

Monthly Summary of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the month of August, 2021

1. Hon'ble Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas & Housing and Urban Affairs had a video interaction with ***H.E. Mr Nikolay Shulginov, Minister of Energy of the Russian Federation on 13th August 2021*** and had a discussion on further expanding bilateral energy cooperation, a key pillar of bilateral Special & Privileged Strategic partnership.

Russia is the largest investor in India's energy sector & India has made significant investments in Russian oil & gas sector. A review of the ongoing investments by Indian oil & gas companies in upstream sector in Russia, supply of LNG & crude oil from Russia was undertaken.

2. Hon'ble Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas & Housing and Urban Affairs had an interaction meeting with ***USA based International think tank members on 23rd August 2021*** through video conferencing, the meeting was joined by Ambassador of India to U.S. along with Consulate General of India Houston, Texas. The ITT members had presented their view points on the energy transition and had a healthy discussion on the changing energy scenario.

3. Mr. Tarun Kapoor, Secretary, MoPNG, represented India at the ***First Meeting of Energy Ministers' of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) held on 12 August 2021***. Regional cooperation in the energy sector has been a hallmark of India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy. The policy looks forward to enhancing energy security in the region through mutually beneficial cooperation arrangements. India joined the other seven member States of the SCO in adopting a Concept Note for cooperation in energy sector and also in setting up a Permanent Working Group of SCO for Cooperation in the field of energy.

4. Domestic crude oil production during August 2021 was 2524 TMT, showing 94.2% achievement over the target (2678 TMT) for the month and 97.9% achievement over the production (2578 TMT) of corresponding month of last year. Natural gas production during August 2021 was 2898 MMSCM, showing 89.1% achievement over the target (3254 MMSCM) for the month and 119.24% achievement over the production (2432 MMSCM) of corresponding month of last year.

5. *During August, 2021, the price of the Indian Basket of Crude oil varied between \$ 65.63 and \$ 73.43 per barrel and the average price was \$ 69.80 per barrel as compared to average price of \$ 73.54 per barrel in July, 2021.*

6. *As per the Refinery Gate Price (RGP), OMCs are expected to incur NIL under recovery on sale of PDS Kerosene and subsidy (DBTL) amount of Rs. 89.34 crores on sale of domestic LPG during the month of August, 2021. The expected under recoveries/subsidy for the F.Y. 2021-22 in respect of PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG (Under DBTL) is NIL and Rs. 1072 crores respectively. There is no subsidy to the consumers on subsidized domestic LPG (at Delhi market) as on 1st August, 2021. There is NIL under recovery on PDS Kerosene effective from 1st August, 2021.*

7. During the period April-July, 2021, OMCs have procured 548 KL of biodiesel for blending with diesel. OMCs have floated Expression of Interest (Eoi) for procurement of Biodiesel produced from UCO across 300 locations in the country. OMCs have received offers for setting up 51 Biodiesel Plants with a production capacity of approx 39 cr. Litres/annum. Against this 20 KL of Bio diesel has been received by the OMCs during the financial year 2021-2022.

8. For Ethanol supply Year (ESY) 2020-21 Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) floated a tender for 458 litre against which LOI's for 364.07 crore litre have been issued as on 22.08.2021. Suppliers have since supplied 227.19 crore litre till 22.08.2021 enabling 8.06% average blending percentage.

9. In the month of August, 2021, Ujjwala 2.0 has been successfully launched on 10th August, 2021 on PAN India basis from the Mahoba District of Uttar Pradesh under the esteemed presence of the Hon'ble PM of India. Under the Ujjwala 2.0 scheme, release of additional one crore LPG connections to the poor households is underway with priority for low penetration districts and migrants. As on 1st September, 2021 a total of 13.07 lakh LPG connections have been released on Industry basis.

10. In the Month of August, more the 16.6 lakh new LPG connections were issued. As on 1st September, 2021, 27.40 crore LPG consumers are availing subsidy under PAHAL scheme. Till date, more than 1.08 crore customers have given up their LPG subsidy under 'Giveltup' campaign.

11. The number of Lols issued and distributorships commissioned in the month of August, 2021 on Industry basis are 3 and 15 respectively.

12. As on 31.8.2021 total 25928 Retail Outlets have been solarised.