ONGC News, 04.04.2021 Print

'Gas firms hurt by low prices fixed by govt.'	The Hindu	13	PTI	Neutral

'Gas firms hurt by low prices fixed by govt.'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Natural gas production remains a loss-making proposition for most fields for the Indian upstream producers as government-dictated gas price remains at its lowest level, rating agency ICRA has said.

The domestic gas price notified at $1.79 per million British thermal unit for the six months beginning April 1 remains the lowest since the institution of the modified Rangarajan formula.

Also, the ceiling on price for gas produced from deep-water, ultra deep-water, high-temperature and high-pressure fields has been fixed at $3.62 per million Btu for April-September 2021-22 which is 10.8% lower than the ceiling for October-March 2020-21.

Petrol, diesel prices revision unchanged for fourth day	Sunday Standard	10	Bureau	Neutral

Petrol, diesel prices revision unchanged for fourth day

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

OIL marketing companies (OMCs) continued to keep fuel prices unchanged on Saturday, with petrol and diesel prices across the four metros remaining untouched for the fourth day in a row. Pump price of petrol and diesel remained at previous days level of ₹90.56 and ₹80.87 a litre respectively in the capital.

Petrol and diesel fell by 22 paisa and 23 paisa per litre, respectively, on Tuesday in the wake global softening of oil prices. OMC have decide to pause price revision as crude has again gained and climbed up to close to $65 a barrel from a lower $ 60 a barrel earlier.

Across the country as well, the petrol and diesel price remain static on Saturday but its retail levels varied depending on the level of local levies on respective states.

In Mumbai petrol continues to be priced at ₹96.98 a litre and diesel at ₹87.96 a litre. Premium petrol, however, continues to remain over ₹100 a litre in the city as is the case with several cities across the country. The OMCs went on price cut for the first time this year on two consecutive days — March 24 and 25 — after keeping oil prices steady for past 24 days. It again reduced the price on March 30. Fuel prices were last revised upwards on February 27 and ever since then retail prices remained unchanged even though during the period crude jumped to over $70 a barrel. It is now slightly up at $ 63.5 a barrel.

'Lagatar chaute din bhie petrol-diesel ke kemat mein badlav nahie	Dainik Jagran	10	PTI	Neutral

लगातार चौथे दिन पेट्रोल-डीजल की कीमतों में बदलाव नहीं

नई दिल्ली, आइएएनएस : शनिवार को लगातार चौथे दिन घरेलू बाजार में पेट्रोल-डीजल की कीमतों में कोई बदलाव नहीं हुआ। दिल्ली में पेट्रोल की कीमत 90.56 रुपये और डीजल की कीमत 80.87 रुपये प्रति लीटर के स्तर पर कायम है। ऑयल मार्केटिंग कंपनियों ने अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजारों में कच्चे तेल की कीमतों में हल्की बढ़त के बाद भी पेट्रोल-डीजल की खुदरा कीमतों में कोई बदलाव नहीं करने का फैसला लिया।

पेट्रोल और डीजल की कीमतों में छह महीने में पहली बार 24 मार्च को कटौती की गई थी। इसके बाद 25 और 30 मार्च को दाम घटाए गए थे। तीन बार की कटौती से पेट्रोल 61 पैसे और डीजल 60 पैसे प्रति लीटर सस्ता हुआ है।

Ghate ka sauda bana hua hai prakrit gas utpadan	Dainik Jagran	10	Bureau	Neutral

'घाटे का सौदा बना हुआ है प्राकृतिक गैस उत्पादन'

नई दिल्ली, प्रेट्र : रेटिंग एजेंसी इक्रा का कहना है कि भारत में ज्यादातर फील्ड में प्राकृतिक गैस उत्पादन अपस्ट्रीम उत्पादकों के लिए घाटे का सौदा बना हुआ है। सरकार द्वारा तय गैस की कीमतें निचले स्तर पर हैं, जिससे उत्पादन पर नकारात्मक प्रभाव पड़ रहा है।

पहली अप्रैल, 2021 से अगले छह महीने के लिए घरेलू गैस की कीमत 1.79 डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू तय की गई है। कीमतों को लेकर नया रंगराजन फॉर्मूला लागू होने के बाद से यह सबसे निचला स्तर है। इसके अलावा गहरे पानी, अत्यधिक गहरे पानी, उच्च तापमान व उच्च दबाव वाले क्षेत्रों से उत्पादित गैस की कीमतों की अधिकतम सीमा अप्रैल-सितंबर के लिए 3.62 डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू तय की गई है। यह अक्टूबर-मार्च के लिए तय सीमा 4.06 डॉलर से 10.8 फीसद कम है। रेटिंग एजेंसी का कहना है कि कीमतों को इतने निचले स्तर पर रखने से परियोजनाओं का विकास प्रभावित होगा। यह स्थिति उपभोक्ताओं के लिए फायदेमंद है, लेकिन उत्पादकों के लिए प्रतिकूल है। इतने कम दाम पर भारतीय अपस्ट्रीम उत्पादकों के लिए ज्यादातर क्षेत्रों से गैस उत्पादन घाटे का सौदा बना हुआ है। डॉलर के मुकाबले रुपये में गिरावट से कंपनियों को कुछ राहत मिलेगी, लेकिन इससे बहुत ज्यादा भरपाई नहीं होगी।

सरकार की ओर से तय घरेलू गैस की कम कीमतें उत्पादकों के लिए चिंता की बात: रेटिंग एजेंसी इक्रा • फाइल फोटो

इक्रा के सीनियर वाइस प्रेसिडेंट एवं ग्रुप हेड सब्यसाची मजूमदार ने कहा, 'निकट भविष्य में ज्यादा आपूर्ति के कारण घरेलू गैस के दाम निचले स्तर पर बने रहेंगे। इससे घरेलू उत्पादकों के लिए रिटर्न अच्छा नहीं रहेगा।' उन्होंने ओएनजीसी और रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज-बीपी के उत्पादन में उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि का अनुमान जताया है।

Utapado ke liye ghate ka sauda bana prakrit gas ka utapadan: ekro	jansatta	10	Bureau	Neutral

उत्पादकों के लिए घाटे का सौदा बना प्राकृतिक गैस का उत्पादन : इक्रा

नई दिल्ली, 3 अप्रैल (भाषा)।

भारत में ज्यादातर क्षेत्रों में प्राकृतिक गैस का उत्पादन अपस्ट्रीम उत्पादकों के लिए घाटे का सौदा बना हुआ है। रेटिंग एजंसी इक्रा ने कहा कि सरकार द्वारा तय गैस के दाम अपने निचले स्तर पर बने हुए हैं और इससे उत्पादन पर नुकसान हो रहा है।

एक अप्रैल से छह महीने के लिए घरेलू गैस का मूल्य 1.79 डॉलर प्रति इकाई (एमबीटीयू) तय किया गया है। नया रंगराजन फॉर्मूला लागू होने के बाद यह इसका सबसे निचला स्तर है। इसके अलावा गहरे पानी, अत्यधिक गहरे पानी, उच्च तापमान और उच्च दबाव वाले क्षेत्रों से उत्पादित गैस मूल्य की अधिकतम सीमा अप्रैल-सितंबर, 2021-22 के लिए 3.62 डॉलर प्रति एमएमबीटीयू तय की गई है, जो अक्तूबर-मार्च, 2020-21 के लिए तय मूल्य सीमा 4.06 डॉलर प्रति इकाई से 10.8 फीसद कम है।

इक्रा ने कहा कि इससे ऐसी परियोजनाओं का विकास प्रभावित हो रहा है। इक्रा ने इसी सप्ताह सरकार द्वारा अधिसूचित गैस कीमतों पर टिप्पणी में कहा कि यह स्थिति घरेलू उत्पादकों के लिए प्रतिकूल है, लेकिन इससे गैस उपभोक्ताओं को फायदा होगा। रेटिंग एजंसी ने नोट में कहा कि इतने कम दाम पर भारतीय अपस्ट्रीम उत्पादकों के लिए ज्यादातर क्षेत्रों से गैस उत्पादन घाटे का सौदा बना हुआ है। हालांकि, तेल क्षेत्र सेवाओं/उपकरण की लागत में इस दौरान कुछ कमी आई है।

इक्रा ने कहा कि अमेरिकी डॉलर के मुकाबले रुपए में गिरावट से गैस उत्पादकों की प्राप्तियां कुछ बढ़ेंगी, लेकिन इससे कम ही भरपाई हो पाएगी। इक्रा के वरिष्ठ उपाध्यक्ष और समूह प्रमुख (कॉरपोरेट क्षेत्र रेटिंग्स) सब्यसाची मजूमदार ने कहा कि आगे चलकर अत्यधिक आपूर्ति की वजह से घरेलू गैस के दाम निकट से मध्यम अवधि में निचले स्तर पर बने रहेंगे। इससे घरेलू उत्पादकों के लिए प्राप्ति अच्छी नहीं रहेगी। हालांकि, इस दौरान ओएनजीसी और रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज/बीपी जैसी कंपनियां गैस उत्पादन में उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि करेंगी।

OMCs may find it tough to shift to non opec Crude oil	Hindustan Times	18	Kalpana Pathak	Neutral

OMCs may find it tough to shift to non-Opec crude oil

Kalpana Pathak
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The oil cartel led by Saudi Arabia makes up about 83% of the country's fuel imports.
AMAL KS/HT PHOTO

MUMBAI: State-owned oil marketing companies (OMCs) may find it hard to comply with the government's recent order to cut crude imports from West Asia, especially Saudi Arabia, three senior OMC executives said. This has implications for costs and supplies, they said. Saudi Arabia is one of the biggest members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec), the world's largest bloc of crude exporting countries.

State-owned refiners are likely to face a challenge in attempts to find a reliable crude oil supplier, according to the three persons, all of whom requested anonymity.

They also spoke about the increased costs involved in importing non-Opec crude because of additional freight charges. "We have been building our refineries substantially on Middle Eastern crude not only because of the availability of a variety of crude cocktails but also because we are ensured a continuous and voluminous supply, something other countries promise often but fail to deliver," said one of the three people cited above.

Union minister for oil, petroleum and natural gas Dharmendra Pradhan recently urged refiners to speed up diversification of crude resources and reduce dependence on West Asia. Indian consumers have been hit hard by rising oil prices, but the government's repeated entreaties for Opec and its allies to ease supply curbs have fallen on deaf ears.

The OMCs, Indian Oil Corporation Ltd, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL), have been asked to scout for other regions to source crude and potentially cut imports from Opec by at least a quarter. Last month, HPCL-Mittal Energy Ltd, a joint venture between HPCL and Mittal Energy Ltd, bought cargo from Guyana for the first time as part of the shift.

India is the world's third-largest oil importer after the US and China, and Opec makes up about 83% of the country's oil imports. Diversification may be a tall order with around 79.4% of the world's proven oil reserves located in Opec+ countries, according to experts.

"Every time there is a crude oil pricing issue, OMCs are directed to look for alternative geographies to import crude from. We try. But given the other dynamics of cost, supply, volume and freight charges, we are back to square one in a few months," said another of the officials mentioned above.

After West Asia, the next biggest suppliers for India are Russia and the US. However, they have their own challenges and commitments to other nations.

"The kind of crude volumes and continuous supply our refineries need, only Middle Eastern crude can ensure. That is one of the reasons we are so heavily dependent on them," the second person said.

Oil Settles up more than $2	Indian Express	13	Reuters	Neutral

CRUDE WATCH

OIL SETTLES UP MORE THAN $2

New York: Oil prices settled up more than $2 despite news that OPEC+ reached a deal to gradually ease production cuts from May. Brent crude settled up $2.12, or 3.4 per cent, to $64.86 a barrel. US oil settled up $2.29, or 3.9 per cent, at $61.45 a barrel. **REUTERS**

'Gas producers continue losses as govt-dictated price low	Indian express	13	Bureau	Neutral

'Gas producers continue losses as govt-dictated prices low'

Natural gas production remains a loss-making proposition for most fields for the Indian upstream producers as government-dictated gas price remains at its lowest level, Icra said

$1.79 per million British thermal unit The notified domestic gas price for the six months beginning April 1 remains the lowest since the institution of the modified Rangarajan formula

Ceiling on price for gas produced from deep water, ultra deepwater, high temperature and high-pressure fields has also been announced at $3.62 per mmBtu for April-September 2021-22, which is 10.8 per cent lower than the price ceiling of $4.06 for October-March 2020-21 which would dampen the development of such projects

CONSUMERS BENEFIT

While this is unfavourable for domestic producers, it will benefit gas consumers. Consumers will benefit in long run from hopes of continued supply overhang

OUTLOOK

At such low gas prices, gas production remains a loss-making proposition for most fields for the Indian upstream producers notwithstanding some decline in oil field services/equipment costs

CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM

The depreciation of the rupee against US dollar would aid the realisations of the gas producers but only to an extent *Source: Icra/PTI*

***Supply overhang** remains, with about 37.6 million tonnes per annum liquefaction capacity added in 2019 and 27.8 MTPA in 2020, besides which capacity additions till 2025 would be in excess of incremental demand*

'Gas producers continue to bleed as govt-dictated price remin low	Millenium post	2	Bureau	Neutral

'Gas producers continue to bleed as govt-dictated prices remain low'

NEW DELHI: Natural gas production remains a loss-making proposition for most fields for the Indian upstream producers as government-dictated gas price remains at its lowest level, rating agency Icra has said.

The domestic gas price notified at $1.79 per million British thermal unit for the six months beginning April 1 remains the lowest since the institution of the modified Rangarajan formula. Additionally, the ceiling on price for gas produced from deep water, ultra deepwater, high temperature and high-pressure fields has also been announced at $3.62 per mmBtu for April-September 2021-22 which is 10.8 per cent lower than the price ceiling of $4.06 for October-March 2020-21 which would dampen the development of such projects.

"While this is unfavourable for domestic producers, it will benefit gas consumers. The consumers will also benefit in the long run from the expectations of continued supply overhang," Icra said commenting on the gas price notified by the government earlier this week.

As per an Icra note, at such low gas prices, gas production remains a loss-making proposition for most fields for the Indian upstream producers notwithstanding some decline in oil field services/equipment costs.

However, the depreciation of Indian Rupee against US dollar, would aid the realisations of the gas producers but only to an extent.

Sabyasachi Majumdar, Senior Vice-President & Group Head, Corporate Sector Ratings, Icra, said, "Going forward, the supply glut is expected to keep prices of domestic gas low in the near to medium term leading to poor returns even as domestic gas producers such as ONGC and Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL)-BP ramp up gas production significantly." The absence of a floor and sustained low prices as has been seen in the past few years post implementation of the modified Rangarajan formula make exploration and production unviable even for benign geologies, Icra noted.

"Accordingly, low natural gas prices remain negative for the upstream sector adversely impacting revenues, profitability and cash accruals and the incumbents have petitioned the Government of India to provide a floor price for gas prices." Spot LNG prices had breached $30 per mmBtu in February 2021 due to increase in oil prices, unplanned outages at export facilities in several countries, multiple cold waves, high shipping rates and delays in the Panama canal. Though spot prices have come down to $6-6.5 per mmBtu levels, low inventory levels as winter ends are set to support prices, as well as demand, as North Asia and Europe look to refill gas storage. AGENCIES