

ANGVA2U Info 01/2020 14th January 2020. (for ANGVA members only)

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1.0 Selected News / Articles

1.1 Serbia

CNG buses financed under EBRD Green Cities programme

www.railwaygazette.com. 2nd January 2020



SERBIA: The European Bank for Reconstruction & Development has signed the first loan under its Green Cities programme, covering the provision of €7m to enable Novi Sad's city transport operator to purchase compressed natural gas fuelled buses.

Scheduled to enter service this year as part of a wider bus fleet renewal project, the CNG vehicles are expected to reduce CO₂ emissions by 70% compared to the existing diesel buses. They will have wheelchair access and allocated areas for passengers with reduced mobility.

'New buses will help reduce air pollution while providing better quality transport for citizens of Novi Sad', said Zsuzsanna Hargitai, EBRD Regional Director, Western Balkans.

Novi Sad is the second city in Serbia to join the Green Cities programme, after Beograd where EBRD is supporting work to improving the energy efficiency of a sports and business centre.

Source: <https://www.railwaygazette.com/vehicles/cng-buses-financed-under-ebrd-green-cities-programme/55450.article>

1.2 Iran

Lack of enough CNG stations could rise gasoline consumption

www.tehrantimes.com. 3rd January 2020



TEHRAN - Head of Tehran Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Association says although converting gasoline-fuel cars into dual-fuel ones in the country is expected to raise CNG consumption by up to 10 percent, lack of enough CNG stations could once again rise gasoline consumption.

According to Ardeshir Dadras, since the implementation of the gasoline rationing scheme, the consumption of CNG has increased by 15-20 percent across the country.

The official expressed hope that by the end of the current Iranian calendar year (March 19, 2020), the country's CNG consumption would be increased by 30 percent.

Currently, only 50 to 60 percent of the capacity of the country's CNG stations is being used and even after an increase in the number of dual-fuel cars, no shortage is going to be felt in the short term, Dadras said.

He further noted that 1.46 million vehicles in the country's public transportation fleet will be converted into dual-fuel cars over the next two years, adding that the number of CNG stations is not enough in some metropolises and a balance should be made between the number of cars and stations to avoid a supply shortage.

According to the Managing Director of National Iranian Oil Refining and Distribution Company (NIORDC) Alireza Sadeqabadi, the daily consumption of LNG in the country is currently at 800 million cubic meters.

Back in December 2019, head of the CNG promotion program at the National Iranian Oil Product Distribution Company (NIOPDC) said: "CNG consumption in the country has increased by 10 percent since the implementation of the rationing plan."

Speaking in a press conference, Hassan Gholipour put the average consumption of CNG in the month before the gasoline rationing, at 19.3 million cubic meters per day (mcm/d), and said the figure had risen to about 22 mcm/d, indicating a two-mcm/d growth.

Following the implementation of the gasoline rationing scheme, the government has been promoting the use of CNG as a replacement for gasoline and has declared the mentioned fuel as the country's national fuel.

People have also been welcoming CNG after the rationing because of the rise in gasoline prices and since, being a cheaper fuel, CNG seems a more affordable fuel for most of the people with lower income ranges.

EF/MA

Source: <https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/443688/Lack-of-enough-CNG-stations-could-rise-gasoline-consumption>

1.3 Pakistan

Govt taking all-out measures to overcome gas crisis: Hafeez Shaikh

Web Desk. arynews.tv. 8th January 2020



ISLAMABAD: Adviser to Prime Minister on Finance, Dr Abdul Hafeez Shaikh has said that the government is taking all-out measures to overcome the ongoing gas crisis in the country, ARY News reported.

Presiding over a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Energy, Hafeez Shaikh said that sought a detailed plan from the Ministry of Energy to overcome the shortage of energy and improve gas supply throughout the year.

The meeting was apprised that 70 million metric cubic feet gas will be added in the system by the end of January. The meeting also noted that there is a need to work on contingency plan for 2020-21 to overcome the gas shortage.

Earlier on December 22, the domestic consumers had also been facing the problem of slow gas pressure in Karachi with the advent of winter.

Despite the long shutdown of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) stations the homes in several localities of Karachi as well as in other parts of Sindh had been facing the issue of low pressure causing headache for housewives in cooking.

The situation was not better in various cities of Punjab where undeclared gas load shedding causing problems for the citizens in Lahore as well other parts of the province.

Source: <https://arynews.tv/en/govt-taking-measures-gas-crisis/>

1.4 Myanmar

Two CNG stations to get new compressors in current fiscal: MOGE

By Nyein Nyein. *Global New Light of Myanmar*. 10th January 2020

New compressors will be installed at CNG filling stations in Dagon Seikkan and Danyingon areas to replace old and inefficient machines, said U Hla Win Htay, General Manager of the Natural Gas Vehicle Division (CNG) under Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE).

“Two machines have been allotted in the 2019-2020 financial year. Now, the purchasing process is under way,” said U Hla Win Htay.

The two new compressors will be installed in the current financial year, and will help reduce queues outside stations, he added.

“After the new machines are installed, I can guarantee the long queues will reduce,” said U Hla Win Htay.

“Out of the 41 CNG filling stations in Yangon Region, some have been found using old machines brought from China in 2004 and 2005. They have been found to be poor in terms of efficiency, leading to long queues. Therefore, the machines are being replaced with new ones each financial year,” he said.

“As per international standards, CNG compressors can be run for just 14 hours. Yet, Myanmar operates L and ZQ types from China for up to 20 hours due to low efficiency,” said U Hla Win Htay.

“Three new machines were allotted in the 2018-2019 financial year. They were to be installed at Gas Station 007 on Bayintnaung Road in Insein Township, Gas Station 025 on Kyansitthar Road near Dagon University, East Dagon, and Shwepyitha Gas Station No.2,” according to MOGE.

As per data provided by the CNG Division of the MOGE, Yangon Region has over 6,500 CNG buses, but only 4,000 buses come to fill gas at the stations. The daily CNG consumption in Yangon is 24.14 million cubic feet, and YBS buses account for 13.41 million cubic feet of the total consumption. *(Translated by Ei Myat Mon)*

Source: <https://www.globalnewlightofmyanmar.com/two-cng-stations-to-get-new-compressors-in-current-fiscal-moge/>

1.5 Pakistan

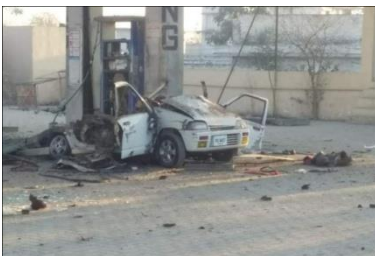
Blast during CNG filling process kills woman, leaves three injured in Peshawar

Web Desk. *arynews.tv*. 10th January 2020



PESHAWAR: A woman was killed while three others were severely wounded as blast occurred in a car during Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) filling process in Peshawar today (Friday).

As per details, the dreadful incident took place in Peshawar's area of Khazana. The blast took place while filling process at the CNG station in the a vehicle.



The security personnel immediately arrived at the scene and shifted the victims to the hospital for medical assistance.

The officers said that investigation into the matter has been launched.

In a separate incident of the same

nature that place in Karachi, on March 24, last year, at least two person were killed and four left wounded in a cylinder explosion at the [CNG](#) filling station.

The incident took place in North Karachi area of the metropolis. Rescue sources had said that the explosion occurred at compressor room of the filling station.

The wounded persons were identified as pump owner Muhammad Rashid, Faqeer Muhammad and Saqib. The bodies and injured persons were rushed to nearby hospital by the rescue teams arrived in at the location.

Source: <https://arynews.tv/en/peshawar-cng-filling-explosion-kills-woman/>

1.6 Bangladesh

Exposed to fatal cylinder blasts

www.thedailystar.net 4th January 2020



Peoples' lives at high risk as hundreds of vehicles in Laxmipur use expired cylinders

Gas cylinders are being used in around 15,000 vehicles in the district and most of those are well beyond their expiry dates. Photo: Collected

Widespread use of expired gas cylinders in vehicles ignoring official directives is leading to a high number of accidents across Laxmipur district but the administration is doing little to address the problem, according to locals.

There were 15 gas cylinder-related accidents in the district last year. Residents said gas cylinders are being used in around 15,000 vehicles in the district and most of those are well beyond their expiry dates.

Though gas cylinders are supposed to be examined after five years, owners and drivers are not following the rules, they added.

When asked, most drivers said they were unaware of rules and lifespan of cylinders. They, however, accused Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA) of giving fitness certificates in exchange for money instead of inspecting vehicles properly. Contacted, BRTA officials refuted the allegation.

Forkan Chowdhury, assistant director of BRTA, said they issue a fitness certificate after checking date of the gas cylinder and retesting certificate.

“We don’t give fitness certificate if the vehicle uses a locally-made cylinder,” he said, adding, “Explosion-related accidents occur due to using such cylinders.”

He claimed that they inspect vehicles thoroughly when drivers come to BRTA to take fitness certificates every year.

“Also, we examine retesting certificates after five years. After checking certificates and gas cylinders, we provide them with fitness certificates,” said the assistant director.

“In addition, we often conduct mobile court drives,” he said, urging everyone to be aware of rules while using gas cylinders.

Md Iqbal Hossain, deputy director of Laxmipur fire service and civil defence, said gas cylinders explode when they are past their expiry dates. “It’s necessary to retest gas cylinders before the expiry date. If everyone follows rules on how to use such cylinders, the number of accidents will reduce,” he said

Source: <https://www.thedailystar.net/city/news/exposed-fatal-cylinder-blasts-1849267>

1.7 Finland

Gasum receives investment grants for biogas plant and refueling stations

www.bioenergy-news.com. 2nd January 2020



Image credit: Gasum

Finnish gas company Gasum has received investment grants for the construction of a new biogas plant and four gas refuelling stations for heavy-duty vehicles (HDVs).

The grants - SEK 32 million (€3 million) for the new refuelling stations and SEK 158 million (€15 million) for the biogas plant - provided by the Swedish Climate Leap initiative, Klimatklivet, will support the development of the Nordic gas ecological unit. The Klimatklivet initiative was launched to support efforts to reduce carbon dioxide emissions in Sweden by switching to clean energy.

The four new biogas refuelling stations will be built in eastern and western Gothenburg, Malmö and Halmstad, and will be operational from 2020. The new biogas plant is currently under construction in Götene and will utilise manure as a feedstock to generate LBG. Biofertilisers generated at the plant will be certified as organic.

“Klimatklivet is essential in supporting our journey towards a carbon-neutral society,” said Mikael Antonsson, director of Traffic at Gasum Sweden. “Without the grant, we wouldn’t be able to build these new stations in Sweden. People are becoming more aware of the benefits of gas in Sweden and now is the time to invest in clean energy solutions.”

Source: <https://www.bioenergy-news.com/news/gasum-receives-investment-grants-for-biogas-plant-and-refuelling-stations/>

1.8 Asia

Increase reported for Asian spot LNG prices

By Will Owen. Assistant Editor. LNG Industry. 10th January 2020

Reuters is reporting that Asian LNG spot prices have seen an increase for February deliveries.

The price increase is reportedly being driven by higher spot demand from India, as well as the growing uncertainty regarding the tensions in the Middle East.

The latest estimates set the price of LNG spot cargoes for delivery to northeast Asia in February at approximately US\$5.30 per million Btu (an increase of 15 cents from last week’s estimates).

Price estimates for cargoes with delivery dates in March are at US\$4.75 per million Btu.

Source: <https://www.lngindustry.com/liquid-natural-gas/10012020/increase-reported-for-asian-spot-lng-prices/>

1.9 South Korea

South Korea sees EV, hydrogen fleet at 200,000 in 2020

By Tony Cox. www.argusmedia.com. 10th January 2020

South Korea's government forecasts the country having more than 200,000 electric and hydrogen vehicles on its roads by the end of this year amid increased public incentives.

A projected 94,430 electric vehicles (EVs) and hydrogen cars will be added in 2020, equivalent to 84pc of the 113,000 added over 2012-19, according to the country's environment ministry. This year's additions

are expected to include 65,000 regular EVs, 11,000 two-wheeled EVs, 7,500 electric delivery trucks and 650 electric buses.

Seoul has budgeted 1.1 trillion won (\$946.5mn) for EV and hydrogen subsidies and charging infrastructure this year, including purchase incentives for 65,000 regular EVs, up from 42,000 in 2019. It aims to boost sales of electric and hydrogen vehicles to 33pc of all cars sold in the country by 2030, up from about 2.6pc last year.

South Korea is also increasing exports of EVs. Domestic auto producers Hyundai and Kia exported 63,414 EVs in 2019, up by 128pc from a year earlier.

The transition to EVs boosts demand for cobalt, lithium and other materials used to make batteries, with South Korea having several ventures under way to recycle used battery packs.

The latest is a plan by GS Engineering and Construction to build a W100bn battery recycling plant in the subsidised industrial district of Pohang. The plant, which is scheduled to open in 2022, will have capacity to process 1,000 used EV batteries each year, extracting cobalt, manganese, nickel and other metals that will be sold to battery producers and other manufacturers. GS said it will be able to extract 4,500 t/yr of valuable metals when the factory opens, and additional investments could push capacity to 10,000 t/yr.

Source: <https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2048732-south-korea-sees-ev-hydrogen-fleet-at-200000-in-2020?backToResults=true>

2.0 ANGVA related / participated events

Events that will be organized, participated, supported and endorsed by ANGVA this year are under review and will be published as soon as possible.

3.0 End

Any comments and suggestions on the topics and information covered and to be covered in future are most welcome. Please send your comments and suggestions to Lee Giok Seng at email: leegs@angva.org