



PETROTECH-2016

12th INTERNATIONAL OIL & GAS CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

05-07 December 2016, New Delhi, India

Theme: Hydrocarbons to fuel the future: Choices & Challenges

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

WILL CONTINUE PUTTING INFRASTRUCTURE AHEAD OF DEMAND: B ASHOK

Country's biggest fuel retailer Indian Oil is well placed to sustain leadership position in its core areas of refining & marketing

MMTPA by the year 2030. We are also committed to doubling the usage of gas a clean fuel in our energy mix from the current 6.5% to at least 15%.

With this background, PETROTECH-2016 has been conceived and designed as a launch pad for the hydrocarbons sector to fuel the enormous growth challenge in the country.

In my opinion, PETROTECH-2016 is a global confluence of energy professionals, an URJA SANGAM of sorts that will help in achieving multiple benefits.

The Government of India has laid big importance on blending biofuels in transportation fuels. Do we plan to discuss advances in biofuels in this Petrotech conference?

Definitely. Deliberations at PETROTECH-2016 are not just confined to fossil fuels. It looks beyond them. In fact, one of the theme sessions during the conference is entirely dedicated to tapping the huge potential of alternative energy.

The future is a low-carbon economy and as an energy business, we have already started including clean and eco friendly fuels in our offerings portfolio. In biomass-rich India, biofuels have bright prospects. In fact, the Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India, has entrusted Indian Oil the task of pursuing cutting-edge research in bio-fuels. The DBT-IOC Centre for Advanced Bio-Energy Research facility located out of Indian Oil's R&D campus at Faridabad has been able to develop viable bio-fuel technologies in second and third generation biofuels, such as ligno-cellulosic ethanol and algal fuels.

The demand for energy is booming in the country and we have to plan well ahead to cater to it. We are aiming to increase our combined national refining capacity to 334

Hydrocarbons are likely to remain the most important source of energy for decades to come in India, so how will PETROTECH 2016's themes 'Hydrocarbons to fuel the future: Choices and Challenges' help in boosting the Hydrocarbon sector?

Yes as per projections we have a large window of opportunity to plan for a low-carbon economy. But the momentum of the Indian economic growth needs the established certainty of the conventional hydrocarbons sector although increasingly cleaner fuels will be demanded. The theme 'Hydrocarbons to fuel the future: Choices & Challenges', compels us to deliberate and ideate on issues such as maintaining ecological balance by reducing the cost of clean technologies, increasing energy efficiency and promoting renewable energy in tandem with conventional hydrocarbons.

How will this conference promote better cooperation between the participating countries?

PETROTECH-2016 has been so designed so as to promote interactions and networking strong partnerships across segments and geographies.

The event architecture includes crucial ministerial sessions where discussions shall centre on policy issues related to inter-country cooperation. Similarly, theme sessions will be addressed by senior Ministers of the Government of India and are open to all delegates participating in the Conference. A Buyers-Sellers Meet is al-

so scheduled with the objective of providing a common platform to the oil & gas companies (both upstream and downstream), technology providers, non-conventional energy companies, project management & engineering consultants, EPC contractors and equipment/systems manufacturers to discuss issues of mutual interest and share the latest developments in the field. Also, a CEO Conclave will also be held, which will be attended by high officials of the Government and the top management of important corporates in the hydrocarbons sector.

Indian Oil is already the second biggest player in the petrochemicals segment in the country and is keen to expand in this profitable sector as well

Urja Youth Forum.

At 17 per cent, India has a lower share of women's contribution to GDP than the global average of 37 per cent, and the lowest among all regions in the world. I believe that women are one of the greatest contributors to the economic development of the nation and it is extremely important to encourage women's participation in every industry, and I am happy to share that women in the hydrocarbons sector are highly talented and have bright career

prospects.

Another very important platform during PETROTECH-2016 is the Yuva Urja Youth Forum.

The event will be held during December 5-7, 2016. The youth forum will have participation of about 200 students, who will interact with industry leaders about the prospects of a rewarding career in the hydrocarbons sector. These youngsters are the energy leaders of the future and PETROTECH-2016 will be a great learning experience for them.

Now some Indian Oil-specific questions. As the country's leading refiner, what are Indian Oil's plans to add refining capacity through brownfield expansion? Putting infrastructure ahead of demand has been our innate guiding philosophy since inception. Indian Oil was created as a Corporation over five decades ago to ensure India's self-reliance in the energy sector, especially in refining and marketing of petroleum products. As India's flagship downstream company, we are planning significant investments in our core business of refining, pipelines and marketing infrastructure to process, transport and market an estimated 110 MMTPA (million metric tonnes per annum) of products by that year to meet the burgeoning needs of the world's third largest economy. That would necessitate additional refining capacities at our existing 11 refineries.

Yes. In my opinion, two events planned during PETROTECH-2016 are crucial for talent management and future leadership of the hydrocarbons sector: A pre-event Conference for Women Professionals and the Yuva

Recently, there was an MoU signed by Indian Oil and GAIL for taking equity stake in the upcoming Dhamra LNG terminal, can you throw some light on the same.

Indian Oil and GAIL (India) Limited have signed an MoU with M/s. Adani Petroleum Terminal Private Limited (APTPL) for acquiring equity in the 5 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA) LNG terminal.

The LNG Terminal at Dhamra would prove to be a energy gateway for the potential customers in eastern India, ensuring a steady supply of Natural Gas, which is a clean, economically viable alternative fuel with a very low carbon footprint This will also provide a boost to the economic growth of this region by attracting new industrial projects besides providing a cheaper and greener alternative to the existing industries.'

Now the last question. What is your vision of the future trajectory of Indian Oil?

Besides sustaining leadership position in our core areas of refining & marketing, our broader goal to become an integrated major also envisages intensification of our oil & gas exploration and production projects - both in India and overseas. We are making efforts to see that our E&P assets contribute at least 10% of our crude oil & gas requirements in the near future.

Indian Oil is already the second biggest player in the petrochemicals segment in the country and is keen to expand in this profitable sector as well, in a major way.

We are also expanding our presence across the natural gas value chain in a big way. Indian Oil, as a responsible business entity, would like to be a catalyst in all Government initiatives to transform the country into an economic powerhouse while ensuring holistic, inclusive social development.



MR. B ASHOK,
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