

MRPL reports Q1 net loss of ₹450.53 crore

Refiner's revenue falls 33.66%

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Managalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL) reported a net loss of ₹450.53 crore for the first quarter compared to a net profit of ₹237.47 crore a year earlier.

The state-owned refiner posted the loss on a 33.66% fall in revenues to ₹11,175.6 crore. MRPL operates a 3-lakh barrels per day (bpd) coastal refinery in Karnataka.

The company reported negative earnings per share (EPS) of ₹2.57 compared to EPS of ₹1.35 in the year-earlier period.

MRPL is gearing up to upgrade the fuel quality to BS VI standard as mandated by the Union Government, to



become effective on April 1, 2020.

MRPL is likely to be merged with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) after ONGC bought 51.11% in HPCL for ₹36,915 crore in January 2018.

While HPCL has 16.96% stake in MRPL at present, ONGC holds 71.63% stake.



New approach for converting carbon dioxide to methane

Washington: Scientists have identified a new approach for converting carbon dioxide to methane in one step in a single pot called "one-pot catalysis system" thus eliminating an intermediate step usually needed in the reduction process. The new approach utilises a series of catalytic reactions to electrochemically reduce carbon dioxide to methane, the main ingredient in natural gas. The study was published in the journal *Nature Communications*.

"We want to supply renewable electricity and take carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and convert it to something else in one step. This is a key contribution to this vision," said Bingjun Xu, author of the study.

To convert carbon dioxide into valuable fuels, you have to start with a surface made of copper. Copper can be used to reduce carbon dioxide into carbon monoxide, which can then be further transformed into substances such as methane. This process is relatively simple, but it requires two reactors and costly separation and purification steps.

The research team used computations and experiments to design a one-pot catalysis system. Add carbon dioxide, and a series of chemical reactions will happen without the need to stop and add more chemicals. To do this, the team added special nanostructure silver surfaces, to the copper surfaces. The silver portion attracts carbon monoxide molecules. — ANI