



ONGC News 19.03.2023 Print

India, B'desh inaugurate cross-border energy pipeline

Rezaul H Laskar

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: India and Bangladesh on Saturday inaugurated a cross-border pipeline that will have the capacity to supply one million metric tonnes of diesel a year from Assam's Numaligarh refinery to the northern parts of the neighbouring country.

The India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline (IBFP), inaugurated during a virtual ceremony by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his counterpart Sheikh Hasina, will cut the time and cost of supplying fuel from India

and bolster energy connectivity between the two countries.

Numaligarh refinery has been supplying petroleum products to Bangladesh since 2015. Bangladesh currently imports 60,000 metric tonnes to 80,000 metric tonnes of diesel from India by rail. This is the second cross-border energy pipeline between India and its neighbours.

Describing the pipeline as a new chapter in bilateral relations, Modi said bilateral petroleum trade has crossed the \$1-billion mark. "Reliable and cost-effective diesel supply will be especially beneficial for the

**BANGLADESH
CURRENTLY
IMPORTS 60,000
METRIC TONNES TO
80,000 MT OF
DIESEL FROM
INDIA BY RAIL.**

agriculture sector. Local industries will also benefit," he said, speaking in Hindi.

Hasina, who spoke in Bengali, said the pipeline is crucial for energy security in Bangladesh. "At a time when many countries

are facing an energy crisis because of the Russia-Ukraine war, this pipeline will play a significant role in ensuring energy security for our people," she said. "A good market has been created for Assam in Bangladesh...Assam's residents will benefit," she added.

The 132-km pipeline running from Siliguri in India to Parbatipur in Bangladesh was built at a cost of ₹377 crore. The groundbreaking was done in September 2018, and the 127-km stretch within Bangladesh was built with an Indian grant. Modi also noted importance of the pipeline

at a time when many developing economies are struggling to ensure food and energy security and said: "I am sure this pipeline will accelerate the development of Bangladesh and also be an excellent example of increasing connectivity between the two countries."

Hasina pointed to the work done by the two sides over the years to forge stronger links, including Ganga waters sharing treaty, revival of rail and road links snapped during the 1965 India-Pakistan war, the settling of land and maritime borders, and energy connectivity.

Modi, Hasina inaugurate fuel pipeline to B'desh

Signals Growing Ties Between Two Sides: Modi

TIMES NEWS NETWORK



'Millets symbol of India's push for global good'

Vishwa.Mohan@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi and his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina jointly inaugurated the Rs 377 crore India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline (IBFP) virtually on Saturday. The pipeline will start a new chapter in India-Bangladesh ties, Modi said at the inauguration. Currently, diesel is supplied to Bangladesh through a 512 km rail route. The 131.5-km pipeline will supply up to 1 million tonnes per annum of diesel from Numaligarh in Assam to Bangladesh.

This would not just help save on transportation costs but also reduce carbon footprint of moving the fuel, Modi said. IBFP is the first cross-border energy pipeline between India and Bangladesh with a capacity to transport 1 Million Metric Ton Per Annum (MMTPA) of High-Speed

Diesel (HSD) to Bangladesh, said the government. It is also only the second cross-border energy pipeline between India and its neighbours.

"In the last few years, Bangladesh has made remarkable progress. Every Indian is proud of that and we are delighted that we have been able to contribute to this development journey of Bangladesh," Modi said in his address at the virtual event. "I am confident this pipeline will further accelerate the development of Bangladesh, and will be an excellent example of increasing connectivity between the two countries," he added.

New Delhi: In what could be an addition as one of the key elements of India's 'soft power' such as yoga, ayurveda and global solar alliance, PM Narendra Modi on Saturday called millets a symbol of the country's responsibilities towards "global good", saying how its production and consumption can help face the twin challenges — food security of global South (developing countries) and unsustainable food habit problem of global North (developed nations).

"Millets have been part of India's lifestyle for centuries... We want to share our experience linked to millets and its farming with the world. I would therefore like to request the agriculture ministers of other countries to jointly develop a stable mechanism in this direction," the PM said.

Modi, hasina inaugurate pipeline to Bangladesh	Finacial Express	1	Bureau
--	------------------	---	--------

Reuters. ■ PAGE 11

Modi, Hasina inaugurate pipeline to Bangladesh



PRIME MINISTER
Narendra Modi
and Bangladesh
Premier

Sheikh Hasina on Saturday inaugurated a ₹377-crore pipeline to transport diesel from India to northern Bangladesh, cutting cost and reducing carbon footprint, reports

PTI. ■ PAGE 3

FINANCIAL EXPRI
READ IT 

● TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT STANDS AT ₹377 CRORE

PM Modi, Hasina inaugurate fuel pipeline to Bangladesh

The 131.5-km-long pipeline will transport diesel, cutting costs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, March 18

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA Modi and Bangladesh premier Sheikh Hasina on Saturday inaugurated a ₹377-crore pipeline to transport diesel from India to northern Bangladesh, cutting costs and reducing carbon footprint.

The pipeline will start a new chapter in India-Bangladesh relations, Modi said at the inauguration.

Currently, diesel is supplied to Bangladesh through a 512-km rail route. The 131.5-km pipeline will supply up to 1 million tonnes per annum of diesel from Numaligarh in Assam to Bangladesh.

This would not just help save on transportation costs but also reduce the carbon footprint of moving the fuel, Modi said.

"This pipeline is especially important in the context of many developing nations struggling for fertiliser and energy security," he said.

The construction of the pipeline project started in 2018. It is the first cross-border energy pipeline between the two neighbours. Of the total cost of ₹377 crore of the project, ₹285 crore of the Bangladesh section of the pipeline has been borne by the



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh PM Sheikh Hasina during the India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline inauguration via video conferencing on Saturday

Government of India under grant assistance.

The foundation stone of this pipeline was laid by both Prime Ministers in September 2018. Numaligarh Refinery Limited has been supplying petroleum products to Bangladesh since 2015.

The Prime Minister thanked Hasina for her constant guidance on the project and expressed his wish to continue working with her for the benefit of the people of the two countries.

He said the work on the pipeline continued despite the pandemic and will help reduce the cost of transportation. Also, the carbon footprint of this supply will be lower than the alternative mode.

"Reliable and sustainable diesel supply will be beneficial for the agriculture sector. Industries will also benefit

from it," he said. "The pipeline will aid faster development of Bangladesh and will be an excellent example of increasing connectivity between the two countries." It is important that all pillars of connectivity, be it transport, energy, electricity grid or digital, should be strengthened, he said. Increased connectivity will aid people-to-people contact.

Modi said during the Covid pandemic, rail connectivity helped India supply oxygen and other essentials to Bangladesh.

In the energy sector, cooperation between two nations is highly successful. "Today India is supplying more than 1,100 MW of electricity to Bangladesh," he said.

Also, the first unit of the 2x660 MW Maitree thermal power project in Bagerhat district of Khulna division of

Bangladesh has started and the second unit would also start soon, he said.

The project has been developed under India's concessional financing scheme. It is being built by Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) for Bangladesh-India Friendship Power Company Pvt Ltd. The first 660 MW unit started operations in October last year and the second similar capacity unit would go on stream soon.

"Our petroleum trade has crossed \$1 billion," he said referring to energy trade between the two nations.

The hydrocarbon cooperation between the two nations is across the entire value chain - from upstream oil and gas exploration to midstream transportation and downstream. "This pipeline will further strengthen this cooperation," he said.

Bangladesh is India's top-most development partner and its largest trade partner in the region. The operationalisation of the Friendship Pipeline will enhance ongoing energy cooperation between the two countries and will further growth in Bangladesh, particularly in the agriculture sector.

The India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline (IBFPL) will transport 1 million tonnes per annum (MMTPA) of diesel to seven districts in Northern Bangladesh. The pipeline will run from the Siliguri-based marketing terminal of the Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) to the Parbatipur depot of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC). The fuel transport deal between the two countries will be in force for 15 years with an option for further extension during subsequent phases on the agreement of both countries.

India and Bangladesh have been growing closer in relations as Bangladesh is quickly becoming India's largest trading partner in South Asia.

The country is the fourth biggest market for Indian exports in the world, with exports being worth \$16 billion. The two countries are currently in the process of formulating a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), which could see India's exports to the country double to \$32 billion in the near term.



TN's new ethanol blending policy eyes to attract ₹5k-cr investment

SAJAN C KUMAR
Chennai, March 18

IN A BID to promote Tamil Nadu as an investment hub for alternate cost-effective green fuel, the state government on Saturday introduced a new ethanol blending policy to attract investments worth ₹5,000 crore in molasses or grain-based ethanol production capacity in the state.

The policy, which will be valid for a period of 5 years from the date of notification, is aimed at helping the state to be self-sufficient and meet the estimated ethanol blending requirement of 130 crore litres over a period of time.

The state's petrol requirement is estimated to increase to 474 crore litres by FY 2024-25. With transportation sector accounting for nearly one-fourth of GHG emissions, and considering the projected robust

growth of the state's vehicular fleet, there is an immediate need to transition to alternate cost-effective green fuel that mitigates climate change, according to the policy document.

The state government seeks to improve farmer income through price realisation and expansion in opportunities due to ethanol blending as well as revive the sugar industry in Tamil Nadu through improved utilisation of existing mills and diversification to dual feedstock.

Under the policy, it will apply for grain-based distilleries or expansion of existing grain-based distilleries, new molasses and sugar/syrup-based distilleries or expansion of existing distilleries, new dual feed distilleries or expansion of existing dual feed distilleries — of which one feed will be sourced from molasses, conversion of existing molasses-based distilleries to dual feed and conversion of grain-based distilleries to dual feed.

The policy will strive to enhance import substitution through indigenous sourcing and production of fuel grade ethanol, enable capacity creation and diversification of grain-based



distilleries. It will seek to mitigate climate change risks and support diversification through reduction in air pollution arising from fossil fuels.

Currently, ethanol production in the state is primarily from sugarcane (molasses-based) distilleries.

Under the policy, the state will encourage diversification of feedstock to encourage low water consuming and versatile crops like maize, sorghum

and tapioca.

Further, it will come up with appropriate guidelines to utilise damaged rice for ethanol production.

In order to address environmental concerns from the transportation sector, reduce import dependency and boost the agriculture sector, the Centre had launched the ethanol blended petrol (EBP) programme in 2003 with a target of supply of 5% ethanol blended petrol and has now reset its target, to achieve 20% blending of ethanol in petrol by 2025 through the national biofuels policy.

Tamil Nadu has a natural advantage with a total cropped area of 6.63 million hectares from a diversified range of crops such as sugarcane, paddy, maize, tapioca, and sweet sorghum.

Further, the coverage of irrigated area is higher than the national average.

The EBP programme provides an opportunity for Tamil Nadu to maximise its value addition to the state's natural resources by promoting indigenous ethanol production based on existing locally available agro-centric resources, expansion of these resources as well as utilisation of surplus and damaged produce.

New Chapter starting with India-B'desh pipeline: Modi	Millennium Post	2	Bureau
---	-----------------	---	--------

New chapter starting with India-B'desh pipeline: Modi

The Rs 377 cr pipeline will transport diesel from India to northern Bangladesh, cutting cost & carbon footprint

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh premier Sheikh Hasina on Saturday inaugurated a Rs 377 crore pipeline to transport diesel from India to northern Bangladesh, cutting cost and reducing carbon footprint. The pipeline will start a new chapter in India-Bangladesh relations, Modi said at the inauguration.

Currently, diesel is supplied to Bangladesh through a 512-km rail route. The 131.5-km pipeline will supply up to 1 million tonnes per annum of diesel from Numaligarh in Assam to Bangladesh.



This would not just help save on transportation costs but also reduce the carbon footprint of moving the fuel, Modi said. The construction of the

pipeline project started in 2018. It is the first cross-border energy pipeline between the two neighbours. Of the total cost of Rs 377 crore of the

project, the Rs 285 crore cost of Bangladesh section of the pipeline has been borne by the government of India under grant assistance. The IBFPL will be transporting 1 million tonnes per annum (MMTPA) of diesel to seven districts in Northern Bangladesh.

The pipeline will run from the Siliguri-based marketing terminal of the Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) to the Parbatipur depot of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC). The fuel transport deal between the two countries will be in force for 15 years with an option for further extension during subsequent phases on the agreement of both countries.

AUTHOR

DIPANKAR DEY

Russia has emerged as the single largest supplier of crude oil which is converted into petrol products at refineries. India's imports from Russia jumped about five times to USD 41.56 billion during the April-February period of FY 2022-23. India's imports of crude oil from Russia soared to a record 1.6 million barrels per day in February and are now higher than combined imports from traditional suppliers Iraq and Saudi Arabia. India buys more than one-third (around 35 per cent) of its imported crude from Russia. In February 2022, before the start of the Russia-Ukraine war, Russia's share in India's crude imports was negligible. Iraq, the second largest oil source for India, supplied 9,39,921 barrels per day (bpd) of oil in February while Saudi Arabia supplied 6,47,813 bpd of oil. UAE overtook the US to become the fourth largest supplier at 4,04,570 bpd. The US supplied 2,48,430 bpd,

down from 3,99,914 bpd in January. India sources crude oil from 39 countries. The rise in Russian imports has been at the expense of Saudi Arabia and the United States. Oil imports from Saudi fell 16 per cent month on month and that from the US declined by 38 per cent.

India is the world's third-largest importer of crude oil after China and the USA. Russian crude is now available at a discount after five major NATO members have shunned it as a means of punishing them for invading Ukraine. Nearly 50 per cent of India's total gas requirements came from abroad, but mostly from the Gulf States with very little from Russia. China imports most of its gas via pipeline from Central Asia. Currently, Turkmenistan is the largest supplier. There's been a noticeable increase this year in LNG imports from Russia, although most of China's LNG still comes from other countries. China has also signed new deals to transport Russian LNG by sea via the Arctic.

Major beneficiaries

Domestic private refiners are enjoying a boost in refining margins from processing discounted Russian crude. Quoting the cargo data tracker Vortexa, 'The Economic Times' reported that Reliance Industries and Russia-backed Nayara Energy (formerly Essar Oil) together took 45 per cent of all the Russian oil imported by India since the outbreak of the Ukraine war, far higher than their 35 per cent share in the domestic refining capacity. These companies buy the cheaper oil, refine it and sell it back at a big markup to European nations. News reports suggest that nearly one-third of Reliance's Russian purchase is now from Russia, which was only at 5 per cent before the war began. This also means that pub-

lic sector refiners such as Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum are getting only a small share of the Russian oil. But these public refiners are the ones that supply more than 90 per cent of the average Indian's fuel needs. So, the companies that refine and export to other nations garner the bulk of cheaper Russian oil imports via air-sea companies that supply fuel to the common man. The average Indian has not been able to reap the benefits of cheaper Russian oil imports while private refiners are reaping record profits.

Financing the import

Almost immediately after Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered troops into Ukraine the Western alliance imposed sanctions that were more stringent than ever before. It was an economic war of unprecedented proportions. The most important of the sanctions targeted the financial sector. The US Treasury took measures that effectively immobilized any assets of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation (CBR) held in the US or by US persons, wherever located. The US European allies acted almost in sync to prevent the CBR from deploying its international reserves and also decided to remove select Russian banks from the SWIFT messaging system to ensure that these banks were disconnected from the international financial system, thus blocking their global operations. Eventually, seven banks were taken



Boomeranged!

The Western embargo on Russian oil has only nudged the transcontinental nation to diversify its oil trade in currencies other than the dollar — challenging the five-decade-long dollar dominance and paving way for the emergence of a new Eurasian bloc comprising Russia, China, India, Iran, Saudi Arabia et al



Joseph Biden

Vladimir Putin

Xi Jinping

Narendra Modi

US dollar in global trade is declining. The January figures from the payment system SWIFT reveals that the US dollar's share of overall international payments is much smaller at 40 per cent. Experts believe that the sanctions against Russia could have undermined the West's financial systems while failing to achieve their aim.

It may be recalled that the IMF Deputy Managing Director Gita Gopinath said in March 2022, within a month after Russia's invasion of Ukraine, that sanctions on Russia could erode the dollar's dominance by encouraging smaller trading blocs using other currencies. Now Russia holds a chunk of its currency reserves in renminbi while China has reduced its holdings of dollars. Moscow has agreed to sell gas supplies to China for Yuan and Russia's Ruble instead of dollars.

In 2022, tensions between the US and Saudi Arabia over issues related not only to the production of oil but also to the trading of oil in US dollars have revived fears over the future of the petrodollar system. In March 2022, relations between the US and OPEC member

ingly using the Chinese renminbi rather than the dollar for oil purchases. Quoting an Indian official, 'The Hindu' reported that almost a quarter of the Russian imports are now paid in UAE's dirham. But it is feared that continued payment in dirhams for Russian oil could become harder after the United States and Britain last month added Moscow and Abu Dhabi-based Russian bank MTS to the Russian financial institutions on the sanctions list. MTS had facilitated some Indian non-dollar payments. More recently payments are also made in the Russian Ruble. It is reported that three Indian banks have backed some of these transactions, as Moscow seeks to de-dollarise its economy. Quoting an Indian refining source, Reuters said though most Russian banks have faced sanctions since the war Indian customers and Russian suppliers are determined to keep trading Russian oil. "Russian suppliers will find some other banks for receiving payments," the source told Reuters.

India's largest lender State Bank of India has a nostro, or foreign currency, account in Russia. Similarly, many banks from Russia have opened accounts with Indian banks to facilitate trade. For Indian refiners that in recent weeks started settling some Russian oil purchases in rubles, according to the trade sources, payments have been processed in part by the State Bank of India via its nostro-roubles account in Russia. Those transactions are mostly for oil purchases from Russian state energy giants Gazprom and Rosneft. Bank of Baroda and Axis Bank have handled most of the dirham payments.

Russia to sell its oil — to avoid a global oil shock — but at the same time, minimize its revenues to handicap Russia's war efforts. Russia began diverting oil supplies from its traditional markets

A multipolar world order is the need of the hour

Ban on Russian oil

On December 5, 2022, the US, Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom and 27 countries of the European Union entered into an agreement to impose a price cap on Russian oil. They have resolved to not buy or provide the necessary insurance and maritime services to transport Russian oil at prices above USD 60 per barrel. In economic terms, they have formed a buyer's cartel to reduce the prices of Russian oil, ostensibly to cripple Russia's ability to continue its aggression in Ukraine. The embargo prevented other countries from using EU shipping and insurance services unless oil is sold below the cap. Responding to this ban, the Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas said that there was no moral conflict in buying Russian oil, whereas the government has a moral duty to consumers to ensure that they are supplied with energy.

Nearly half of Russia's annual revenues come from oil, making it extremely dependent on the oil trade. The EU strategy of an outright ban on Russian oil was expected to result in skyrocketing oil prices that would adversely impact the whole world. So, the western bloc of nations formed a buyer's cartel to allow

countries in Asia after Europe's largest market — imposed sanctions on Moscow. India and China have become the largest buyers of Russian oil, benefiting from the discounted oil supplied by Russia. Russia has been selling oil at a discounted rate since March this year after the Ukraine invasion. In March, combined oil imports by China and India from Russia overtook those from the 27 EU member states. From late November, there appears to have been a renewed surge in oil purchases by India. Other countries have also taken advantage of discounted Russian crude — Sri Lanka which has been grappling with a severe economic crisis. Pakistan is making concerted efforts to procure Russian crude oil at USD 50 per barrel.

Apparently, the EU and G7 ban on Russian oil and gas has failed to achieve their objective of globally isolating Russia. Contrary to the mainstream view that Russia will be facing severe consequences of the western embargo on its oil trade there are indications that resilient

Eroding dollar's dominance

Paying for oil in US dollars has been a nearly universal practice for decades since 1973 when the US dollar embraced crude oil as the new gold and migrated to the crude equivalent standard from the gold standard of 1944. Petro-dollar or Petro currency refers to the US dollar traded for worldwide crude-oil exports. It facilitates the investment of export gains as the dollar is the world's reserve currency. US President Richard Nixon withdrew the dollar from the gold standard on August 15, 1971, because of stagflation and USA's dwindling gold reserve. In 1973, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) surged oil pricing within a brief timespan. In 1973 the US and Saudi Arabia entered into an agreement and the US agreed to offer armed protection to Saudi Arabia, and provide weaponry and other military supplies. In return, Saudi Arabia, the leader of the Arab region and OPEC agreed to sell all oil in US dollars. Moreover, Saudi Arabia would recycle the surplus dollars into the American economic system using US treasury bills and bonds.

By 1975, all OPEC members embraced the Petro currency arrangement and consented to export in US dollars. As a result, the American currency got pegged, by default, to the crude oil price. If the crude price increases demand for the US dollar increases. Thus, the US dollar became the reserve currency for most central banks worldwide as the US dollar was the chief currency needed for natural gas and oil trading.

But the near dominance of the dollar eroded so far, that leaders of Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) declined to arrange calls with US President Joe Biden as the US and its allies sought to contain a surge in energy prices caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

President Xi Jinping told Gulf Arab leaders during his visit to Saudi Arabia last December when various long-term agreements were signed between the two nations, that China would like to buy oil and gas in Yuan. This proposal is considered a move that would support Beijing's goal to establish its currency internationally and weaken the US dollar's grip on world trade. In addition to this, the recent China-brokered Saudi-Iran rapprochement represents Beijing's first foray into Middle East mediation, an area that for the past few decades was largely occupied by Washington.

Conclusion

The 1973 USA-Saudi Arabia agreement changed the face of the global economy and re-established the dominance of the US dollar. After the disintegration of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s, a unipolar world order emerged. In the three decades, a new economic and military power in China is challenging the American hegemony. A Eurasian bloc consisting of major economies like Russia, China, India, Iran, Saudi Arabia et al has emerged. A multipolar world order is the need of the hour.

Views expressed are personal

HASINA HAILS INDIA FOR OIL PIPELINE

Dhaka: Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said on Saturday that her country's first cross-border oil pipeline with India will play a vital role in ensuring fuel security in Bangladesh at a time when the world was facing a serious energy crisis due to the Ukraine war.

P4

Modi, Hasina launch first cross-border oil pipeline

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■
NEW DELHI

Giving a boost to their bilateral ties, India and Bangladesh on Saturday commenced operations of a pipeline carrying oil from Siliguri in West Bengal to the Parbatipur depot of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporations. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his counterpart Sheikh Hasina jointly inaugurated the first cross-border pipeline virtually.

The friendship pipeline has been built at an estimated cost of Rs 377 crore, of which the Bangladesh portion of the pipeline built at a cost of approximately Rs 285 crore, has been borne by the government of India under grant assistance. With a capacity to transport one million metric



tonne per annum (MMTPA) of high-speed diesel, the pipeline will supply high speed diesel initially to seven districts in northern Bangladesh.

Addressing the event, Prime Minister Modi said the inauguration of friendship

pipeline has started a new chapter in India-Bangladesh relations.

"In last few years, under the able leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesh has made remarkable progress. Every Indian is

proud of that and we are delighted that we've been able to contribute to this development journey of Bangladesh," he said.

Highlighting that the inauguration was taking place a day after the birth anniversary of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, founding leader of Bangladesh and father of Sheikh Hasina, Modi said the joint project is a perfect example of his 'Sonar Bangla' vision.

"The operation of India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline will put in place a sustainable, reliable, cost-effective and environment friendly mode of transporting HSD from India to Bangladesh and will further enhance cooperation in energy security between the two countries," the ministry of external affair said in a statement.

बांग्लादेश से रिश्ते गहरे करेगी मैत्री पाइपलाइन

पीएम मोदी ने शेख हसीना के साथ की शुरुआत

नई दिल्ली। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने कहा कि भारत-बांग्लादेश मैत्री पाइपलाइन दोनों देशों के बीच ऊर्जा सुरक्षा में सहयोग बढ़ाएगी। पीएम मोदी व बांग्लादेश की प्रधानमंत्री शेख हसीना ने भारत से उत्तरी बांग्लादेश तक डीजल पहुंचाने के लिए 377 करोड़ रुपये की पाइपलाइन का शनिवार को वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग के जरिये उद्घाटन किया। इससे जहां लागत में कमी आएगी, वहीं कार्बन फुटप्रिंट भी कम होगा।

पीएम मोदी ने इस मौके पर कहा, मुझे विश्वास है कि यह पाइपलाइन बांग्लादेश के विकास को और गति देगी और दोनों देशों के बीच बढ़ते संपर्क का एक उत्कृष्ट उदाहरण होगा। यह भारत व बांग्लादेश के बीच पहली अंतरराष्ट्रीय ऊर्जा पाइपलाइन है। इसे 377 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से बनाया गया है। पाइपलाइन के बांग्लादेश हिस्से को करीब 285 करोड़ की लागत से अनुदान सहायता के तहत भारत ने तैयार कराया



हर साल 10 लाख मीट्रिक टन डीजल की आपूर्ति : पीएम मोदी ने कहा, परियोजना की शुरुआत सितंबर, 2018 में हुई थी। अभी बांग्लादेश को 512 किमी लंबे रेल मार्ग से डीजल पहुंचाया जाता है। लेकिन 131.5 किमी की पाइपलाइन से असम के नुमलीगढ़ से हर साल दस लाख मीट्रिक टन डीजल बांग्लादेश को आपूर्ति की जाएगी।

है। पीएम मोदी ने कहा, कुछ वर्षों में शेख हसीना के नेतृत्व में बांग्लादेश ने खासी प्रगति की है। हर भारतीय को इस बात पर गर्व और खुशी है कि हम बांग्लादेश को इस विकास यात्रा में योगदान करने में सक्षम हुए हैं। व्यूरो >> विकास को और मिलेगी वृत्ति, बढ़ेगा संपर्क : पेज 15

India-B'desh first pipeline

The Indian
Express

12

Bureau

BRIEFLY

India-B'desh first oil pipeline

New Delhi: PM Sheikh Hasina on Saturday said Bangladesh's oil pipeline with India will play a vital role in ensuring its fuel security. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Bangladesh premier Hasina inaugurated a Rs 377-crore pipeline to transport diesel from India to northern Bangladesh, cutting costs and reducing carbon footprint. **PTI**



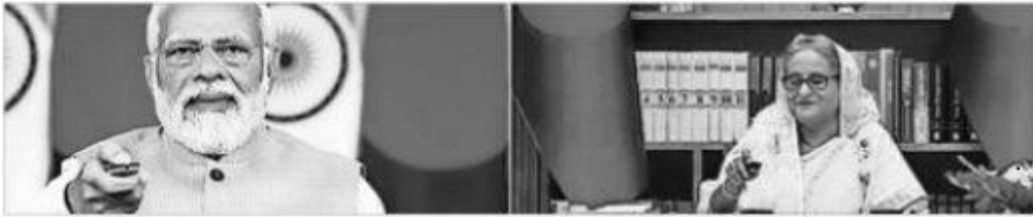
Oil Prices Settle Lower	The Indian Express	12	Bureau
-------------------------	--------------------	----	--------

CRUDE WATCH

OIL PRICES SETTLE LOWER

Oil prices settled lower Friday, reversing early gains of more than \$1 a barrel as banking sector fears caused both benchmarks to reach their biggest weekly declines in months. **REUTERS**

पाइपलाइन परियोजना के उद्घाटन पर बोले मोदी भारत-बांग्लादेश के संबंधों का नया अध्याय शुरू होगा



नई दिल्ली, 18 मार्च (भाषा)।

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी और बांग्लादेश की उनकी समकक्ष शेख हसीना ने शनिवार को उत्तरी बांग्लादेश में डीजल की आपूर्ति करने के लिए 377 करोड़ रुपये के परिव्यय से तैयार पाइपलाइन परियोजना का उद्घाटन किया।

इस परियोजना से खर्च कम होगा और कार्बन उत्सर्जन भी घटेगा। मोदी ने उद्घाटन के दौरान कहा कि इस पाइपलाइन से भारत-बांग्लादेश के संबंधों का नया अध्याय शुरू होगा। प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने कहा कि इस समय, भारत से बांग्लादेश को डीजल आपूर्ति 512 किलोमीटर लंबे रेलमार्ग से की जाती है। 131.5 किलोमीटर लंबी पाइपलाइन से असम

में नुमालीगढ़ से बांग्लादेश तक हर साल 10 लाख टन डीजल की आपूर्ति की जाएगी। उन्होंने कहा कि इससे न सिर्फ परिवहन व्यय कम होगा, बल्कि कार्बन उत्सर्जन में भी कमी आएगी। पाइपलाइन परियोजना का निर्माण 2018 में शुरू हुआ था।

दोनों देशों के बीच यह पहली सीमापार ऊर्जा पाइपलाइन है। इसे लगभग 377 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से बनाया गया है, जिसमें से 285 करोड़ रुपये बांग्लादेश में पाइपलाइन बिछाने में खर्च हुए हैं।

यह राशि भारत ने अनुदान सहायता के तहत खर्च की है। इसके माध्यम से शुरुआत में उत्तरी बांग्लादेश के सात जिलों में हाई-स्पीड डीजल भेजा जाएगा।

BPCL installs EV charging stations on 6 highways

MANASI SARAF JOSHI / Pune

As the Government of India is thrusting upon the use of electric vehicles, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has installed EV charging stations on six highways in Maharashtra recently.

Giving more information about it, PS Ravi, Executive Director I/C (Retail), BPCL said, "The EV fast chargers at BPCL fuel stations recharge EVs in just about 30 minutes giving the driving range of upto 125km, therefore, the distance between the two such facilities at highways have been kept within 100km.

EV-CHARGED HIGHWAYS							
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Pune-Ahmednagar-Aurangabad 240km</td> <td>Pune-Solapur 250km</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pune-Nashik 200km</td> <td>Pune-Kolhapur 225km</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mumbai-Nashik 200km</td> <td>Nashik-Shirdi 90km</td> </tr> </table>	Pune-Ahmednagar-Aurangabad 240km	Pune-Solapur 250km	Pune-Nashik 200km	Pune-Kolhapur 225km	Mumbai-Nashik 200km	Nashik-Shirdi 90km
Pune-Ahmednagar-Aurangabad 240km	Pune-Solapur 250km						
Pune-Nashik 200km	Pune-Kolhapur 225km						
Mumbai-Nashik 200km	Nashik-Shirdi 90km						

He further said, "By March-end 2023, 200 highways will be covered

with EV fast chargers under the brand eDrive. As many as 400 such

corridors across the country will be covered by next year."

All EV customers will be able to use the EV fast charging stations via a pay-per-use online service.

The fast chargers can be self-operated without any manual assistance though support staff will be at hand when needed.

The fast chargers follow the CCS-2 protocol and are a part of BPCL's initiative to address the range anxiety of EV owners.

These charging corridors were inaugurated by Ravi in presence of S. Abbas Akhtar, CGM (Brand and PR), Subhankar Sen, CGM (Retail).

₹377cr diesel pipeline to Bangladesh opened

PTI / New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina on Saturday inaugurated a ₹377-crore pipeline to transport diesel from India to northern Bangladesh, cutting costs and carbon footprint.

The pipeline will start a new chapter in India-Bangladesh relations, Modi said.

Currently, diesel is supplied to Bangladesh through a



512-km rail route. The 131.5-km pipeline will supply up to 1 million tonnes a year of diesel from Numaligarh in Assam to Bangladesh. It would not just save on trans-

portation costs but reduce the carbon footprint of moving the fuel. "This pipeline is especially important in the context of many developing nations struggling for fertiliser

and energy security," he said.

The PM thanked Hasina for her constant guidance on the project and expressed his wish to continue work for the benefit of the two countries.

"Reliable and sustainable diesel supply will benefit the agriculture sector. Industries will also benefit. The pipeline will aid faster development of Bangladesh and will be an excellent example of better connectivity between the nations," he said.

मोदी और हसीना ने पाइपलाइन का किया उद्घाटन, लागत 377 करोड़

■ नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)।

भारत-बांग्लादेश संबंधों में शनिवार को एक नए अध्याय की शुरुआत हुई। प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी और बांग्लादेश की उनकी समकक्ष शेख हसीना ने उत्तरी बांग्लादेश में डीजल की आपूर्ति करने के लिए 377 करोड़ रुपये के परिव्यय से तैयार पाइपलाइन परियोजना का उद्घाटन किया। इस परियोजना से खर्च कम होगा और कार्बन उत्सर्जन भी घटेगा। प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने कहा, भारत-बांग्लादेश फ्रेंडशिप पाइपलाइन की नींव हमने सितम्बर 2018 में रखी थी। मुझे खुशी है कि आज प्रधानमंत्री शेख हसीना जी के साथ इसका उद्घाटन करने का अवसर आ गया।

प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी और बांग्लादेश की प्रधानमंत्री शेख हसीना ने वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग के जरिए भारत-बांग्लादेश फ्रेंडशिप पाइपलाइन का उद्घाटन किया। पीएम मोदी ने कहा, मुझे विश्वास है कि यह पाइपलाइन बांग्लादेश के विकास को और गति देगी और दोनों देशों के बीच बढ़ती कनेक्टिविटी का



बांग्लादेश को हर साल होगी 10 लाख टन डीजल की आपूर्ति

भी एक उत्कृष्ट उदाहरण रहेगी। पिछले कुछ वर्षों में प्रधानमंत्री

हसीना के कुशल नेतृत्व में बांग्लादेश ने उल्लेखनीय प्रगति की है। हर भारतीय को इस पर गर्व है और हमें खुशी है कि हम बांग्लादेश की इस विकास यात्रा में योगदान दे पाए हैं।

इस समय भारत से बांग्लादेश को डीजल आपूर्ति 512 किलोमीटर लंबे रेलमार्ग से की जाती

है। 131.5 किलोमीटर लंबी पाइपलाइन से असम में नुमालीगढ़ से बांग्लादेश तक हर साल 10 लाख टन डीजल की आपूर्ति की जाएगी। इससे न सिर्फ परिवहन व्यय कम होगा, बल्कि कार्बन उत्सर्जन में भी कमी आएगी। पाइपलाइन परियोजना का निर्माण 2018 में शुरू हुआ था। दोनों देशों के बीच यह पहली सीमापार ऊर्जा पाइपलाइन है। इसे लगभग 377 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से बनाया गया है, जिसमें से 285 करोड़ रुपये बांग्लादेश में पाइपलाइन बिछाने में खर्च हुए हैं।

खाद्य सुरक्षा की चुनौतियों से निपटने में मदद कर सकता है मोटा अनाज : पीएम

नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)। प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने शनिवार को कहा कि मोटा अनाज वैश्विक खाद्य सुरक्षा चुनौतियों के साथ-साथ खान-पान संबंधी आदतों से होने वाली बीमारियों से निपटने में मददगार साबित हो सकता है। उन्होंने कृषि वैज्ञानिकों से देश की खाद्य टोकरी में इन पोषक अनाजों की हिस्सेदारी बढ़ाने की दिशा में काम करने का आह्वान किया। मौजूदा समय में राष्ट्रीय खाद्य टोकरी में इन पोषक

अनाजों की भागीदारी 5-6 फीसदी है। मोदी ने वैश्विक श्री अन्न सम्मेलन के उद्घाटन के बाद सभा को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि देश के लिए यह बड़े सम्मान की बात है कि भारत के प्रस्ताव और प्रयासों के बाद संयुक्त राष्ट्र ने 2023 को 'अंतरराष्ट्रीय मोटा अनाज वर्ष' घोषित किया। कई राज्यों ने अपने सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली (पीडीएस) में मोटा अनाज या श्री अन्न को शामिल किया है।

पड़ोसी देशों की ऊर्जा जरूरतों की लाइफलाइन बना भारत

जागरण ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली

भारत अपने पड़ोसी देशों के लिए ऊर्जा स्रोतों की आपूर्ति का सबसे बड़ा केंद्र बन चुका है। शनिवार को भारत-बांग्लादेश फ्रेंडशिप पाइपलाइन (आइबीएफपी) का उद्घाटन प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी और बांग्लादेश की पीएम शेख हसीना ने किया। इससे पड़ोसी देश को सालाना 10 लाख टन डीजल की आपूर्ति की जाएगी। पीएम मोदी ने दोनों देशों के रिश्तों को मजबूत बनाने की दिशा में इस पाइपलाइन को ऐतिहासिक करार दिया। भारत इस तरह की पाइपलाइन एक दूसरे पड़ोसी देश नेपाल के लिए भी बिछा चुका है, जबकि श्रीलंका की भी अधिकांश ऊर्जा जरूरतें अभी भारत ही पूरा कर रहा है।

पाइपलाइन के उद्घाटन को लेकर आयोजित वर्चुअल कार्यक्रम को संबोधित करते हुए पीएम मोदी ने कहा कि जब मौजूदा समय में कई विकासशील देश ऊर्जा व उर्वरक की चुनौतियों से जूझ रहे हैं तो इस परियोजना का खास महत्व है। इससे न सिर्फ भारत व बांग्लादेश में आम जनों के बीच बेहतर संबंध बढ़ेगा बल्कि पूरे क्षेत्र में कार्बन उत्सर्जन में भी कमी आएगी। पाइपलाइन परियोजना का शिलान्यास पीएम मोदी और पीएम हसीना

पीएम मोदी और शेख हसीना ने किया भारत-बांग्लादेश फ्रेंडशिप पाइपलाइन का उद्घाटन

भारत को गर्व है कि उसने बांग्लादेश के विकास में अपना योगदान दिया: पीएम मोदी

ने वर्ष 2018 में किया था। मोदी ने कोविड के बावजूद इस परियोजना के पूरा किये जाने पर बांग्लादेश की पीएम को धन्यवाद दिया और कहा कि भारत को इस बात पर गर्व है कि उसने बांग्लादेश के विकास में अपना योगदान दिया है। उन्होंने भारत की मदद से बांग्लादेश में रेल नेटवर्क और दूसरी ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं के निर्माण का जिक्र करते हुए कहा कि जल्द ही मैत्री बिजली परियोजना की दूसरी यूनिट भी चालू होने वाली है। आइबीएफपी से पहले भारत से नेपाल के बीच (मोतीहारी-अमलेकगंज) इसी तरह की एक पाइपलाइन बिछाई गई है। सितंबर, 2019 में इसका उद्घाटन हुआ था। तब यह दक्षिण एशिया में दो देशों के बीच पहली पेट्रोलियम पाइपलाइन थी, जिसका निर्माण कार्य निर्धारित समय सीमा से 15 माह पहले ही पूरा कर लिया गया था। आइबीएफपी दक्षिण एशिया की दूसरी अंतरराष्ट्रीय पाइपलाइन परियोजना है।