

Capex spending of oil & gas PSUs at ₹6,669 cr in April

ARUNIMA BHARADWAJ New Delhi, May 28

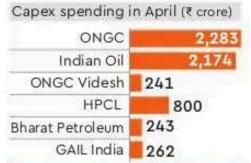
INDIANOILAND gas PSUs have spent more than ₹6,669 crore as capex in the first month of the current financial year, nearly 6% of their total capex target of ₹1.2 trillion, provisional data from the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cellshowed.

The capital expenditure during April was driven by Oil and Natural Gas Corp, Indian Oil Corp, and Hindustan Petroleum Corp.While ONGC incurred a capex of ₹2,283 crore constituting 7.4% of its annual capex target of ₹30,800 crore, Indian Oil spent ₹2,174 crore of its annual target of ₹30,909 crore in April.

ONGC is expected to invest a major portion of its capex towards increasing its oil and gas production from the KG-98/2 block in FY25. The company expects the oil output from the block to increase to 20,000 barrels per day in the third quarter of the current fiscal and then subsequently reach its peak production of 45,000 barrels per day in the fourth quarter. The company's capital expenditure target for FY25 is lower than ₹37,000 crore it spent in FY24.

The country's top oil producer's overseas arm, ONGC Videsh Ltd, spent ₹241 crore of its full-year target of ₹5,580 crore last month. The







company is expected to boost overseas oil and gas production and will be investing 71% more this year than the capex in FY24.Oil India incurred a capex of ₹259 crore in April, accounting for almost 4% of its annual target of ₹ 6,880 crore.

HPCLand Bharat Petroleum Corp spent ₹800 crore and ₹243 crore respectively in April. The country's state-owned downstream companies intend to boost their refining capacity and strengthen their marketing infrastructure going ahead.

The country's leading natural gas company,GAILIndia,spentameager ₹262 crore in April, 3.2% of its annual target of ₹8,044 crore.