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Cop among 3 held in connection with abduction of ONGC staff in Assam

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@Guwahati

AN Assam Police constable was among three persons arrested on Monday for their alleged involvement in the abduction of three employees of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).

Basanta Buragohain, a constable with the 25th AP (ONGC) Battalion, was arrested from his Sadiya residence in Tinsukia district. The two other arrested persons were Biraj Chetia of Dibrugarh district and Rahul Mohan of Sivasagar

district. Two other policemen were absconding. All three of them were deployed at the ONGC's work-over-rig site in Sivasagar district from where the three employees were abducted by ULFA militants in the wee hours of Wednesday.

DGP Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta said the police would not spare anyone found involved in the case. He also said efforts were on to trace out and rescue the third abducted employee.

Junior engineering assistant Alakesh Saikia and junior technician Mohini Mohan Gogoi were rescued by the secu-

rity forces following a gunfight with the militants near Tokchingnyu village in Nagaland on Friday night. The fate of the third employee Ritul Saikia, a junior technician, is, however, still not known.

The ULFA had on Saturday claimed that the three employees were handed over to the villagers as the outfit was concerned about their safety amidst the gunfight. But the two rescued employees rubbished the ULFA's narrative.

Meanwhile, a massive search operation is on for the missing third employee in Nagaland.

Cop held for aiding Ulfa(I) in kidnapping

Sivasagar: A police constable was on Monday arrested in Assam's Tinsukia district for his alleged involvement in the kidnapping of three ONGC employees here by Ulfa (I) militants, a senior officer said.

Constable Basanta Buragohain was arrested during the day from Sadiya in Tinsukia district. Two of his colleagues, suspected to be accomplices, are currently absconding, he said.

The three constables from the 25th Assam Battalion were deployed for maintaining security at ONGC's oil rig at Lakwa and are alleged to have facilitated the kidnapping of the employees, two of whom have been rescued, the police officer said.

Taking to Twitter, Assam director general of police Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta said three persons have been arrested so far in the case. One of them purchased the motorcycle used in the crime, the second rendered logistical support, and Buragohai "actively participated" in the abduction, he said on the microblogging site. "Effort to trace out and rescue the third victim is still going on," he added.

A massive combing operation followed by an exchange of fire between security forces and militants on April 24, near the India-Myanmar border, had led to the rescue of two of the three kidnapped ONGC employees.

Meanwhile, Ulfa (I), in an email, has claimed that the outfit or NSCN, another separatist group, were not responsible for the status of the third employee. PTI



ONGC kidnapping case: Cop arrested for aiding ULFA(I) militants

SIVASAGAR: A police constable was on Monday arrested in Assam's Tinsukia district for his alleged involvement in the kidnapping of three ONGC employees here by ULFA(I) militants, a senior officer

said. Two of his colleagues, suspected to be his accomplices, are currently absconding, and a search operation to nab them is underway, he said.

Reliance, BP start production from 2nd deepwater gas field in KG-D6 block

Reliance-BP had commenced output from R Cluster in December 2020

NEW DELHI: Reliance Industries Ltd and its partner BP Plc on Monday announced the start of production from the second set of new discoveries in the eastern offshore KG-D6 block, helping the nation augment clean fuel output.

Reliance-BP, which had commenced output from R Cluster in December last year, started production from the Satellite Cluster, the two firms said in a statement.

"Satellite Cluster field comes onstream two months ahead of schedule despite COVID-19 challenges," it said.

The start of production augurs well for a nation that is looking to raise the share of natural gas in its energy basket from 6.2 per cent currently to

15 per cent by 2030, to help cut carbon emissions.

Domestic gas production of about 78 million metric standard cubic meter per day (mmscmd) meets just half of the demand. Helped by output from KG-D6 and 15 mmscmd of peak production planned from the adjacent KG-D5 block of state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) will help domestic gas output reach 122 mmscmd in 2023-24.

Reliance-BP is developing three deep-water gas developments in block KG-D6 -- R Cluster, Satellite Cluster and MJ -- which together are expected to produce around 30 million standard cubic meters per day of natural gas by 2023, meeting up to 15 per cent of India's

gas demand.

The developments will each utilize the existing hub infrastructure in the KG-D6 block, the statement said.

Reliance is the operator of the block with a 66.67 per cent participating interest and BP holds the remaining 33.33 per cent.

The Satellite Cluster is the second of the three developments to come onstream, following the start up of R Cluster in December 2020. It had originally been scheduled to start production in mid-2021.

The field is located about 60 km from the existing onshore terminal at Kakinada, in Andhra Pradesh in water depths of up to 1,850 meters.

While R-Cluster is expected

to reach plateau gas production of about 12.9 mmscmd in 2021, Satellite Cluster will have a peak output of 6 mmscmd. MJ field will have a peak output of 12 mmscmd.

"The (Satellite) field will produce gas from four reservoirs utilizing a total of five wells and is expected to reach gas production of up to 6 mmscmd. Together, the R Cluster and Satellite Cluster are expected to contribute to about 20 per cent of India's current gas production," the statement said.

The third KG D6 development, MJ, is expected to come onstream towards the latter half of 2022.

Oil-to-telecom conglomerate Reliance has so far made 19 gas discoveries in the KG-D6

block. Of these, D-1 and D-3 -- the largest among the lot -- were brought into production from April 2009 and MA, the only oilfield in the block was put to production in September 2008.

While the MA field stopped producing in 2019, the output from D-1 and D-3 ceased in February 2020.

Other discoveries have either been surrendered or taken away by the government for not meeting timelines for beginning production.

The KG-D6 consortium has already signed the Gas Sales and Purchase Agreement (GSPA) with buyers to sell 4.8 mmscmd and 7.5 mmscmd of gas from the block in November 2019, and February 2021, respectively. **PI**

BP files papers to set up US retail power business

BP has applied to supply US residential customers with electricity generated from wind, solar and natural gas, betting on a rapid growth in power demand as economies shift away from fossil fuels to battle climate change.

BP wants to supply electricity in California, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Texas in its first foray into the retail power business, according to an April 20 filing with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) seen by *Reuters*. **REUTERS**

Firms slow on long-term bonds amid Covid worry

ANUP ROY

Mumbai, 26 April

Indian companies are holding back plans to raise longer-term bonds, and will likely rely on short-term ones if the pandemic continues longer.

Bond arrangers say even public sector units (PSUs) have decided to go slow on long-term issuances.

They will most likely focus on short-term bonds for their working capital needs and push their longer-term bond plans for the latter half of the financial year.

Chennai Petroleum Corporation (CPCL) withdrew its issuance last week because rates were higher than expected. Bond arrangers say others will follow suit. Some PSUs have advised the arrangers to go slow on fundraising, though none has asked for scrapping it. However, if there are not enough bids, the issuances could be cancelled, some have advised.

"The rates asked were not an indication that the markets have a negative view on the company. Rather, it is more that the markets are dull," said a senior bond arranger.

A CFO of a mid-sized firm said lack of basic needs such as oxygen in hospitals and rocketing death rates had soured the mood of investors and issuers.

"Unless the government gets a grip on the situation, what would the funds raised by the private sector be used for? Rates will remain soft for at least one more year. Capacity utilisation has nosedived to about 60 per cent, and it will come down even more if this situation continues," said the executive.

Besides, there are other reasons for this. While the system is awash with liquidity, there are expectations that rates will soften considerably because the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) would most probably reintroduce some of liquidity-easing measures of last year. For example, it may stop doing the ₹2 trillion reverse repo auction and let the banking system continue with the excess liquidity.

PLAYING IT SAFE



- Pandemic situation impacting market activity
- No effective price discovery happening owing to lower bids
- Companies to cancel issuance if there are not enough bids
- Long-term funds not needed with pandemic halting economic activity
- Market expects central bank to go back to easy rules of last year

The central bank is restoring the cash reserve ratio (CRR) in two phases by May 22. The CRR is now at 3.5 per cent. If the pandemic continues, the RBI can let it be at this level or even roll it back to 3 per cent. The RBI may ease restrictions on long-term repo operations (LTROs), which are used in various formats to infuse liquidity.

While the RBI has announced a G-Sec Acquisition Programme (GSAP) of ₹1 trillion in the April-June quarter, it can announce an even bigger amount or even bring in outright open market operations (OMO) to bring down yields.

"Corporates may not raise as much through bond issuances this year as last year we had LTRO, TLTRO (Targeted LTRO), TLTRO 2, etc. This year, while we do have a version of the TLTRO, it is not as popular now. Companies will assess their expansion plans and need for resources," said Joydeep Sen, consultant fixed income, Phillip Capital.

The underlying fear for the market now is that the government may have to revise upwards its borrowing again as the severity of the current pandemic has been particularly disrupting with no end in sight. Economists have started revising their growth forecasts and even monetary policy members red-flagged the infec-

tions having a devastating impact on growth.

"Rapidly rising cases are the single-biggest challenge to ongoing recovery in the Indian economy," said RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das in the minutes.

The rise in infections could delay normalisation by a quarter or two, warned the RBI's executive director, Mridul K Sagar.

Debendra Dash, senior vice-president of AU SFB, said the market had enough liquidity, but any guidance by the RBI on low rates for a longer period would trigger a rally in dated bonds.

"The RBI may do an Operation Twist, along with current OMOs, to support the yield. Assurance of durable liquidity and guidance of an accommodative stance for a longer period of time will be the key in bringing down the yield," Dash said.

Pumping in more liquidity may not have the desired impact, particularly on medium to long maturities, according to Sen.

"The RBI has been doing OMOs, GSAP, twist OMO etc. for the medium to long end, and is expected to continue doing so. In other words, absorb part of the incremental government bond supply. OMO on SDLs (state development loans) may come back this year," Sen said.

Reliance, BP start production at Satellite Cluster

ADITI DIVEKAR

Mumbai, 26 April

Reliance Industries (RIL) and BP on Monday announced the start of production from the Satellite Cluster gas field, in block KG-D6, ahead of schedule. The second of the three deep-water gas developments, planned jointly, was expected to start production in mid-2021.

RIL and BP have been developing R Cluster, Satellite Cluster and MJ in the KG-D6 block — which together are expected to produce around 30 mmscmd (1 billion cubic feet a day) of natural gas by 2023. It will meet up to 15 per cent of the country's gas demand, said RIL in its exchange filing on Monday.

Despite Covid-19 challenges, the Satellite Cluster field has come onstream two months ahead of schedule, it said. The field is located about 60 km from the existing on-

shore terminal at Kakinada on the East Coast in water depths of up to 1,850 metres.

The fields will each utilise the existing hub infrastructure in the KG-D6 block, it said. RIL is the operator of the block with a 66.67 per cent participating interest, while BP holds 33.33 per cent. Meanwhile, brokerages said the exploration and production (E&P) segment accounts for just 2 per cent of consolidated FY23 earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (Ebitda). Hence, it will not have much impact on the company's valuations or the earnings per share (EPS).

The Satellite Cluster field will produce gas from four reservoirs, utilising a total of five wells and is expected to reach gas production of up to 6 mmscmd. The R Cluster and Satellite Cluster are expected to contribute to about 20 per cent of India's current gas production.

S&P Global Platts cuts '21 oil demand forecast by 9%

PUNEET WADHWA
New Delhi, 26 April

S&P Global Platts has cut India's 2021 demand forecast for oil products by nine per cent to 400,000 barrels per day (bpd) now, as compared to 440,000 bpd estimated last month. The revision, S&P Global Platts said, was done because of the surge in Covid-19 cases across the country, which has triggered lockdowns.

"Lockdowns have been imposed in some pockets and provinces. Therefore, we have adjusted India's total oil product demand growth for 2021 down to 400,000 bpd for the latest update, as against 440,000 bpd last month, pending further adjustment in the future depending on the COVID-19 situation," said Lim Jit Yang, advisor for oil markets for Asia-Pacific at Platts Analytics in a note.

The total petroleum demand in India, according to their estimate, had declined to 470,000 bpd in 2020, when the first wave pulled down petroleum consumption to the

lowest level in nearly two decades.
"Indian refiners have so far stayed away

from slashing crude run rates sharply despite the surge in Covid-19 cases to record

highs, but with a rise in regional lockdowns and its subsequent impact on mobility and industrial activity, analysts said they will be forced to scale back crude runs in anticipation of a slowdown in oil demand," Platts said.

A silver lining, however, could be railways that still chugs along — transporting key essentials across the country. A CRISIL report suggests that the impact of the second wave on industrial activities has been small thus far, aided by movement of goods across the rail network.

"Railway freight movement of major inputs, such as coal, iron, and steel, has remained relatively steady. It recorded a slight decline towards the beginning of April (an annual feature as year-end activities saw an increase in volumes in March, and then dip in April), but has recovered since then. This indicates that on an overall level, the impact of the second Covid-19 wave on industrial activities thus far remains small," wrote economists at CRISIL Ratings, in an April 26 note.

Total declares force majeure on Mozambique project

Confirms withdrawing staff from site following insurgent attacks last month

REUTERS
26 April

French energy group Total declared force majeure on its \$20 billion liquefied natural gas (LNG) project in Mozambique and confirmed it had withdrawn all staff from the construction site following insurgent attacks last month.

Dozens of civilians were killed in the Islamic State-linked attacks in the coastal Mozambique town of Palma, near gas projects that are worth \$60 billion and are aimed at transforming the East African

nation's economy.

The violence in March has dealt a blow to plans by Total and rival Exxon Mobil (XOM.N), which also has an LNG project in Mozambique, to turn the country into a major LNG producer to rival Australia, Qatar, Russia and the United States.

It also comes as major energy companies reassess their approach to LNG, once seen as a fuel of the future because it has lower emissions than coal or oil but now under scrutiny in the drive to cut carbon emissions even



more deeply.

"Considering the evolution of the security situation ... Total confirms the withdrawal of all Mozambique LNG project personnel from the Afungi site. This situation leads Total, as operator of Mozambique LNG project, to declare force majeure," the company said

on Monday.

Total, which aimed to produce its first cargo from the project in 2024, suspended work on March 27 after the militant attack.

Declaring force majeure implies a weightier suspension and allows Total to cancel contractors.

"Mozambique was considered the next LNG El Dorado thanks to its large, low-cost resource base and ideal location to supply key demand centres," said Thomas Adolff from Credit Suisse.

"But instead it is looking more like ... Mozambique: no longer playing a big role in the 2020s," he added.

Carlos Zacarias, chairman of the institute that governs Mozambique's energy development, told a news conference that Total would not fulfil contractual obligations while the force majeure was in place.

He added that Total had not abandoned the project.

Mozambique President Filipe Nyusi said this month

that the government would work to restore peace.

The LNG project includes development of the Golfinho and Atum natural gas fields in the Offshore Area 1 concession and the construction of a two-train liquefaction plant with capacity of 13.12 million tonnes per annum (mtpa).

Total secured a \$14.9 billion debt financing package in July to fund its rollout. On Monday the company said it had agreement from the lenders to pause the debt drawdown.

It also said it was too early to provide an updated project schedule, though there was speculation among some contractors that the delay could last at least a year.

Global crude falls on India's Covid surge, supply rise

REUTERS

LONDON, APRIL 26

OIL FELL on Monday on fears that surging Covid-19 cases in India will dent fuel demand in the world's third-biggest oil importer, while the end of a force majeure on exports from a Libyan terminal and an expected supply increase from OPEC+ added to pressure.

Brent crude was \$1.08, or 1.6 per cent, lower at \$65.03 a barrel by 1329 GMT. US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude was down 97 cents, or 1.6 per cent, at \$61.17 a barrel.

COVID-19 IMPACT

'Lockdowns, travel curbs by states dampen fuel, ATF sale'

Lockdowns and travel restrictions imposed by some states have dampened sale of auto fuels and aviation turbine fuel (ATF), leading to refining and marketing companies reducing throughputs, an Icra report said

BENCHMARK MARGINS SUBDUED:

The benchmark Singapore gross refining margins (GRMs) remain subdued due to the global supply overhang amid a demand slowdown & are unlikely to

materially improve in the near-term

FACTORS THAT COULD DAMPEN OIL DEMAND AND GRMs:

- Travel restrictions imposed

by many countries on flights from India

- New Covid mutant, responsible for a virulent second wave, spreading to at least 10 other countries

EFFECT OF LOW DEMAND:

Although not as severe as in April 2020, slowdown in demand is leading to:

- Refining and marketing companies cutting down on capacity utilisation
- Low revenues and operating profitability for such companies

Source: Icra/PTI



Why is it important: *Though it is expected that retail prices of auto fuels would be hiked from May, the said rise is likely to be calibrated over a period of time, given the resurging pandemic*

RIL, BP start production from 2nd gas field in KG-D6

New Delhi: Reliance Industries and its partner BP on Monday announced the start of gas production from the second set of new discoveries in the eastern offshore KG-D6 block.

RIL and BP, which had commenced output from R Cluster in December last year, started production from the Satellite Cluster, the two companies said. "Satellite Cluster field comes onstream two months ahead of schedule despite Covid challenges," it said.

The start of production augurs well for country that is looking to raise the share of natural gas in its energy basket from 6.2% currently to 15% by 2030, to help cut carbon emissions.

EXPECT 3RD IN LATE 2022

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Reliance is the operator of the block with a 66.7% participating interest and BP holds the remaining 33.3%. The field is located about 60 km from the existing onshore terminal at Kakinada, in Andhra Pradesh in water depths of up to 1,850 meters. The third KG D6 development, MJ, is expected to come onstream towards the latter half of 2022. PTI

EXPRESS READ

Ex-Maruti MD Jagdish Khattar passes away

New Delhi: Former Maruti Suzuki managing director Jagdish Khattar passed away due to a cardiac arrest on April 26. He was 78 years old. Khattar, a former bureaucrat, was considered one of the most high profile leaders of the Indian automobile industry, and was credited for laying the foundation for Maruti's future growth.

Reliance, BP start production in KG-D6

New Delhi: Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) and BP on Monday announced the start of production from the Satellite Cluster gas field in block KG-D6 off the east coast. The three deep-water gas uner development are together expected to produce around 30 mmscmd of natural gas by 2023, meeting up to 15 per cent of India's gas demand.

इस्राइल की पेट्रोलियम कंपनी का यूएई के साथ 1.1 अरब डॉलर का करार

यरुशलम, (एपी)। इस्राइल की बड़ी ऊर्जा कंपनियों में से एक डेलोक ड्रिलिंग ने अपनी एक अपतटीय गैस फील्ड में संयुक्त अरब अमीरात की कंपनी को 1.1 अरब डॉलर में एक हिस्सेदार बनाने की योजना तैयार की है। दोनों देशों के बीच पिछले साल रिश्ते सामान्य होने के बाद उनके बीच यह सबसे बड़ा सौदा है। डेलोक ड्रिलिंग इस्राइल के अरबपति उद्योगपति यितजाक त्शुवा की कंपनी है। कंपनी ने सोमवार को कहा कि उसने अबू धाबी सरकार के स्वामित्व वाले समूह की इकाई मुबादाला पेट्रोलियम के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन (एमओयू) पर हस्ताक्षर किये। डेलोक ड्रिलिंग को अपतटीय तमार गैस फील्ड में इस साल के अंत तक 22 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी बेचने की जरूरत है। यह 2015 के गैस रूपरेखा समझौते के अनुरूप है। इसका मकसद इस्राइली गैस क्षेत्र में और प्रतिस्पर्धा लाना है। हाल के वर्षों में बड़े अपतटीय भंडारों के खोज के साथ इस क्षेत्र में उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि हुई है। तमार फील्ड में 300 अरब घन मीटर से अधिक गैस होने का अनुमान है। शेवरोन और इस्राइली-अमेरिकी कंपनी इसरामको दोनों की अलग-अलग करीब एक-तिहाई हिस्सेदारी है।

इजराइल की पेट्रोलियम कंपनी का यूई के साथ 1.1 अरब डॉलर का करार

एजेंसी ■ यरुशलम

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दोनों देशों के बीच पिछले साल रिश्ते सामान्य होने के बाद उनके बीच यह सबसे बड़ा सौदा है।

तक 22 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी बेचने की जरूरत है। यह 2015 के गैस रूपरेखा समझौते के अनुरूप है। इसका मकसद इजराइली गैस क्षेत्र में और प्रतिस्पर्धा लाना है। हाल के वर्षों में बड़े अपतटीय भंडारों के खोज के साथ इस क्षेत्र में उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि हुई है। तमार फील्ड में 300 अरब घन मीटर से अधिक गैस होने का अनुमान है। शेवरोन और इजराइली-अमेरिकी कंपनी इसरामको दोनों की अलग-अलग करीब एक-तिहाई हिस्सेदारी है। शेष हिस्सेदारी छोटी कंपनियों के पास है।

पेट्रोल-डीजल के दाम लगातार 11वें दिन स्थिर

नई दिल्ली, (वार्ता)। पेट्रोल-डीजल के दाम सोमवार को लगातार 11वें दिन स्थिर रहे। देश की सबसे बड़ी तेल विपणन कंपनी इंडियन ऑयल कॉर्पोरेशन के अनुसार राष्ट्रीय राजधानी दिल्ली में पेट्रोल सोमवार को 90.40 रुपये और डीजल 80.73 रुपये प्रति लीटर पर स्थिर रहा। पंद्रह दिन स्थिर रहने के बाद तेल विपणन कंपनियों ने गत 15 अप्रैल को इनमें कटौती की थी। इसके बाद से फिर दोनों ईंधनों के दाम में कोई बदलाव नहीं किया गया है। मुंबई, चेन्नई और कोलकाता में भी दाम स्थिर रहे। पेट्रोल-डीजल के दाम की रोजाना समीक्षा होती है और उसके आधार पर हर दिन सुबह छह बजे से नयी कीमतें लागू की जाती हैं।

रिलायंस, बीपी ने केजी-डी6 ब्लॉक में गहरे पानी में दूसरे गैस क्षेत्र से उत्पादन शुरू किया

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा)। रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड और उसकी ब्रिटेन स्थित साझेदार बीपी पीएलसी ने सोमवार को कहा कि केजी-डी6 ब्लॉक में उनके द्वारा गहरे पानी में की गई नई खोज में दूसरे गैस क्षेत्र से उत्पादन शुरू हो गया है। दोनों कंपनियों ने संयुक्त बयान में कहा कि आर क्लस्टर में पिछले साल दिसंबर में उत्पादन चालू हो गया था और अब सैटेलाइट क्लस्टर में उत्पादन शुरू हो गया है। रिलायंस और बीपी ने केजी-डी6 ब्लॉक में हाल में दो गहरे पानी वाले गैस क्षेत्रों की खोज की है, जिन्हें सैटेलाइट क्लस्टर और एमजे क्लस्टर कहा जाता है। बयान में कहा गया, कोविड-19 की चुनौतियों के बावजूद सैटेलाइट क्लस्टर क्षेत्र से उत्पादन तय समय से दो महीने पहले शुरू हो गया है। रिलायंस-बीपी केजी-डी6 में तीन गहरे पानी वाले गैस क्षेत्र का विकास कर रहे हैं, जिनके नाम आर क्लस्टर, सैटेलाइट क्लस्टर और एमजे हैं। इन तीनों क्षेत्रों की प्राकृतिक गैस की कुल क्षमता 2023 तक 30 मिलियन मानक घन मीटर प्रतिदिन है, जिससे भारत की 15 प्रतिशत गैस की मांग पूरी हो सकती है।

IMAGE VIEW

TEXT VIEW

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रिलायंस, बीपी ने केजी-डी6 में दूसरे गैस फील्ड में शुरु किया उत्पादन

नई दिल्ली, 27 : रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड और उसकी ब्रिटीश साझेदार बीपी कंपनी ने केजी-डी6 ब्लॉक में गैस खाने में की गई नई खोज में से दूसरे फील्ड में गैस उत्पादन शुरू कर दिया है। इससे देश की ऊर्जा आवश्यकता को पूरा करने में मदद मिलेगी।
उनी कंपनियों ने संयुक्त बचन में कहा कि आर क्वार्टर में पिछले साल दिसंबर में उत्पादन खालू किया गया था। अब सेटलाइट क्वार्टर में उत्पादन शुरू किया गया है। क्वार्टर के कारण सामने आई चुनौतियों के बावजूद इस क्षेत्र से गैस उत्पादन तय वाजम से दो महीने पहले शुरू करने में सफलता मिली है।
रिलायंस और बीपी मिलकर केजी-डी6 ब्लॉक में तीन क्वार्टर गैस फील्ड पर काम कर रही हैं। इनके नाम आर क्वार्टर, सेटलाइट क्वार्टर और एमने हैं। इन तीनों क्षेत्रों की प्राकृतिक गैस उत्पादन की कुल क्षमता 2023

मिली सफलता

- दो साल में देश की कुल गैस जरूरत का 15 फीसद पूरा करेगा रिलायंस-बीपी का सहजोड़
- 2030 तक सरकार ने एकजी क्वार्टर में गैस की हिस्सेदारी 15 फीसद करने का रखा है लक्ष्य

तक 20 मिलियन मानक घन मीटर (एमएमएससीएम) प्रतिदिन खनने पर अनुमान है, जिससे भारत को 15 फीसद गैस की मांग पूरी हो सकती है। 2022 के अंत तक एमने से उत्पादन शुरू होने की उम्मीद है। इन गैस क्षेत्र में रिलायंस के पास 66.67 फीसद और बीपी के पास 33.33 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी है।
संस्कार ने 2030 तक देश के एनजी क्वार्टर में प्राकृतिक गैस की हिस्सेदारी को मौजूद 6.2 फीसद से

बाढ़कर 15 फीसद करने का लक्ष्य रखा है। केजी-डी6 के नए गैस फील्ड में उत्पादन शुरू होने से इस लक्ष्य में सहाय्य मिलेगा। अभी खालू गैस उत्पादन करीब 78 एमएमएससीएम प्रतिदिन है। यह कुल मांग के आधे के बराबर है।
केजी-डी6 के उत्पादन और केजी-डी5 ब्लॉक में एंथेनजीसी की प्रस्तावित योजना से 2023-24 तक वह उत्पादन 122 एमएमएससीएम प्रतिदिन हो जाएगा।
रिलायंस ने अब तक केजी-डी6 में 19 गैस क्षेत्रों की खोज की है। इनमें सबसे बड़े डी-1 और डी-3 से अगिल, 2009 में उत्पादन शुरू हुआ था। इस ब्लॉक में इकोनॉमिक्स अक्सरेट एनए से दिसंबर, 2008 में उत्पादन की शुरुआत हुई थी। एनए से उत्पादन 2019 में बंद हुआ था और डी-1 व डी-3 से फरवरी, 2020 में उत्पादन शुरू किया गया था।

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रिलायंस, बीपी ने केजी-डी6 ब्लॉक में गहरे पानी में दूसरे गैस क्षेत्र से उत्पादन शुरू किया

एजेंसी ■ नई दिल्ली

रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड और उसकी ब्रिटेन स्थित साझेदार बीपी पीएलसी ने सोमवार को कहा कि केजी-डी6 ब्लॉक में उनके द्वारा गहरे पानी में की गई नई खोज में दूसरे गैस क्षेत्र से उत्पादन शुरू हो गया है। दोनों कंपनियों ने संयुक्त बयान में कहा कि आर क्लस्टर में पिछले साल दिसंबर में उत्पादन चालू हो गया था और अब सैटेलाइट क्लस्टर में उत्पादन शुरू हो गया है। रिलायंस और बीपी ने केजी-डी6 ब्लॉक में हाल में दो गहरे पानी वाले गैस क्षेत्रों की खोज की है, जिन्हें सैटेलाइट क्लस्टर और एमजे क्लस्टर



कहा जाता है। बयान में कहा गया, कोविड-19 की चुनौतियों के बावजूद सैटेलाइट क्लस्टर क्षेत्र से उत्पादन तय समय से दो महीने पहले शुरू हो गया है। रिलायंस-बीपी केजी-डी6 में तीन गहरे पानी वाले गैस क्षेत्र का विकास कर रहे हैं, जिनके नाम आर क्लस्टर, सैटेलाइट क्लस्टर और एमजे हैं। इन

तीनों क्षेत्रों की प्राकृतिक गैस की कुल क्षमता 2023 तक 30 मिलियन मानक घन मीटर प्रतिदिन है, जिससे भारत की 15 प्रतिशत गैस की मांग पूरी हो सकती है। इन गैस क्षेत्र में रिलायंस के पास 66.67 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी और बीपी के पास 33.33 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी है।