bilateral hydrocarbon trade and exploring possibility of going into term contracts with Canadian companies for crude oil (for diversifying crude oil sources), LNG as well as LPG; Pacific North West Project, collaboration in Bioenergy and renewable sector by enhancing collaboration in Biofuels, Hydrogen fuel cell and waste to energy technology; Participation of Canadian company in Phase II of strategic petroleum program in India.

4. Joint Secretary, International Cooperation, MoPNG, chaired a meeting on 15.09.2020 with Russia to review bilateral engagement and issues related to the follow up to the earlier meeting held on 28.07.2020. They also had discussion on MoU between ONGC and Skoltech & others.

5. Under “Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package” (PMGKP), as part of the Economic response to COVID-19 , free of cost LPG cylinders to PMUY beneficiaries for upto three free LPG refills for the next 3 months w.e.f 01.04.2020 are being provided. The Cabinet in its meeting dated 15.04.2020 approved the proposal which has now been further extended upto 30th September, 2020. The number of LPG cylinders delivered under PMGKP scheme as on 29th September, 2020 are 13.89 crores.

6. In the month of September, 2020 more than 7.90 lakh new LPG connections were issued and total number of connections released in the current financial year are nearly 43.88 lakhs as on 28.09.2020. As on 28.09.2020, 26.79 crore LPG customers are availing subsidy under PAHAL Scheme and nearly 9 lakh customers have joined this scheme in the

month of September, 2020. As on 30.09.2020, more than 1.08 crore customers have given up LPG subsidy under "Give it Up" initiative.

7. Domestic crude oil production for the month of September, 2020 was 2487 TMT as against production target of 2672 TMT, showing an achievement of 93.08%. Natural gas production for the month of September, 2020 was 2279 MMSCM as against production target of 2800 MMSCM, showing an achievement of 81.39%.

8. During September, 2020, the price of the Indian Basket of Crude oil varied between \$ 38.76 and \$ 44.98 per barrel and the average price was \$ 41.35 per barrel as compared to average price of \$ 44.19 per barrel in August, 2020.

9. As per the Refinery Gate Price (RGP) effective from 1st September, 2020, OMCs are expected to incur NIL under recovery/DBTL during September, 2020 on sale of PDS Kerosene and domestic LPG respectively. The expected under recoveries/subsidy for the FY 2020-21 in respect of PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG (Under DBTL) is NIL and Rs. 3,506 crore respectively. There is no subsidy to the consumers on subsidized domestic LPG effective from 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2020 and NIL under recovery on PDS Kerosene effective from 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2020.

10. Tender for Ethanol Supply Year (ESY) 2019-20 was floated by Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). OMCs have allocated 206.35 crore litre against the offers received. Supplies have commenced and OMCs have received 138.63 crore litre upto 21.09.2020.

11. OMCs have procured 4755 KL of Bio-Diesel during April 2020 – Aug 2020 for blending with High Speed Diesel. OMCs have floated Expression of Interest (EoI) for procurement of Biodiesel produced from Used Cooking Oil (UCO) on 01.07.2020. Till 10/09/2020, 37 EOIs have been received by the OMCs for setting up 60 plants with total production capacity of approx 1147 MT per day for supply of biodiesel from UCO.

12. Total 23,139 Retail Outlets have been solarized as on 30.09.2020.

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