

ANGVA2U Info 05/2022. 29th April 2022 (for ANGVA members only)

ANGVA2U Info aims to share information, data, and news related to low and net zero carbon fuels with ANGVA members. However, these information, data, and news are collected and shared in good faith, without any guarantee of accuracies. Members are advised to use these information and data prudently and at their own risks.

+++++

1.0 Selected News / Articles

1.1 India

GAIL, HPCL to invest Rs 17,000 cr to boost Bengal CNG infra

21st April 2022.



The West Bengal government has formed a committee to oversee execution of the projects in the state. PTI

The projects include piped gas distribution and setting up of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) stations. Availability of the green fuel is expected to play a role in reducing air pollution.

GAIL, its JV company Bengal Gas Co and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd's combined investment in various CNG projects in West Bengal will be Rs 17,000 crore over the next five years, senior officials said on Thursday.

The projects include piped gas distribution and setting up of Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) stations. Availability of the green fuel is expected to play a role in reducing air pollution.

HPCL will be investing Rs 8,000 crore in city gas distribution and CNG station infrastructure, while, GAIL and Bengal Gas will jointly invest Rs 9,000 crore to set up the pipeline, officials said.

The CNG pipeline from Durgapur is expected to reach Kolkata by September 2023. Of the 315 km long Durgapur to Haldia pipeline, only 60-70 kilometres have been completed in patches.

"We had eight districts and now we are set to get four more districts for city gas distribution in West Bengal. Altogether our investment will go up from Rs 5800 crore to Rs 8000 crore," HPCL CGM (City Gas Distribution) Sanjoy Ghosh told PTI.

Speaking on the sidelines of the Bengal Global Business Summit organised by the West Bengal government, GAIL director (business development), M V Iyer, shared details of the company's ongoing natural gas pipeline infrastructure projects in the state.

"GAIL will implement projects worth over Rs 4,000 crore in West Bengal. In addition, GAIL JV company Bengal Gas will invest around Rs 5,000 crore in the state," Iyer said.

Bengal Gas Company Ltd is a 74:26 per cent JV between GAIL and Greater Calcutta Gas Supply Corporation Limited formed to develop city gas distribution network in Kolkata and its nearby areas.

In West Bengal, GAIL (India) Ltd is executing 846 km of pipeline in 15 districts. "After completing the stretch of pipeline from Dobhi (in Bihar) to Durgapur, gas supply to Matix Fertilizers was commenced by GAIL in August 2021. The 315 km long Durgapur to Haldia pipeline including spur line to Kolkata is under construction," Iyer said.

Asked whether land acquisition was hurting progress of the project, Iyer said it is a problem in the entire country but the state government is providing support to the company. The West Bengal government has formed a committee to oversee execution of the projects in the state.

The Maharatna company is operating 13,840 km of natural gas pipeline network nationwide. Currently, GAIL is implementing its Jagdishpur Haldia Bokaro Dhamra pipeline and Barauni Guwahati Pipeline in Eastern India.

These pipelines are known as the Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga pipeline project as part of the National Gas Grid to bring green fuel to people and industry.

Meanwhile, ONGC said it will be investing Rs 1,500 crore over the next 3-4 years for gas exploration at Ashoknager in North 24 Parganas district of West Bengal.

Source: <https://www.businesstoday.in/industry/energy/story/gail-hpcl-to-invest-rs-17000-cr-to-boost-bengal-cng-infra-330741-2022-04-21>

1.2 India

EXPLAINED | Understanding The CNG Price Hike That Led To Two-Day Strike By Cab And Auto Drivers In Delhi-NCR

20th April 2022. By: Aditya Anand

CNG Price Hike: The cab strike was against a continuous increase in the prices of this important fuel that can directly impact the prices of commodities.



Autos stand parked during a strike by auto and taxi unions, in New Delhi, Monday, April 18, 2022. Various auto-rickshaw, cab and taxi unions in the national capital went on a strike demanding a CNG subsidy and a fare revision in the wake of rising fuel prices. (PTI)

New Delhi: The recent rise in fuel prices, including that of natural gases like CNG or PNG, led to a two-day strike by Ola and Uber cab drivers across Delhi-NCR, creating disruptions.

The strike was against a continuous increase in the prices of this important fuel in the transport sector that can directly impact the prices of commodities.

Current Situation:

On April 14, a fresh hike took the retail price of CNG up to Rs 71.61 per kg in NCT Delhi and Rs 74.17 per kg in Noida, Greater Noida and Ghaziabad. This was the third hike in the month of April with a total increase of Rs 9.10/kg, a 15% price increase, in merely three weeks.

Reason Behind Sudden Natural Gas Price Hike

Global gas shock: An accelerated recovery after Covid and energy demand coupled with inadequate supply expansion in 2021 have resulted in cost shock waves. The cost of natural gas produced from oil regulated fields has more than doubled in the past few weeks due to the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict and West sanctions.

The government generally determines the domestic natural gas prices in April and October every year based on the previous year's behaviour of international prices for natural gases. This

has led to revised prices of Domestic Natural Gas from \$2.9 to \$6-7 per mm Btu, resulting in steep CNG price hikes. Such price hikes have also helped offset the input cost rise due to the increase in rates of LNG, which comprises about 10-15% of the gas mix for CNG customers.

Profit Margins: Natural gas distributors enjoy the advantage of access to cheap and stable domestic gas and pricing freedom for CNG, which enjoys lower taxes compared to the heavily taxed competing fuels like petrol and diesel. This ensures huge profit margins for natural gas distributors. So, with more freedom or less regulation by the central agency, the distributors can ensure hiking prices to maintain their own profit margins.

In conclusion, for a long time, Compressed Natural Gas as a fuel has been less popular with private buyers and mainly penetrated as a fuel of choice for public transport, private cab business and auto-rickshaws. With further increase in prices of CNG, it casts a shadow on the growth of potential customers for CNG as a fuel, in spite of it being the state of the fuel economy and its eco-friendly nature as compared to conventional fuels like petrol and diesel.

Source: <https://news.abplive.com/news/india/explained-understanding-the-cng-price-hike-that-led-to-two-day-strike-by-cab-and-auto-drivers-in-delhi-ncr-1527271>

1.3 Nigeria

Fed Govt, firm to deploy gas-powered mass transit buses

28th April 2022. By Our Reporter.



Femadec Group, in partnership with the Federal Government, will, on May 5, begin the deployment of compressed natural gas-powered mass transit buses in Abuja, the country's capital.

Mr Fola Akinnola, the Chief Executive Officer, of Femadec Group, confirmed the development in a chat with reporters yesterday in Lagos. Akinnola said the move was part of the actualisation of the Federal Government's auto-gas policy which was launched in December 2020, by President Muhammadu Buhari.

According to him, the mass transit scheme, which will be operated by Femadec Express, a division of the company, is starting with 20 buses manufactured by Hyundai in South Korea.

Akinnola explained that Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) buses were cheaper to operate and also environmental-friendly as the world was moving toward cleaner sources of energy. He said: "Part of our business plans and strategies is to key into the Federal Government's gas penetration scheme which includes CNG and auto-gas."

On the company's expansion plan, he said the company was planning to acquire a total of 100 CNG buses by the end of the year. "Our plan this year is to hit 100 buses.

Also, Mr Oluwakayode Oyegoke, Head, Gas, Nigerian Midstream and Downstream Petroleum Regulatory Authority (NMDPRA) said the government would continue to create the enabling environment to drive investment in the sector.

Oyegoke said the NMDPRA, as a business enabler, was available to guide investors to ensure that the gas penetration policy of the government and the National Gas Policy was effectively cascaded down to the masses.

He said: “The Federal Government has realised that keying into gas is one of the rapid and accelerated ways of improving the economy. “The government in its wisdom has laid down policies to help not only electricity and industries but also the transportation system.

“That is why we now have these buses that will be powered by CNG. This will reduce pressure on other white products like Premium Motor Spirit and Automotive Gas Oil. “It will help diversification by giving options to consumers to improve their businesses.

“Above all, it is environmentally friendly and part of the government’s plan to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2060.”

Source: <https://thenationonlineeng.net/fed-govt-firm-to-deploy-gas-powered-mass-transit-buses/>

1.4 Turkey

Turkey’s BMC exports 170 more buses to Azerbaijan

11th April 2022. By DAILY SABAH WITH AA. Istanbul.



A representative picture of BMC's Neocity bus. (Courtesy of BMC)

Turkish vehicle maker BMC, one of the country’s largest commercial and military vehicle manufacturers, has sold 170 more buses to Azerbaijan, according to Anadolu Agency (AA) Monday.

The company continues to increase its exports with the new generation, high-tech and environmentally friendly buses, thanks to its research and development (R&D) investments in recent years, the report said.

BMC, which, aside from European countries, has signed many projects in the Balkans and Turkic republics and with the tenders it won in Azerbaijan, the company exported a total of 510 Procity 12-meter (40-foot) buses, 20 Procity 18-meter buses and 35 Neocity 9-meter buses with compressed natural gas (CNG) engines.

With the latest acceptance procedures, the delivery of 170 Neocity 9-meter CNG buses has been completed. Thus, the number of BMC buses serving in Azerbaijan’s capital Baku increased to 735.

Having produced the first natural gas and fully low-floor city bus in Turkey, BMC buses stand out with their high comfort and technological features. BMC's buses produce special solutions for preventing air pollution, which is the most important problem of big cities, with their low-emission and environmentally friendly engines.

BMC, Turkey's first commercial vehicle manufacturer to export to Europe, provides a significant amount of foreign currency inflow to the country with its sales to more than 80 countries in its deep-rooted history of half a century. Winning the "Best Design Award" at Busworld Europe, Neocity is BMC's new generation bus series. Neocity buses, which are produced in 8.5, 9 and 10-meter lengths with electric, diesel and CNG, offer special solutions for the different needs of cities.

Neocity, which has the lowest turning radius in its class thanks to its independent front axle, provides superior driving comfort with its high maneuverability and high traction, even in the narrowest streets of the city. Neocity 8.5 and 9-meter buses offer the opportunity for up to 72 people to travel comfortably and the 10-meter versions allow for up to 88 passengers.

Source: <https://www.dailysabah.com/business/transportation/turkeys-bmc-exports-170-more-buses-to-azerbaijan>

1.5 Trinidad and Tobago

NGC prepares for higher CNG demand

21st April 2022. By RYAN HAMILTON-DAVIS



FILE PHOTO: CNG pump attendant Triston Marcelle fills up a car at the St Christopher's Service Station, Wrightson Road, Port of Spain. - AYANNA KINSALE

The National Gas Company (NGC) preparing for a surge in demand for compressed natural gas (CNG) conversions after Tuesday's increase in the prices of premium and super gasoline and diesel.

Chief financial officer of The TT National Gas Ltd (TTNGL) and acting president of NGC CNG Sheldon Sylvester told reporters at the Hyatt Regency on Wednesday, stakeholders are taking an all hands on deck approach in anticipation of the increased demand for CNG kits.

“When you compare one dollar per litre compared to five or six dollars, it is a no-brainer when you think about the economics behind it.”

He said over the last three weeks the volume of CNG sold had been the highest ever and there have been increases in CNG conversions and purchases of CNG vehicles.

“We have been in contact with gas stations and converters and they are bracing for the increase in usage and the increase in conversions from the different conversion suppliers.”

He said with supply at 50 per cent capacity, the company is in a “perfect position” to capitalise on the rising demand.

At a Conversations with the Prime Minister in March, Dr Rowley said the move towards a CNG policy would be “more or less obsolete” and was never fully accepted by the driving public.

On Wednesday, NGC chairman Conrad Enill said based on the information the company has, Rowley was right. He said the company will respond to what happens next for CNG based on what the government's position is.

“We will continue to see the use of natural gas, coal and fossil fuels toward 2050 based on its current trajectory,” he said.

[Source: https://newsday.co.tt/2022/04/21/ngc-prepares-for-higher-cng-demand/](https://newsday.co.tt/2022/04/21/ngc-prepares-for-higher-cng-demand/)

1.6 Indonesia

Joint study to explore biomethane production from POME

26th April 2022.



PT Pertamina, Osaka Gas Co, JGC Holdings, and INPEX Corporation have entered into a joint study agreement to explore the feasibility of a clean natural gas and LNG project in Indonesia, involving the production of biomethane from palm oil mill effluent (POME).

Indonesia is the world's largest producer and exporter of palm oil and the industry employs more than 3 million people, generating 4.5% of the country's GDP.

POME is known to contain large quantities of organic material, resulting in significant methane emissions. The project aims to contain POME-derived greenhouse gas emissions by sequestering methane and converting it into biofuels.

Through this joint study initiative, the parties will research and develop technologies and solutions related to the production of biomethane from POME resources in Sumatra and Kalimantan, and supplying to consumers in Indonesia, including Java. The aim is to supply biomethane through the existing gas grid, meet growing natural gas demand and contribute to the reduction of Scope 1 emissions of Indonesia's gas consumers.

The parties will jointly assess opportunities for the project to leverage carbon crediting mechanisms and biomethane certification schemes to secure carbon neutrality.

Finally, the joint study will also involve identifying biomethane/bio-LNG and bunker fuel marketing opportunities, including bio-LNG export to Japan and other countries.

The project is expected to support the Asia Energy Transition Initiative – a plan unveiled by the Government of Japan in 2021 that aims to help achieve sustainable economic growth and carbon neutrality in Asia through energy transitions.

Source: <https://www.bioenergy-news.com/news/joint-study-to-explore-biomethane-production-from-pome/>

1.7 India

IOC, Adani Total Gas keen to set up compressed biogas plants in UP

27th April 2022. By Brajendra K Parashar

The companies propose to buy cattle dung and crop residue from farmers to produce the CBG in the plants that may be set up in large stray cattle centres and other suitable places



A CBG set up by Adani Foundation in Varanasi . (Sourced)

LUCKNOW Two energy giants – Indian Oil Corporation Ltd and Adani Total Gas – have evinced interest in setting up compressed biogas (CBG) plants in Uttar Pradesh, joining hands with the Yogi Adityanath government in its bid to find out a lasting and sustainable solution to the stray cattle menace apart from strengthening rural economy, said people aware of the development.

Facilitated by the animal husbandry department, the two companies made presentations in a meeting chaired by chief secretary DS Mishra here on Tuesday, proposing establishing CBG plants to produce CNG from cattle dung and crop residue.

“The companies, in their presentations, proposed to buy cattle dung and crop residue from farmers to produce the CBG in the plants that may be set up in large stray cattle centres and other suitable places,” an official said. “The government is yet to take a call on the proposal,” he added.

The setting up of CBG plants, it is believed, would make better use of agricultural waste, cattle dung and municipal solid waste, provide additional revenue source to farmers and create job

opportunities in rural areas apart from making affordable CNG available for domestic commercial use.

Indian Oil, the official said, had signed MoUs in some other states for setting up CBG plants while Adani Total Gas had already set up a huge CBG unit on the land made available to it by the government in Varanasi.

During the presentation, Adani Total Gas representatives also shared their experience about the CBG plant in Varanasi. Both the companies suggested that government support was a must for the off-take of organic fertilizer produced by such plants. They also suggested increase in biogas price that had been priced by the Centre at ₹46 per kg till 2023.

Varanasi's ₹20 crore CBG plant (minus land cost) funded by the Adani Foundation and run by Varanasi Gobardhan Foundation, a special purpose vehicle (SPV) under the Varanasi Nagar Nigam, is already producing gas and is ready for commercial commissioning.

Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/lucknow-news/ioc-adani-total-gas-keen-to-set-up-compressed-biogas-plants-in-up-101651069446553.html>

1.8 Finland

Wärtsilä to support world's 2nd largest Bio-LNG plant REEFUEL

27th April 2022. By Sanja Pekic

The Finnish technology group Wärtsilä will supply equipment for REEFUEL, the world's second-largest Bio-LNG plant that will have a capacity of approximately 63,000 tonnes per year.



Courtesy of Wärtsilä

REEFUEL will be capable of liquefying bio-methane and synthetic methane from renewable energy sources to produce carbon-neutral fuel. When operational it will have a capacity of approximately 63,000 tonnes of [Bio-LNG](#) per year.

Wärtsilä won the contract in March 2022 from the German energy company REEFUELERY; a joint venture of Erdgas Südwest and Avanca, a company focused on sustainable energy. The facility will be located in Burghaun near Fulda, Germany. Burghaun has direct access to the MIDAL, one of the most powerful gas pipelines in Germany.

The plant will use biomethane from communal and agricultural waste materials as feedstock. The biomethane is subsequently liquefied and delivered to the Alvernoil filling station network as the climate-neutral fuel REEFUEL (Bio-LNG).

“The construction of the liquefaction plant will reduce CO2 emissions along the entire supply chain, thereby effectively using economies of scale,” said **Jürgen Muhle**, CEO, of [Avanca](#).

“We are delighted to support REEFUELERY in the realisation of their first German biomethane liquefaction plant. It is a prime circular economy model,” commented **Walter Reggente**, vice-president, Wärtsilä Gas Solutions.

The plant is to become fully operational during the first quarter of 2024.

Source: https://www.offshore-energy.biz/wartsila-to-support-worlds-2nd-largest-bio-lng-plant-reefuel/?utm_source=lngworldnews&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletter_2022-04-28

1.9 India

LNG is the future fuel of India, Nitin Gadkari says

26th April 2022. Livemint



Union Minister Nitin Gadkari. (PTI)

Union minister Nitin Gadkari said the future fuel of the country is Liquefied natural gas (LNG). "The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) will encourage flex engines for future, which can run 100% on bio ethanol," Gadkari said in an interview on Tuesday.

Gadkari's comments come amid a steep rise in fuel prices across the country. The oil ministry has reportedly not made any fresh allocation of natural gas from domestic fields to the city gas sector, sending CNG and piped cooking gas prices to record highs. Gadkari also spoke about the measures taken by the Centre in the wake of recent electric vehicle (EV) accidents resulting in deaths and severe injuries to people.

The Union Minister Nitin Gadkari urged companies to take advance action to recall all defective vehicles, even as he said there is some problem with EV batteries when the temperature rises in the months of March, April and May. The Road Transport and Highways Minister also acknowledged that the country's EV industry has "just started" and emphasised that the government does not want to put up a hurdle.

During an interactive session, Gadkari reiterated that companies may take advance action to recall all defective batches of vehicles immediately. "In March-April-May, the temperature rises, then there is some problem with the battery (of EVs). I feel that it (electric two-wheelers catching fire) is a problem of (high) temperature," he said.

The road transport and highways minister noted that the government wants to make EVs popular. "We understand that the EV industry has just started. We don't want to put a hurdle. But safety is the highest priority for the government and there can be no compromise with human lives," Gadkari asserted.

Last week, Gadkari, who is known for his frank views, had said that the companies found negligent will be penalised and a recall of all defective vehicles will be ordered after receiving the report of an expert panel that has been formed to enquire into the matter. The government had ordered a probe last month after an e-scooter launched by ride-hailing operator Ola's electric mobility arm caught fire in Pune.

Source: <https://www.livemint.com/news/india/lng-is-the-future-fuel-of-india-nitin-gadkari-says-11650966546077.html>

End

BOOKED YOUR CALENDAR TO JOIN US AT ANGVA'S FLAGSHIP EVENT AT:



 **Venue Place:** CIDCO Exhibition & Convention Centre, Mumbai, India.

 **Date:** 29-30 November 2022