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

1.         Hon’ble Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel on 7th May 2020 had close consultations with counterparts from Saudi Arabia, UAE & Qatar on ways to increase import of LMO into India. He conveyed his appreciation for the initial gesture of goodwill with complimentary LMO supplies particularly from UAE, Kuwait, and Bahrain & Saudi Arabia.

During the discussion with HRH Prince Abdulaziz, Minister of Energy of Saudi Arabia, HE Dr. Sultan Al Jaber, UAE Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and CEO of Adnoc Group and H.E Mr Saad Sherida al- Kaabi, Minister of Energy and President of Qatar Petroleum had received their wholesome support for ensuring commercial supply of LMO to India, especially at a time when India is battling the second wave of the Covid19 pandemic.

He also conveyed his appreciation to HRH Abdulaziz, HE Dr Sultan Jaber, HE Sherida al-Kaabi for their extended support & special gesture of solidarity with India through the offer of ISO Containers for the next 6 months. Assurance of steady commercial supply of LMO to India is also welcomed.

2.         Hon’ble Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas & Steel on 29th May 2020, conveyed his appreciation for the gesture of HRH Prince Abdulaziz, Min of Energy, KSA for the offer to send 3 ISO Containers with 60 tons of LMO, which are expected to arrive in Mumbai on 6 June 2021, and also to provide 100 ISO containers in the coming months to support India Fights Corona.

This gesture of Saudi Arabia is reflective of the close friendship and warmth between the leadership of Saudi Arabia and Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

3.         MoPNG has designated IOCL and GAIL to source LMO on commercial terms from overseas. ONGC has been designated to procure approximately 40,000 Oxygen Concentrators (OCs) from overseas under PM Cares Fund. Hon’ble Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas has discussed with his counterparts from UAE, Saudi Arabia and Qatar for securing supplies of LMO and ISO Containers.

As a follow-up IC Division is in contact with Indian Embassies as well as relevant Government departments from UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman, Singapore and Kuwait to source LMO on commercial terms.

Also, IC Division is in contact with Indian Embassies abroad for the inspection and transportation of the OC to India from USA, Russia and China. Verification of the credentials of the vendors etc. was being coordinated by IC Division through our Missions abroad.

4.         In the Month of May, more than 3.9 lakh new LPG connections were issued. As on 31st May, 2021, 27.23 crore LPG consumers are availing subsidy under PAHAL scheme. Nearly 3 lakh customers have joined PAHAL scheme in the month of May, 2021. Till date, more than 1.08 crore customers have given up their LPG subsidy under ‘GiveItUp’ campaign.

5.         The number of LoIs issued and distributorships commissioned in the month of May, 2021 on Industry basis are 9 and 7, respectively.

6.         As on 01.05.2021, OMCs have sold a total of 2.20 crore 5 kg FTL cylinders (new & refills) across the country.

7.         Domestic crude oil production for the month of May, 2021 was 2436 TMT as against production target of 2579 TMT, showing an achievement of 94.46%. Natural gas production for the month of May, 2021 was 2746 MMSCM as against production target of 2857 MMSCM, showing an achievement of 96.11%.

8.         During May, 2021, the price of the Indian Basket of Crude oil varied between $64.12 and $ 68.69 per barrel and the average price was $ 66.95 per barrel as compared to average price of $ 63.40 per barrel in April, 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.89.34 crore on sale of domestic LPG during the month of May, 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 crore respectively.  There is no subsidy to the consumers on subsidized domestic LPG (at Delhi market) as on 1st May, 2021. There is NIL under recovery on PDS Kerosene effective from 1st May, 2021.

10.       During the period April, 2021, OMCs have procured 451 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 58 Biodiesel Plants with a production capacity of approx. 47 Cr. Litres/annum. Against this 71 KL of Bio diesel has been received by the OMCs.

11.       For Ethanol Supply Year (ESY) 2020-21 Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) floated a tender for 458 crore litre against which LoI’s for 348.04 crore litre have been issued as on 31.05.2021. Suppliers have since supplied 152.02 crore litre till 31.05.2021 enabling 7.66% average blending percentage.

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