



ONGC News 24.05.2020 Print

India's gas production falls by 1/5 th April due to lockdown	Millennium Post	8	PTI	Neutral
---	-----------------	---	-----	---------

India's gas production falls by 1/5th in April due to lockdown

NEW DELHI: India's natural gas production dropped by almost one-fifth in April due to lower offtake by industries during the nationwide Coronavirus lockdown, according to official data released on Saturday.

Gas output at 2.16 billion cubic metres in April was 18.6 per cent lower than 2.65 bcm production in the same month a year back, data released by the oil ministry showed.

Lower production was due to a 15.3 per cent drop in output by the country's top producer ONGC at 1.72 bcm.

"The shortfall in gas production (by ONGC) is primarily due to less gas offtake by consumers due to COVID-19 lockdown," it said.

State-owned Oil India Ltd also produced 10 per cent less natural gas at 202.05 million cubic metres due to "loss of potential in Deohal area (in Assam) due to presence of CO2 in production stream (and) less gas offtake by consumers due to COVID-19 lockdown," it said.

India's crude oil production



fell 6.35 per cent to 2.5 million tonnes in April for the same reason.

Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) output was marginally lower at 1.7 million tonnes in April, while fields operated by private firms such as Cairn produced 19.2 per cent less oil at 615,800 tonnes. Cairn's Rajasthan fields produced 19.2 per cent less oil at 490,560 tonnes, the data showed.

Crude oil production by ONGC was lower due to "closure of wells in Western Offshore due to less offtake by GAIL due to COVID-19 lockdown (and) restriction of

movements for field operations in onshore fields due to COVID-19 lockdown," it said.

Cairn's Rajasthan fields produced less due to delay in hook-up of new wells, delay in workover wells revival and new injector due to COVID-19 impact.

Refineries produced about 30 per cent less fuel in April at 18.9 million tonnes as the lockdown kept most vehicles off the roads, evaporating demand. "Reasons for shortfall in production mainly include low demand due to COVID-19 lockdown," the ministry said. PTI

Amid lockdown, gas output falls by one-fifth in April

India's natural gas production dropped by almost one-fifth in April due to lower offtake by industries during the nationwide coronavirus lockdown, data from the Oil Ministry showed



490,560 tonnes: Oil produced by Cairn's Rajasthan fields, showing fall of 19.2%

2.16 bcm: Gas output in April, 18.6 per cent lower than 2.65 billion cubic metres (bcm) production in April 2019

15.3%: Decline in production by the country's top producer Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) last month, at 1.72 bcm

10%: Fall in output of Oil India Ltd (OIL) in April, at 202.05 million cubic metres

REASONS FOR LOW GAS OUTPUT BY OIL

- Loss of potential in Deohal, Assam due to presence of CO2 in production stream
- Less gas offtake by consumers

2.5 mn tonnes: India's crude oil production in April, falling by 6.35 per cent

1.7 mn tonnes: Crude oil output of ONGC in April, falling marginally

REASONS FOR LOW CRUDE PRODUCTION BY ONGC

- Closure of wells in Western Offshore due to less offtake by GAIL
- Movements restriction for field operations in onshore fields

615,000 tonnes: Crude oil produced by private companies, like Cairn, falling 19.2 per cent

Source: Oil Ministry/PTI

30%: Decline in production by refineries in April, at 18.9 million tonnes

Gas output falls by one-fifth in April	Financial Express	3	PTI	Neutral
--	-------------------	---	-----	---------

● LOCKDOWN IMPACT

Gas output falls by one-fifth in April

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, May 23

INDIA'S NATURAL GAS production dropped by almost one-fifth in April due to lower offtake by industries during the nationwide coronavirus lockdown, according to official data released on Saturday.

Gas output at 2.16 billion cubic metre (bcm) in April was 18.6% lower than 2.65 bcm production in the same month a year ago, data released by the oil ministry revealed.

Lower production was due to a 15.3% drop in output by the country's top producer ONGC at 1.72 bcm. "The shortfall in gas production (by ONGC) is primarily due to less gas offtake by consumers due to Covid-19 lockdown," it said. State-owned Oil India also produced 10% less natural gas at 202.05 million cubic metre (mcm) due to "loss of potential in Deohal area (in Assam) due to presence of CO2 in production stream (and) less gas offtake by consumers due to Covid-19 lockdown," it said.

India's crude oil production fell 6.35% to 2.5 million tonne in April for the same reason.

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) output was marginally lower at 1.7 million tonne in April, while fields operated by private firms such as Cairn produced 19.2% less oil at 615,800 tonne.

Cairn's Rajasthan fields pro-



THAT SINKING FEELING

■ Gas output at 2.16 billion cubic metre in April was 18.6% lower than 2.65 bcm production in the same month a year ago, data released by the oil ministry reveals

■ Lower production was due to a 15.3% drop in

output by the country's top producer ONGC at 1.72 bcm

■ State-owned Oil India also produced 10% less natural gas at 202.05 million cubic metre

■ India's crude oil production fell 6.35% to 2.5 million tonne in April

duced 19.2% less oil at 490,560 tonne, the data showed.

Crude oil production by ONGC was lower due to "closure of wells in Western Offshore due to less offtake by GAIL due to Covid-19 lockdown (and) restriction of movements for field operations in onshore fields due to lockdown," it said.

Cairn's Rajasthan fields produced less due to delay in hock-

up of new wells, delay in workover wells revival and new injector due to pandemic impact. Refineries produced about 30% less fuel in April at 18.9 million tonne as the lockdown kept most vehicles off the roads, evaporating demand.

"Reasons for shortfall in production mainly include low demand due to Covid-19 lockdown," the ministry said.

Refinery production drops 29%, natural gas sees 19% decline	Business Standard	3	Shine Jacob	Neutral
---	-------------------	---	-------------	---------

Refinery production drops 29%, natural gas sees 19% decline

Crude oil output in April was 2.5 mt, down 6.35% from last year

SHINE JACOB
New Delhi, 23 May

The steep decline in fuel consumption due to the nationwide lockdown pulled down refinery production in April by 29 per cent to 14.7 million tonnes (mt), from 20.7 mt in April 2019.

Similarly, natural gas production in April was seen 19 per cent lower at 2,161 million standard cubic metres (MMSCM) as against 2,656 MMSCM during the same period of the last financial year.

Apart from lower offtake by consumers, which was the primary reason for the decline in natural gas production, several consumers invoking force majeure also contributed to the fall.

According to industry experts, the consumption of petroleum products in April was only 30-40 per cent of what it was prior to the lockdown. This also led to refineries bringing down their capacity.

During the month, public sector refineries saw a 37 per cent drop in production to 7.1 mt.

Production from the refineries of Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) was seen 45 per cent down at 3 mt, compared to 5.5 mt in April 2019. Similarly, production from the refineries of Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL) was down 38 per cent. However, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL) saw a 21 per cent increase in production.

Production in joint venture refineries during April was 9.3



In April, public sector refineries saw a 37% drop in production at 7.1 mt

Production in joint venture refineries during April was 9.3 mt, a YoY fall of 46%, while the output in private refineries was down 13% compared to the same period last year

mt, a year-on-year (YoY) fall of 46 per cent, while the output in private refineries was down 13 per cent compared to the same time last year.

On the other hand, natural gas production by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation in nomination blocks during April was 1725.69 MMSCM, 15 per cent lower than in April 2019.

Natural gas production by OIL in nomination blocks also dipped 10 per cent compared to actual production in April 2019.

"Reasons for this shortfall by OIL include loss of potential in Deohal area due to presence of carbon dioxide in production

stream and less gas offtake by consumers due to the Covid-19 lockdown," said a government statement.

Natural gas production by private joint ventures in production-sharing contract (PSC) regime during April was 233.59 MMSCM, a YoY drop of 40.67 per cent.

Crude oil production during April was 2.5 mt, down 6.35 per cent from last year. ONGC saw a 0.53 per cent drop in crude oil production in nomination blocks during April at 1.68 mt.

According to a government statement, the reasons for shortfall in production include closing of wells in the western offshore because of lower offtake by GAIL owing to the lockdown and the restriction on movement for field operations in onshore fields.

Fuel demand back to 65% of year-ago level: Govt	Times of India	1	Sanjay Dutta & Siddhartha	Positive
---	----------------	---	---------------------------	----------

Fuel demand back to 65% of year-ago level: Govt

Sanjay Dutta & Siddhartha | TNN

New Delhi: India has regained 65% of its appetite for fuel and demand will reach nearly pre-pandemic levels next month as economic activities pick up pace after the government's announcement of a stimulus package and staggered easing of corona restrictions, oil minister Dharmendra Pradhan told TOI on Saturday.

"The world has seen an unprecedented erosion in fuel demand. Many countries saw refineries being shut, plans being re-scheduled. India has fared better in comparison. After the lockdown began (from March 25), fuel demand had dropped to 30-35% of the level seen in April 2019. Yet, major produc-



FULL Q&A
ON PG 7

tion capacities remained operational. Demand is back at 65% of the May 2019 level and will reach pre-corona level in June," Pradhan said.

This compares well with fuel consumption in China, the world's second-largest oil consumer and the pandemic's epicentre, reaching 90% of the pre-corona level after losing 40% of the demand in February, as per an IHS Markit report.

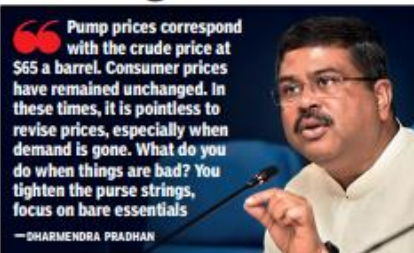
"Two-wheelers will be back as an affordable option. Same with small cars. This will give impetus to petrol. Rising highway traffic, resumption of train service and farm sector activities will push diesel sales. Aviation fuel will get a boost once flights resume," Pradhan said.

'Indian steel producers ramped up exports during lockdown period'

Petroleum and steel minister Dharmendra Pradhan spent the lockdown period trying to ensure that oil companies can take advantage of the low crude oil prices, while making cooking gas and subsidy available to Ujjwala scheme beneficiaries. Excerpts from an interview to TOI's Sanjay Dutta & Siddhartha

How has the lockdown affected petroleum and steel sectors?

Lockdown is a global issue. Globally, the demand for oil products came down significantly. In April, nearly 70% of the demand went away. By May 19-20, 60-65% of the demand was regained. With trains and civil aviation traffic returning, demand will improve. By June, we expect demand to be back at pre-lockdown levels. Also pre-lockdown, three large oil producers were trying to capture the oil market, resulting in a glut. Coupled with low demand, prices crashed, which no one anticipated. While prices have started rising due to improved demand, no one can predict where prices will stabilise. In steel too, industrial and construction activity had come to a stop. India has managed to use its natural advantage of manpower and raw material and step up exports during this period. **Despite a fall in global crude prices, retail prices**



—DHARMENDRA PRADHAN

remain high as the government has raised taxes...

Pump prices correspond with the crude price at \$65 a barrel. Consumer prices have remained unchanged. In these times, it is pointless to revise prices, especially when demand is gone. What do you do when things are bad? You tighten the purse strings, focus on bare essentials. This is what all of us have seen our mothers do. This (tax hike) is the same. India has consciously adopted this fiscal model. We need resources for the poor; healthcare, to provide stimulus and build infrastructure. That is what the money will be used for.

Due to movement of migrants, do you see labour problem in executing projects?

Historically eastern India has lagged in development. Since the Modi government came to power, it has been trying to correct this imbalance by pushing for a second Green Revolution with focus on the

East, announced several large projects and major schemes also focused on benefiting people from this part of the country. Migration is not just an economic issue but a socio-psychological issue. It's a reverse migration due to a health issue. Some people will return, others will look for new avenues. The projects announced in the East will create employment opportunities.

TOI INTERVIEW

The package that has been announced for MSME, how many units in the steel sector will benefit?

How will it spur demand? It's not just about MSMEs but a comprehensive package that addresses major issues in agriculture. There is special emphasis on housing which will benefit cement, steel, logistics, local industry and provide jobs. Every country has adopted different strategies, we have chosen this path. We

are ahead of many countries on direct benefit transfer, which we have successfully used to transfer funds to the poor, including Ujjwala benefit. It wasn't a stimulus but a genuine money transfer.

An important statement from the government is to enhance the role of the private sector. There are several oil and steel PSUs, what will be the strategy?

It is a much-delayed and much-awaited decision. It does not mean closure of PSUs. There is unanimity on getting more capital and technology. This should have been done within two years of Independence. People want more job opportunities. The government should be a facilitator in getting investment. It should get more revenue which should be used for social welfare. The idea of the policies is to encourage value addition. We have opened the petroleum sector since 1990s, in steel private players are producing more than the public sector.

With oil prices falling, does the economics for electric vehicles change?

There is no fundamental change. Electric vehicles were expected to contribute to the incremental requirement and not replace internal combustion engines. People will use what is available. Price will be a factor and BS-6 fuel and vehicles are now available. The impact will be more in three- and two-wheeler segments.

₹20-₹60 में पेट्रोल पंपों पर गाड़ियां होंगी सैनटाइज!

अगले हफ्ते तेल कंपनियों के साथ मीटिंग में होगा अंतिम फैसला

Bhupender.Sharma

@timesgroup.com

■ दिल्ली में जल्द ही सभी पेट्रोल पंप और सीएनजी स्टेशनों पर पैसेंजर्स और प्राइवेट गाड़ियों को सैनटाइज किए जाने की प्रक्रिया शुरू हो जाएगी। परिवहन विभाग ने पेट्रोल पंपों पर गाड़ियों के लिए डिसइन्फेक्शन सर्विसेज की योजना का एक ड्राफ्ट तैयार कर लिया है। अगले हफ्ते इसे अंतिम रूप दिया जाएगा। परिवहन मंत्री कैलाश गहलोट का कहना है कि सरकार ने यह योजना ऑटो, टैक्सी, ग्रामीण सेवा के साथ-साथ दुपहिया और कार चलाने वालों को बेहतर सुविधाएं देने के मकसद से तैयार की है।

गहलोट के अनुसार कोरोना संक्रमण के समय में गाड़ियों को सैनटाइज किया जाना बहुत जरूरी है। इसके लिए पेट्रोल पंपों और सीएनजी स्टेशनों पर ही यह सुविधा दी जाएगी। अगले हफ्ते आईजीएल और तेल कंपनियों हिंदुस्तान पेट्रोलियम और इंडियन ऑयल के प्रतिनिधियों के साथ भी मीटिंग होगी, जिसमें योजना के लिए तैयार की जाने वाली फीस पर अंतिम फैसला लिया जाएगा। उन्होंने कहा कि पेट्रोल पंप और सीएनजी स्टेशन चलाने वालों को जरूरी इंतजाम करने होंगे।

तीन कैटिगरी का प्रस्ताव



तैयारी

- ऑटो, टैक्सी, ग्रामीण सेवा के साथ-साथ दुपहिया और कार वालों को होगा फायदा
- पेट्रोल पंप और सीएनजी स्टेशन चलाने वालों को इंतजाम करने होंगे

विभाग के सूत्रों का कहना है कि पेट्रोल पंप और सीएनजी स्टेशनों पर गाड़ियों के लिए डिसइन्फेक्शन सर्विसेज के शुरुआत में जो प्लान बनाया गया है, उसमें 20 से 60 रुपये के बीच में तीन कैटिगरी बनाई गई है। लेकिन फीस को लेकर अंतिम फैसला अगले हफ्ते होने वाली मीटिंग के बाद होगा। सूत्रों का कहना है कि ऑटो,

ई-रिक्शा, दुपहिया वाहनों को सैनटाइज करवाने के लिए सबसे कम फीस तय की जाएगी। अभी डिपार्टमेंट ने 20 रुपये का प्रस्ताव तैयार किया है, जिस पर चर्चा होगी। वहीं कार के लिए 40 रुपये और आरटीवी के लिए 60 रुपये फीस का प्रस्ताव रखा है।

सूत्रों का कहना है कि पेट्रोल पंपों और सीएनजी स्टेशनों पर बहुत अच्छी सैनटाइजेशन सर्विसेज शुरू की जाएगी। ऑटो, ई-रिक्शा के लिए सबसे कम फीस तय की जाएगी। लॉकडाउन-4 के नियमों के मुताबिक ऑटो और ई-रिक्शा में एक सवारी जा सकती है। टैक्सी और कैब में 2 सवारी, मैक्सी कैब में 5 और आरटीवी में 11 सवारी जा सकती है।

पेट्रोल पंपों पर ऑटो व कैब को संक्रमण रहित करने में लगेगा शुल्क

भास्कर न्यूज़ | नई दिल्ली

कोरोना संक्रमण को रोकने लॉकडाउन लागू होने के बाद से सभी कारोबार ठप है। इससे प्रतिदिन खाने कमाने वालों की दिक्कत बढ़ गई है। इसमें ऑटो, ई-रिक्शा और कैब चालक भी शामिल है। लॉकडाउन 4.0 में दिल्ली सरकार ने सार्वजनिक परिवहन को कुछ शर्तों के साथ छूट दी है। इसमें सभी ऑटो व कैब चालकों को सवारी उतारने के बाद तुरंत अपने वाहन को संक्रमण रहित करने को कहा गया है। अभी यह सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं है, लेकिन सरकार यह सुविधा सभी पेट्रोल पंपों पर उपलब्ध कराने की तैयारी कर रही है। संक्रमण रहित करने के लिए सरकार की तरफ से कुछ शुल्क लेने की भी बात कही जा रही है। हालांकि यह राशि कितनी होगी यह तय नहीं है। सरकार की तरफ से मामूली राशि होने की बात कही जा रही है। इसे ऑटो, ई-रिक्शा चालक गलत बता रहे हैं।