

**Monthly Summary of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for the month of February, 2021.**

1. **On 16th February 2021**, Hon'ble Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas addressed an august gathering at the joint conference of *the 11th World PetroCoal Congress & World Future Fuel Summit 2021*. Hon'ble Minister mentioned India's consistent commitment for green energy pathways, its energy appetite and commitment for energy justice and fuel mix of the future. He also highlighted some of the key interventions of the Indian Government in providing access to affordable & efficient energy, including 80 million LPG connections to women through budgetary support, leapfrogging to BS-VI pan-India, \$60 billion investment in strengthening gas infrastructure.

2. **On 17th February 2021**, Hon'ble Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas delivered the inaugural address at the *11<sup>th</sup> IEA-IEF-OPEC Symposium* held under the patronage of Minister of Energy, Saudi Arabia, HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman Al Saud. Heads of International Energy Forum, International Energy Agency and OPEC Secretariat also joined the symposium.

Hon'ble Minister expressed India's concern on rising crude oil prices globally leading to demand contraction and further hurting the already fragile global economic recovery, he also highlighted the need for collective interests of producing and developing countries to revive consumption-led growth and appealed to all key producing countries, including OPEC and OPEC Plus, to ease production cuts.

3. **On 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021**, Hon'ble Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas Shri Dharmendra Pradhan along with Mr. Hans Jacob Frydenlund, the Norwegian Ambassador witnessed the signing of 'Statement of Intent' between Indian Oil Corporation Limited and Greenstat Hydrogen, Norway for setting up of a Centre-of-Excellence in India.

4. Secretary, PNG chaired a meeting on Mongolia refinery with Vice Minister of Mongolia along with the scenario officials of MEA & EIL, the meeting was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 through video conferencing. There was a discussion on the refinery project and exploring new opportunities in oil & Gas sectors.

5. In the Month of February, more than 5.88 lakh new LPG connections were issued and total number of LPG connections released in the FY 2020-21 are nearly 79.86 lakhs till 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2021. As on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2021, 27.13 crore LPG consumers are availing subsidy under PAHAL scheme Nearly 5 lakh customers have joined PAHAL scheme in the month of February, 2021. Till date more than 1.08 crore customers have given up their LPG subsidy under 'GiveltUp' campaign.

6. The number of LoIs issued and distributorships commissioned in the month of February, 2021 are more than 10 and 44, respectively. Total number of LoIs issued and distributorships commissioned from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2020 to 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 are 132 and 398, respectively.

7. Domestic crude oil production for the month of February, 2021 was 2380 TMT as against production target of 2494 TMT, showing an achievement of 95.43%. Natural gas production for the month of February, 2021 was 2372 MMSCM as against production target of 2859 MMSCM, showing an achievement of 82.97%.

8 During February, 2021, the price of the Indian Basket of Crude oil varied between \$55.18 and \$65.70 per barrel and the average price was \$ 61.22 per barrel as compared to average price of \$ 54.79 per barrel in January, 2021.

9. 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. 63 crore on sale of domestic LPG during the month of February 2021. The expected under recoveries/subsidy for the F.Y. 2020-21 in respect of PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG (Under DBTL) is NIL and Rs 3,480 crore respectively. There is no subsidy to the consumers on subsidized domestic LPG (at Delhi market) effective from 1st January, 2021. There is NIL under recovery on PDS Kerosene effective from 1st March, 2020.

10. During the period April, 2020 to Jan, 2021, OMCs have procured 0.49 crore litres of biodiesel for blending with diesel. OMCs have floated fresh tender for procurement of biodiesel. Bids received against the same are under evaluation at present.

11. 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 65 Biodiesel Plants with a production capacity of 1206 MT/day (Aprox. 45 Cr. Litres/annum). For Ethanol Supply year (ESY) 2020-21 Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) floated a tender for 458 crore litre against which 325.63 crore litre could be allocated as on 22.02.2021 enabling 6.82% average blending percentage.

**12. Gasoline Desulphurization (GDS) Unit under CPCL-fuel Quality up-gradation project has been dedicated to the nation by Hon'ble Prime Minister through video conferencing on 17.02.2021.** INDMAX project at Bongaigaon Refinery of IOCL was dedicated to nation on 22.02.2021. Propylene Derivatives Petrochemical Project (PDPP) at Kochi Refinery of BPCL was dedicated to the nation by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 14.02.2021.

13. As on 28.02.2021 total 24701 Retail Outlets have been solarized.