HINDU, Delhi, 13.1.2025
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Centre's wildlife panel clears oil and gas exploratory drilling in Assam sanctuary

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Centre's wildlife panel has approved a proposal to carry out oil and gas exploration in the ecosensitive zone of the Hoollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary in Assam's Jorhat district.

The Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL), chaired by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, approved the proposal by Vedanta Group's Cairn Oil and Gas during its meeting on December 21, according to the minutes of the meeting.

Assam's Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife) and Chief Wildlife Warden had recommended clearance for the project last August, citing "national interest".

Vedanta Group has given an assurance that no commercial drilling will be conducted.

The Forest Advisory Committee of the Union Environment Ministry had also granted in-principle approval during its meeting on August 27 last year.

According to the minutes of the NBWL meeting, a team comprising officials from the Union Environment Ministry, the Wildlife Institute of India, and the Assam Forest Department inspected the project site, located about 13 km from the sanctuary.

The inspection committee found that exploratory drilling would cause minimal damage, but said commercial drilling would not be allowed. Vedanta Group has given a written assurance that no commercial drilling will be conducted at the site. It also assured that no hazardous substances would be used during the exploration process, the officials said.

BUSINESS STANDARD, Delhi, 13.1.2025
Page No. 17, Size:(29.39)cms X (48.84)cms.

COLLATERAL IMPACT

US sanctions on Russian oil supply chain threaten disruption for Indian refiners. What is the way out?

S DINAKAR
Amritsar, 12 January

The latest round of sanctions by the outgoing Biden administration in the United States may be among the most disruptive for buyers of Russian crude oil — India and China — since Washington started tightening strictures on Russian oil flows in December 2022.

On Friday night India time, the US announced measures to sanction 183 vessels, or nearly every third tanker carrying Russian oil, two Russian insurers, which offer coverage to most of India's Russian oil purchases, two leading Russian oil and gas producers, and a bunch of traders, which contribute to a third of Russian flows to India, according to sanction documents, refining officials, and ship tracking data.

Unlike in the past, when Washington used to sanction certain sections of the Russian oil trade, this time it has simultaneously slapped strictures across the entire oil supply chain — from producers to traders to insurers to banks, hurting buyers like India the most.

What is however unclear is enforcement. In some cases involving oil producers and insurers, the cutoff date is February 27. But, on sanctions barring tankers and "opaque" Russian traders, the document is silent. In December 2023, when SunShip Management, Russian state-shipping behemoth Sovcomflot's Dubai-based affiliate, was barred, the enforcement was immediate and hurt several shipments of Russian Sokol grade to India. But in subsequent sanction orders, a 45-day grace period was given to complete voyages.

Top refining officials say they will seek clarifications from Washington because some of these tankers are headed to India laden with oil.

India's slowing economy is most exposed to the latest bans because refiners must pay much more to purchase alternative crudes from West Asia in the short term, two top refining officials say. State-run refiners, which accounted for nearly two-thirds of all Russian crude purchased in 2024, may have to incur additional costs of \$6-10 per barrel, around 8-10 per cent of current Russian sourcing costs, to buy oil from Saudi Arabia, Oman, and Iraq, according to calculations based on Indian customs data and top company officials. Also, West Asian nations may charge higher premiums because of disruptions to Russian flows, a state refiner says.

Higher sourcing costs will impact refining margins by around \$4 per barrel, even after accounting for the superior quality of the Gulf grades compared to Russian oil, another top refining official says. With prices of petrol, diesel and LPG virtually fixed, there is little leeway for state refiners to pass through higher sourcing costs to end consumers, eventually stressing the national Budget, analysts say.

European benchmark Brent has jumped by nearly 6 per cent this year to move close to \$80 per barrel in response to US sanctions, increasing costs for India.

The sanctions will impact at least one-third of the 1.8 million barrels a day India imported from Russia last year, 38 per cent of the country's total oil imports, according to sanction documents, ship tracking data, and industry sources. India may have to source 600,000-800,000 barrels per day of crude from West Asia in the near term to substitute any shortfall in Russian supplies, refining officials say. That entails additional sourcing costs of \$4-\$8 million a day at current oil price levels, which on a quarterly basis translates to as much as ₹6,000 crore for all refiners.

Of course, all this will depend on the actions of the incoming Trump administration in the US and on how fast Russian suppliers build firewalls against these new sanctions, a refining official says.

'Meanwhile, there will be a contraction in the discounts offered by Russian oil traders, many of which have been barred in the latest sanction round, officials say. Discounts averaging \$3-4 per barrel, a fraction of the \$15-20 per barrel seen in early 2022 and early 2023, are already at record lows. Another official explains that the sweeping ban on more than a third of the tanker fleet shipping Russian cargoes will increase freight rates and squeeze traders' margins, which in turn will reduce discounts.

The sanctions may also impact a 500,000 bpd term contract between Reliance Industries and Rosneft for supplies this year. While Rosneft, the biggest supplier of Russian oil, is not sanctioned, many of its vessels are; so it will need to find tankers to deliver the cargoes and pay more for freight. Reliance and state-run refiner Indian Oil are the biggest buyers of Russian oil.

Reliance declined to comment on the sanctions. Indian Oil did not reply to queries seeking comments.

Finding vessels is a problem. There are around 500 tankers that are deployed to transport sanctioned oil from Russia, Iran, and Venezuela, according to market intelligence agency Vortexa. More than 60 vessels were already barred in previous sanction rounds. Now, Washington has sanctioned another 183 vessels. Over 75 of those ships have delivered Russian Urals and other lower sulphur grades to India in the last few months, according to calculations based on access to exclusive ship tracking data and industry sources. Of those vessels, more than half belong to the so-called "shadow fleet", defined by Washington as those that participate in high-risk shipping practices to facilitate illicit or sanctionable activity. To put it in perspective, Russia used around 70 tankers to deliver India's November crude supplies.

In addition, the US has imposed sanctions on Gazprom Neft and Surgutneftegas, two of Russia's biggest oil and gas producers, and their subsidiaries, which on an average supplied around 380,000 barrels per day of oil to India in the last two years, around a fifth of Russian supplies.

The US has also banned "opaque Russian traders", which may have supplied at least 15 per cent of Russian cargoes to India, according to ship tracking data and refining officials. Some of these traders include Black Pearl network, UAE-based Demex Trading, which bought over 700 shipments of crude oil and diesel fuel from Russia worth at least \$8 billion in 2023, Eterra Crude Oil Abroad Trading, consignee for over 300 shipments between September 2023 and April 2024, Guron Trading, consignee for over 400 shipments between May 2023 and April 2024, UAE-based Marion Commodity, supplier of over 250 shipments between January 2024 and May 2024, and UAE-based Marsa Energy Trading, consignee for over 300 shipments of crude oil originating from Russia between March 2022 and April 2024.

There are also strictures against some of Russia's biggest insurers, Ingosstrakh Insurance Company and Alfastrakhovanie Group, which provide coverage for most of India's Russian supplies. Typically, Russian cargoes costing below \$60 per barrel can use western shipping services and insurers but the increased pressure from Washington and EU and the tendency among traders to adjust FOB prices to escape sanctions has prompted western agencies to avoid servicing Russian oil shipments, industry officials say.

Also sanctioned is a \$130 billion Vostok oil project, in which Indian state oil companies have spent billions of dollars for stakes in the Vankor producing areas. Vostok comprises the operational Vankor cluster of fields — Vankor, Suzun, Tagul and Lodochnoye — as well as Irkinskoye and West-Irkinskoye, together with the Payakha field. The Vankor cluster is already producing more than 300,000 b/d. ONGC Videsh, Oil India, Indian Oil and Bharat Petroresources own 49.9 per cent of the Rosneft subsidiary Vankorneft, which is developing the Vankor oil and gas condensate cluster in East Siberia. Rosneft is the operator. State-run explorer ONGC said it would need to study the US orders before commenting on the Vostok project.

TO WHOM THE US SANCTIONS APPLY

- 183 vessels, largely oil tankers that are part of the shadow fleet as well as those owned by Russia-based fleet operators
- Gazprom Neft and Surgutneftegas, two of Russia's most significant oil producers and exporters
- Two Russia-based maritime insurance providers, Ingosstrakh Insurance Company and Alfastrakhovanie Group
- Two active LNG projects, a large Russian oil project, and third-country entities supporting Russia's energy exports
- More than 30 Russia-based oilfield service providers and more than a dozen leading Russian energy officials and executives
- Sovcomflot, Russia's state-owned shipping company and fleet operator

FINANCIAL EXPRESS, Delhi, 13.1.2025
Page No. 2, Size:(2.94)cms X (5.24)cms.

Govt clears oil & gas exploratory drilling in Assam sanctuary

THE CENTRE'S WILDLIFE panel has approved a proposal to carry out oil & gas exploration in the eco-sensitive zone of the Hoollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary in Assam's Jorhat district. The Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife (NBWL), chaired by Union environment minister Bhupender Yadav, approved the proposal by Vedanta Group's Cairn Oil & Gas during its meeting on December 21, according to the minutes of the meeting.

Govt OKs exploratory drilling for oil and gas in Assam sanctuary

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, JANUARY 12

THE CENTRE'S wildlife panel has approved a proposal to carry out oil and gas exploration in the eco-sensitive zone of the Hoollongapar Gibbon Wildlife Sanctuary in Assam's Jorhat district.

The Standing Committee of the National Board for Wildlife chaired by Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, approved the proposal by Vedanta Group's Cairn Oil & Gas during its December 21 meeting, as per the minutes of the meeting. Assam's principal chief conservator of forests (wildlife) and chief wildlife warden had recommended clearance for the project in August last year, citing "national interest".

The Forest Advisory Committee of the Union Environment Ministry had also granted in-principle approval during its meeting on August 27 last year. A team of officials from the Union Environment Ministry, the Wildlife Institute of India, and the Assam Forest Department inspected the project site on Nov 15. The panel found that exploratory drilling would cause minimal damage, but said commercial drilling would not be allowed. Vedanta Group has given a written assurance that no commercial drilling will be conducted there.

A senior official in the ministry pointed out that exploratory drilling is a key step in hydrocarbon extraction, which could lead to commercial drilling. Another official said the inspection committee's report recommended no oil or gas extraction from within the eco-sensitive zone, even if reserves are discovered.

MINT, Delhi, 13.1.2025
Page No. 12, Size:(4.76)cms X (6.69)cms.

IBA seeks tax sops for biogas in budget

Indian Biogas Association (IBA) has urged the finance ministry to create blanket corporate tax holidays for compressed biogas (CBG) production in the forthcoming General Budget to attract investment in the sector to promote this renewable energy source.

Earlier this month, in a letter to finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman, IBA said that this will act as an incentive for businesses, which are willing to invest in and scale up CBG production, contributing to cleaner energy generation. Sitharaman is slated to present the Budget in Parliament on 1 February.

"It is proposed that the government create blanket corporate tax holidays for CBG production. In particular, a complete tax waiver should be introduced for CBG producers, which provides tax relief in the initial years of operation," the industry body said in a statement. PTI

MILLENNIUM POST, Delhi, 13.1.2025
Page No. 10, Size:(8.74)cms X (13.02)cms.

IGX plans to offer 3-6 month gas contracts

NEW DELHI: The Indian Gas Exchange (IGX) has sought regulatory approvals to launch 3-6 month gas contracts benchmarked to global gas prices, its chief executive Rajesh Kumar Mediratta said.

IGX currently allows gas suppliers to sell the fuel on the exchange for durations ranging from daily, weekly, fortnightly and monthly. It also offers intraday trading at a fixed price.

Mediratta said the exchange has applied to the regulator, PNGRB, for permission to launch three-month and six-month delivery contracts indexed to gas benchmarks such as FIXI and Platts JKM, WIM and Dated Brent.

"We are awaiting a clearance from PNGRB," he said. The new long-duration contracts will have a payment cycle of a fortnight compared to the current system of payments being made in 2-3 days after delivery.

Also, IGX is looking to introduce green certificates for trading, he said, as the government looks to make the usage of 1 per cent compressed biogas (CBG) mandatory for city gas sellers.

"Where city gas retailers have supplies coming from CBG plants, meeting the obligation of having 1 per cent CBG in the gas they supply will not be a problem. But in places where they dont have CBG supplies, they can buy these certificates," he said.

He said, gas volume traded on the exchange crossed 1 billion cubic meters (4 crore million British thermal units) in the first nine months of the current fiscal year. This volume equals 4.1 crore mmBTU volumes traded in FY24. PTI

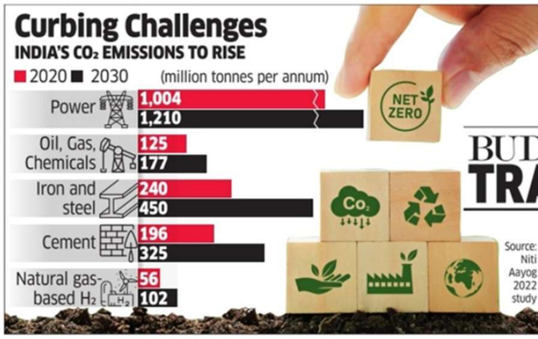
ECONOMIC TIMES, Delhi, 13.1.2025

Page No. 1, Size:(24.90)cms X (11.06)cms.

CCUS MISSION ANNOUNCEMENT LIKELY IN BUDGET

Plan Afoot to Decarbonise Power, Steel

Focus on schemes for hard-to-abate sectors to meet goals of halving carbon emissions by 2050



BUDGET TRACK

Twesh Mishra & Shilpa Samant

New Delhi: India is working on a national carbon capture utilisation and storage (CCUS) mission to support decarbonising hard-to-abate sectors such as thermal power, iron and steel, and cement plants, people familiar with the matter told **ET**.

The contours of the mission are being firmed up and an announcement could be made in the February budget, they said.

This mission will be in line with India's goals to halve carbon emissions by 2050 and attain net-zero emissions by 2070.

"Discussions are on, on the contours of the mission... details are being worked out," a senior government official said. A committee under the chairmanship of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) is in place for defining the requirement and timeline of this mission and scheme needed to implement the goals, the person said. A second official said two meetings of this committee have already taken place.

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ECONOMIC TIMES, Delhi, 13.1.2025
Page No. 1, Size:(24.90)cms X (11.06)cms.

Incentives for Equipment

►► From Page 1

It has been concluded that costs of carbon capture technology need to come down for India to attain its emission reduction goals, he said. The mission would provide incentives for manufacturing equipment used for CCUS and sops for per-tonne carbon emission abated.

"Rules governing the scheme would be firmed up after the contours of finalised later during the coming financial year," the official said.

In her July 2024 budget speech, finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said a roadmap for moving the "hard-to-abate" industries from "energy efficiency" targets to "emission targets" will be formulated.

She also said that regulations for transition of these industries from the current Perform, Achieve and Trade mode to the Indian Carbon Market mode will be put in place. Deliberations on speedier operationalisation of India's carbon trading markets and firming up incentives for industries that switch to lower emissions have been held at the highest level in the government.

COAL RELIEF

CCUS is expected to provide relief to users and generators of coal-based electricity, which still contributes around 70% of India's power needs, as global pressure to tax polluting energy grows. Experts said coal-based generation will remain India's baseload power despite having substantial renewable installed capacity by 2030. India has planned 85 GW of thermal capacity addition by 2032. The current thrust on the technology, which is expensive due to the absence of scale, comes after at least a year of deliberations involving various ministries and the NITI Aayog.

According to the International Energy Agency, CCUS involves the capture of carbon dioxide, generally from large point sources. This is then compressed and transported by pipeline, ship, rail or truck to be used in a range of applications or injected into deep geological formations such as depleted oil and gas reservoirs or saline aquifers.

The industry favours support measures such as the viability gap funding. Atanu Mukherjee, CEO of US-headquartered Dastur Energy, said initiatives such as viability gap funding (VGF) and production-linked incentive (PLI) programmes can kick-start large-scale adoption of CCUS in India. "India can adopt a hybrid investment strategy to fund early-stage CCUS projects, reduce risks for private players, and make these projects viable," Mukherjee said.

According to Vikram Handa, MD at Epsilon Carbon, a national CCUS mission can encourage manufacturers, drive lower emissions.

MILLENNIUM POST, Delhi, 13.1.2025
Page No. 9, Size:(21.60)cms X (20.09)cms.

Tougher sanctions by US to curb Russian oil supply to China, India

US Treasury on imposed sanctions on Russian oil producers Gazprom Neft, Surgutneftegas & 183 vessels that have shipped Russian oil

NEW DELHI/SINGAPORE: Chinese and Indian refiners will source more oil from the Middle East, Africa and the Americas, boosting prices and freight costs, as new US sanctions on Russian producers and ships curb supplies to Moscow's top customers, traders and analysts said.

The US Treasury on Friday imposed sanctions on Russian oil producers Gazprom Neft and Surgutneftegas, as well as 183 vessels that have shipped Russian oil, targeting the revenues Moscow has used to fund its war with Ukraine, *Reuters* reported.

Many of the tankers have been used to ship oil to India and China as western sanctions and a price cap imposed by the Group of Seven countries in 2022 shifted trade in Russian oil from Europe to Asia. Some tankers have also shipped oil from Iran, which is also under sanctions.

Russian oil exports will be hurt severely by the new sanctions, which will force Chinese independent refiners to cut refining output going forward, two Chinese trade sources said. The sources declined to be named as they are not authorised to speak to media. Among the newly sanctioned ships, 143 are oil tankers that handled more than 530 million barrels of Russian crude last year, about 42 per cent of the country's total seaborne crude exports, Kpler's lead freight analyst Matt Wright said in a note. Of these, about 300 million barrels was shipped to China while the bulk of the remainder went to India, he added.

Many of the tankers have been used to ship oil to India and China as western sanctions & price cap by G7 nations in 2022 shifted Russian oil trade from Europe to Asia

Highlights

- » Some tankers have also shipped oil from Iran, which is also under sanctions
- » 'Russian oil exports will be hurt severely by new sanctions, which will force Chinese independent refiners to cut refining output going forward'
- » Among newly sanctioned ships, 143 are oil tankers that handled over 530 mn barrels of Russian oil last year, about 42% of its seaborne crude exports

"These sanctions will significantly reduce the fleet of ships available to deliver crude from Russia in the short term, pushing freight rates higher," Wright said. A Singapore-based trader said the designated tankers shipped close to 900,000 bpd of Russian crude to China over the past 12 months. "It's going to drop off a cliff," he added.

For the first 11 months last year, India's Russian crude imports rose 4.5 per cent on year to 1.764 million bpd, or 36 per cent of India's total imports. China's volume, including pipeline supply, was up 2 per cent at 99.09 million metric tons (2.159 million bpd), or 20 per cent of its total imports, over the same period. China's imports are mostly Russian ESPO Blend crude, sold above the price cap, while India buys mostly Urals oil.

Vortexa analyst Emma Li said Russian ESPO Blend crude exports would be halted if the sanctions were strictly enforced, but it would depend on whether US President-elect Donald Trump lifted the embargo and also whether China acknowledged the sanctions.

ALTERNATIVES

The new sanctions will push China and India back into the compliant oil market to seek more supply from the Middle East, Africa and the Americas, the sources said. Spot prices for Middle East, Africa and Brazilian grades have already risen in recent months on rising demand from China and India as supplies of Russian and Iranian oil tightened and became more expensive, they added.

"Already, prices are rising for Middle Eastern grades," said an Indian oil refining official.

"There is no option than that we have to go for Middle Eastern oil. Perhaps we may have to go for US oil as well."

A second Indian refining source said the sanctions on Russian oil insurers will prompt Russia to price its crude below $60 a barrel so Moscow can continue to use Western insurance and tankers. Harry Tchilinguirian, head of research at Onyx Capital Group said: "Indian refiners, the main takers of Russian crude, are unlikely to wait around to find out and will be scrambling to find alternatives in Middle Eastern and Dated-Brent related Atlantic Basin crude.

"Strength in the Dubai benchmark can only rise from here as we are likely to see aggressive bidding for February loading cargoes of the likes of Oman or Murban, leading to a tighter Brent/Dubai spread," he added.

Last month, the Biden administration designated more ships dealing with Iranian crude, leading the Shandong Port Group to ban sanctioned tankers from calling into its ports in the eastern Chinese province. As a result, China, the main buyer of Iranian crude, will also turn to heavier Middle Eastern oil and most likely will maximise its offtake of Canadian crude from the Trans-Mountain pipeline (TMX), Tchilinguirian said. AGENCIES

TIMES OF INDIA, Delhi, 13.1.2025
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Tougher US sanctions to curb Russian oil supply to China, India


US has sanctioned 183 vessels that have shipped Russian oil

Chinese and Indian refiners will source more oil from West Asia, Africa and the Americas, boosting prices and freight costs, as new US sanctions on Russian producers and ships curb supplies to Moscow's top customers, traders and analysts said.

The US treasury on Friday imposed sanctions on two Russian oil producers, as well as 183 vessels that have shipped Russian oil, targeting the revenues Moscow has used to fund its war with Ukraine. Many of the tankers have been used to ship oil to India and China as western sanctions and a price cap imposed by G7 in 2022 shifted trade from Europe to Asia.

Among the newly sanctioned ships, 143 are oil tankers that handled more than 530 million barrels of Russian crude last year, about 42% of the country's total seaborne crude exports, Kpler's lead freight analyst Matt Wright said in a note. Of these, about 300 million barrels was shipped to China while the bulk of the remainder went to India, he added.

For the first 11 months last year, India's Russian crude imports rose 4.5% on year to 1.7 million bpd, or 36% of India's total imports. China's volume, including pipeline supply, was up 2% at 2.2 million bpd, or 20% of its total imports.

Vortexa analyst Emma Li said Russian crude exports would be halted if the sanctions were strictly enforced, but it would depend on whether US President-elect Donald Trump lifted the embargo and also whether China acknowledged the sanctions.

The new sanctions will push China and India back into the compliant oil market to seek more supply from the West Asia, Africa and the Americas, the sources said.

Spot prices for West Asia, Africa and Brazilian grades have already risen in recent months on rising demand from China and India as supplies of Russian and Iranian oil tightened and became more expensive, they added. "There is no option than that we have to go for Middle Eastern oil. Perhaps we may have to go for US oil as well," said an Indian oil refining official. A second Indian refining source said the sanctions on Russian oil insurers will prompt Russia to price its crude below $60 a barrel so Moscow can continue to use Western insurance and tankers.

Analyst Harry Tchilinguirian said: "Indian refiners are unlikely to wait around to find out and will be scrambling to find alternatives." REUTERS

AMAR UJALA, Delhi, 13.1.2025
Page No. 9, Size:(3.20)cms X (3.45)cms.

असम के अभयारण्य में तेल और गैस की खोज के लिए ड्रिलिंग की मंजूरी

नई दिल्ली। वन्यजीव संबंधी केंद्र की समिति ने असम के जोरहाट जिले में हुल्लोंगापार गिब्बन वन्यजीव अभयारण्य के पर्यावरण-संवेदनशील क्षेत्र में तेल और गैस की खोज के लिए ड्रिलिंग के प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दे दी है। केंद्रीय पर्यावरण मंत्री भूपेंद्र यादव की अध्यक्षता में राष्ट्रीय वन्यजीव बोर्ड (एनबीडब्ल्यूएल) की स्थायी समिति ने 21 दिसंबर को अपनी बैठक के दौरान वेदांत समूह के केयर्न ऑयल एंड गैस के प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दे दी। पिछले साल अगस्त में परियोजना के लिए मंजूरी की सिफारिश की गई थी। एजेंसी

VEER ARJUN, Delhi, 13.1.2025
Page No. 11, Size:(21.85)cms X (30.88)cms.

आगामी बजट में बायोगैस उत्पादन पर कॉरपोरेट कर की पूर्ण छूट चाहता है आईबीए

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा)। भारतीय बायोगैस एसोसिएशन (आईबीए) ने वित्त मंत्रालय से आगामी आम बजट में कंप्रेस्ड (संपीडति) बायोगैस (सीबीजी) उत्पादन के लिए पूरी तरह कॉरपोरेट कर की छूट देने की मांग की है। आईबीए का कहना है कि इससे क्षेत्र में निवेश आकर्षित करने में मदद मिलेगी और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा स्रोत को बढ़ावा देने का लक्ष्य हासिल हो सकेगा। इस महीने की शुरुआत में वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण को लिखे एक पत्र में आईबीए ने कहा कि यह उन कारोबार क्षेत्रों के लिए एक प्रोत्साहन के रूप में कार्य करेगा, जो स्वच्छ ऊर्जा उत्पादन में योगदान करते हुए सीबीजी उत्पादन में निवेश करने और इसे बढ़ाने के इच्छुक हैं।

उद्योग निकाय ने कहा, यह प्रस्ताव है कि सरकार सीबीजी उत्पादन के लिए व्यापक रूप से कॉरपोरेट कर अवकाश यानी छूट दे। विशेष रूप से सीबीजी उत्पादकों को परिचालन के शुरुआती वर्षों में पूर्ण कर राहत दी जानी चाहिए। वित्त मंत्री सीतारमण संसद में एक फरवरी को वित्त वर्ष 2025-26 का आम बजट पेश करेंगी।

आईबीए ने बताया कि वित्त वर्ष 2024-25 में देश में लगभग 100 सीबीजी संयंत्र चालू थे। कुल सीबीजी की बिक्री लगभग।,200 करोड़ रुपये रही है। इसका मतलब यह है कि पूरी तरह से कर माफ करने के बाद सरकार को राजस्व का करीब 100 करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान होगा। आईबीए ने यह यह एक अल्पकालिक नुकसान है, लेकिन यह दीर्घावधि में नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा उद्योग को आगे बढ़ने में मदद करेगा।

पत्र में कहा गया है कि इस कदम से भारत अपने नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा लक्ष्य को हासिल कर सकेगा, निजी निवेश प्राप्त कर सकेगा और इससे रोजगार के अवसरों का भी सृजन होगा।

VEER ARJUN, Delhi, 13.1.2025
Page No. 2, Size:(10.93)cms X (15.44)cms.

केंद्र ने असम अभयारण्य में तेल और गैस की खोज के लिए खोदाई को मंजूरी दी

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा)। केंद्र की वन्यजीव समिति ने असम के जोरहाट जिले में होलोंगापार गिब्बन वन्यजीव अभयारण्य के पारिस्थितिकी रूप से संवेदनशील क्षेत्र में तेल और गैस की खोज के प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दे दी है।इस संबंध में हुई बैठक के विवरण के मुताबिक, केंद्रीय पर्यावरण मंत्री भूपेंद्र यादव की अध्यक्षता में राष्ट्रीय वन्यजीव बोर्ड (एनबीडब्ल्यूएल) की स्थायी समिति ने 21 दिसंबर को अपनी बैठक के दौरान वेदांता समूह की केयर्न ऑयल एंड गैस के प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दी।

BUSINESS STANDARD HINDI, Delhi, 13.1.2025
Page No. 5, Size:(12.40)cms X (47.21)cms.

नए प्रतिबंधों का असर

अमेरिका में जो बाइडन के नेतृत्व वाले प्रशासन ने जाते-जाते उठाए गए एक अहम कदम में रूसी ऊर्जा क्षेत्र पर प्रतिबंधों का दायरा बढ़ा दिया है। गत सप्ताह घोषित ये उपाय मौजूदा प्रतिबंधों में इजाफा करने वाले हैं और बहुत संभव है कि ये पहले ही दबाव से जूझ रहे ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में और अधिक अस्थिरता लाने वाले साबित हों। इनमें से कुछ कदम जहां यूरोपीय देशों तथा यूरोपीय संघ के द्वारा पहले ही उठाए जा चुके हैं, वहीं वैश्विक निजी क्षेत्र इन अमेरिकी कदमों को लेकर यूरोप के कदमों की तुलना में कहीं अधिक सावधानी से प्रतिक्रिया देगा। नए आक्रामक प्रतिबंध कई क्षेत्रों में विस्तारित हैं। दो बड़े उत्पादकों और निर्यातकों को प्रतिबंधों के दायरे में लाया गया है: सरगुटनेफ्ट गैस और गैजप्रोम नेफ्ट। इन दोनों कंपनियों ने गत वर्ष मिलकर जो लाखों बैरल तेल निर्यात किया वह रूस के मौजूदा समुद्री निर्यात का एक तिहाई है। यह भारत समेत दुनिया के बाजार में वर्तमान तेल आपूर्ति का बहुत बड़ा हिस्सा है। इसके अलावा कुछ विशिष्ट तेल टैंकर पोतों पर भी प्रतिबंध लगाया गया है, जिनमें ऐसे पोत भी शामिल हैं जो आर्कटिक सागर के पार रूस के मरमांस्क जैसे क्षेत्रीय इलाकों तक तेल एवं गैस की आपूर्ति करते हैं। मध्यम अवधि में इन प्रतिबंधों का क्या असर होगा यह अभी स्पष्ट नहीं है। यकीनन, इससे लागत बढ़ेगी क्योंकि कई अलग-अलग तरह से आपूर्ति की जरूरत होगी।

अमेरिका के तरकश में एक और तीर है- रूस में समुद्री बीमा प्रदाताओं पर प्रतिबंध, खासतौर पर इन्गोस्ट्राख इंश्योरेंस कंपनी और अल्फास्ट्राखोवनी समूह पर प्रतिबंध। इनमें से पहली कंपनी खासतौर पर भारत आने वाले कार्गो का बीमा करती है और उसे बाजार से हटाने का अर्थ होगा भारत आने वाले शिपमेंट में ज्यादा देरी होना। भारत को इन नए प्रतिबंधों के असर से बचने के लिए उपयुक्त प्रतिक्रिया देनी होगी जो ज्यादा उथल पुथल लाने वाली न हो। यह तत्काल करने की जरूरत है ताकि रूसी तेल लाने वाले शैडो फ्लीट (चोरी से प्रतिबंधित सामग्री ले जाने वाले पोत) को सुरक्षा पहले ही एक समस्या बन चुकी है। कुछ खास पोतों के विरुद्ध प्रतिबंध उनकी मरम्मत को मुश्किल बनाता है। उनके दुर्घटना के शिकार होने की आशंका बढ़ जाती है। और बीमा न होने के कारण दुर्घटना के बाद भारी नुकसान होता है। इसका समूची पारिस्थितिकी पर बुरा असर होता है। इस समय काला सागर में दो क्षतिग्रस्त रूसी तेल टैंकरों से तेल लीक होने की आशंका हैं। इस सप्ताहांत जर्मनी को एक परित्यक्त टैंकर से निपटना होगा जो बाल्टिक सागर में शैडो फ्लीट का हिस्सा था।

एक हद तक ये अतिरिक्त उपाय अनुमानित थे हालांकि उनकी आक्रामकता जरूर चौंकाने वाली थी। चीन के साथ-साथ भारत की जीवाश्म ईंधन पर निर्भरता के कारण हाल के दिनों में खाड़ी और अटलांटिक क्षेत्र से आने वाले तेल पर निर्भरता बढ़ी है। भारत के सरकारी तेलशोधक कारखानों के बारे में खबर है कि फरवरी में 60 लाख बैरल कच्चे तेल के अनुबंध किए हैं। आंशिक रूप से ऐसा हाजिर बाजार में रूसी तेल की उपलब्धता न होने के कारण किया गया। खबरों में मुताबिक पश्चिमी टेक्सस इंटरमीडिएट ग्रेड का 20 लाख बैरल तेल सुरक्षित कर लिया गया है। यह संभव है कि नए प्रतिबंधों के बाद रूस के कच्चे तेल की आपूर्ति का मॉडल तय करने में कुछ सप्ताह या महीनों का समय लग जाए। तब तक भारत आपूर्ति और कीमतों के मामले में अस्थिरता का शिकार रहेगा। यह भी संभव है कि रूसी तेल के लिए ऊंची लागत, कम विश्वसनीयता तथा मौजूदा की तुलना में खतरनाक आदि नया चलन हो जाए। भारतीय रिफाइनरियों की प्रतिबंध सक्षम व्यापार पर निर्भरता बहुत लंबे समय तक संभव नहीं रह सकती।

HINDUSTAN, Delhi, 13.1.2025
Page No. 9, Size:(10.41)cms X (15.86)cms.

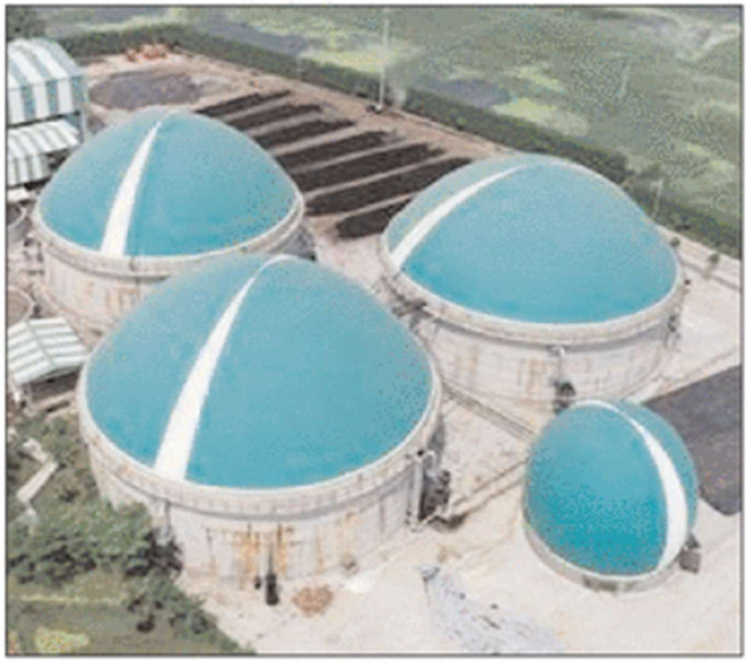
पीएम ने परियोजना की आधारशिला रखी

नई दिल्ली। विशाखापत्तनम के पास पुदीमडाका में प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने एनटीपीसी ग्रीन एनर्जी लिमिटेड ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन हब परियोजना की आधारशिला रखी। इस दौरान आंध्र प्रदेश के राज्यपाल एस अब्दुल नजीर, सीएम एन चंद्रबाबू नायडू, राममोहन नायडू, के पवन कल्याण समेत अन्य गण्यमान्य मौजूद रहे। यह परियोजना राष्ट्रीय हरित हाइड्रोजन मिशन के तहत पहला ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन हब है।

VIRAT VAIBHAV, Delhi, 13.1.2025
Page No. 15, Size:(25.29)cms X (30.99)cms.

बजट में बायोगैस उत्पादन पर कॉरपोरेट कर की पूर्ण छूट चाहता है आईबीए

एजेंसी ■ नई दिल्ली



भारतीय बायोगैस एसोसिएशन (आईबीए) ने वित्त मंत्रालय से आगामी आम बजट में कंप्रेस्ड (संपीड़ित) बायोगैस (सीबीजी) उत्पादन के लिए पूरी तरह कॉरपोरेट कर की छूट देने की मांग की है। आईबीए का कहना है कि इससे क्षेत्र में निवेश आकर्षित करने में मदद मिलेगी और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा स्रोत को बढ़ावा देने का लक्ष्य हासिल हो सकेगा। इस महीने की शुरुआत में वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण को लिखे एक पत्र में आईबीए ने कहा कि यह उन कारोबार क्षेत्रों के लिए एक प्रोत्साहन के रूप में कार्य करेगा, जो स्वच्छ ऊर्जा उत्पादन में योगदान करते हुए सीबीजी उत्पादन में निवेश करने और इसे बढ़ाने के इच्छुक हैं। उद्योग निकाय ने कहा, यह प्रस्ताव है कि सरकार सीबीजी उत्पादन के लिए व्यापक रूप से कॉरपोरेट कर अवकाश यानी छूट दे। विशेष रूप से सीबीजी उत्पादकों को परिचालन के शुरुआती वर्षों में पूर्ण कर राहत दी जानी चाहिए। वित्त मंत्री सीतारमण संसद में एक फरवरी को वित्त वर्ष 2025-26 का आम बजट पेश करेंगी। आईबीए ने बताया कि वित्त वर्ष 2024-25 में देश में लगभग 100 सीबीजी संयंत्र चालू थे। कुल सीबीजी की बिक्री लगभग।,200 करोड़ रुपए रही है। इसका मतलब यह है कि पूरी तरह से कर माफ करने के बाद सरकार को राजस्व का करीब 100 करोड़ रुपए का नुकसान होगा। आईबीए ने यह यह एक अल्पकालिक नुकसान है, लेकिन यह दीर्घावधि में नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा उद्योग को आगे बढ़ने में मदद करेगा। पत्र में कहा गया है कि इस कदम से भारत अपने नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा लक्ष्य को हासिल कर सकेगा, निजी निवेश प्राप्त कर सकेगा और इससे रोजगार के अवसरों का भी सृजन होगा। उद्योग निकाय ने कहा कि इस मामले में कर छूट से सीबीजी उत्पादकों को अपने उत्पादों को प्रतिस्पर्धी कीमतों पर बेचने में भी मदद मिलेगी, जिससे भारत के ऊर्जा मिश्रण में सीबीजी की स्वीकार्यता बढ़ेगी। आईबीए ने कहा कि इसके अलावा इससे बायोगैस के उत्पादन में धान के भूसे और फसल कचरे जैसे कृषि अवशेषों का इस्तेमाल बढ़ेगा। इससे कृषि अवशेषों को जलाने की जरूरत नहीं होगा, जिससे अंततः प्रदूषण को कम करने में मदद मिलेगी।

DAINIK SAVERA, Delhi, 13.1.2025
Page No. 7, Size:(21.88)cms X (30.94)cms.

सरकार ने आईजीएल, अदाणी-टोटल को सस्ती गैस की आपूर्ति बढ़ाई

सवेरा न्यूज/एजैंसी

नई दिल्ली, 12 जनवरी : सरकार ने शहर गैस वितरण कंपनियों...इंद्रप्रस्थ गैस लि. (आईजीएल), अदाणी-टोटल और महानगर गैस लि. (एमजीएल) को सस्ती गैस की आपूर्ति बढ़ा दी है। इन कंपनियों ने शेयर बाजारों को यह जानकारी दी है। 2024 में सरकार ने इन कंपनियों को गैस आवंटन घटा दिया था। पिछले साल अक्तूबर और नवंबर में सरकार ने सीमित उत्पादन के मद्देनजर शहरी गैस खुदरा विक्रेताओं को एपीएम गैस की आपूर्ति में 40 प्रतिशत तक कटौती की थी। इसके कारण शहरी गैस वितरण विक्रेताओं ने सीएनजी के दाम 2-3 रुपए किलोग्राम बढ़ा दिए थे। इसकी वजह यह है कि इन कंपनियों को ऊंचे दाम वाला ईंधन खरीदना पड़ा था। इससे डीजल जैसे वैकल्पिक ईंधन की तुलना में सीएनजी कम आकर्षक रह गई है। इसके बाद पैट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय ने 31 दिसंबर, 2024 के अपने आदेश के जरिए जमीन के नीचे और समुद्र के नीचे से उत्पादित गैस के कुछ आवंटन को फिर से व्यवस्थित किया है।