

Petrotech 2014 on track: Petroleum Minister appreciates the 'work-in-progress'

With sufficient evidence that the preparations are well on track and moving ahead with steam, the second Steering Committee Meeting of Petrotech 2014 was held to a distinguished gathering comprising of the top leadership of the domestic oil and gas sector on August 20, 2013 at New Delhi. The presence of Hon'ble Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas Dr M Veerappa Moily during the proceedings, along with Petroleum Ministry Secretary Mr. Vivek Rae, was indicative of the significance that is accorded to this flagship oil & gas event of the country, easily counted among the largest and the most prestigious hydrocarbon events in the Asia-Pacific region, in the corridors of power.



Union Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas Dr M Veerappa Moily makes his remarks

Hon'ble Petroleum Minister Dr Veerappa Moily while voicing his satisfaction at both the exhaustively detailed agenda of Petrotech 2014 and the progress achieved thus far by the host organization, ONGC, led by CMD Mr. Sudhir Vasudeva (Chairman, Steering Committee) highlighted the remarkable potential of this biennial fixture to showcase the strengths of the Indian hydrocarbon sector and the opportunities that it proffered to the global oil & gas community. Also, the Minister noted, the theme of the upcoming 11th edition of Petrotech, which is "2030 Global Energy Basket: Challenges and Opportunities", aligns well with the national goal of energy self-sufficiency that is targeted to be reached by that timeline and also captures the current period of tremendous flux that the sector at large seems to be undergoing in face of paradigm-altering developments in the arenas of unconventional oil & gas and alternative energy. *"Petrotech 2014 could very well turn to be a*

thought-starter for new ways of doing business and extending partnerships in this highly complex, volatile, ever-evolving, integrated and extremely crucial sector of the economy”, Moily stated.

For an economy of the size and with the scale of energy needs as India, Petrotech series of International Oil & Gas Conference and Exhibition could be pivotal to establishing crucial linkages between energy consumption hubs like India and resource-rich countries at a global level, the Minister further added. He wished the event a resounding success and assured the organizing team of all necessary interventions from the Ministry which would help in the smooth organization of the event with such stature and impressive legacy. In addition to the views expressed by the Petroleum Minister, Secretary (P&NG) Mr. Vivek Rae in his brief remarks to the house hoped that the upcoming Petrotech would be a key enabler in projecting India to the world outside not just as a viable but a highly promising destination as well for investments in the hydrocarbon sector by the leading energy players.



CMD ONGC & Chairman (Petrotech 2014 Steering Committee) Sudhir Vasudeva delivers his address

CMD Sudhir Vasudeva, in his address on the occasion, sounded understandably confident in his assumption of Petrotech's prospective contributions to the country's quest for energy security. The theme for the event (Global Energy Basket at 2030), he said, has been developed in due acknowledgement of the long-term strategies and formulations that have been eventuated by the rapidly changing global energy scenario and is one that also fits well with India's ambitions in this sector over the course of the next two decades. The event, CMD reckoned, with its triple objectives of one, serving as a strong platform for meaningful discussions and negotiations among the leading policymakers and apex business leaders of the industry on the diverse issues of interest to the sector; two, of acting as a facilitating medium for interchange of intellectual capital between the many participating countries thereby, in effect, broad-basing and enhancing the knowledge base of

the Indian O&G sector, and finally, of showcasing the best-in-class technologies of the industry, would essentially further the country's reputation in the global energy space as a significant agent of collaboration and technological partnerships.

Talking of the next Petrotech's changed schedule on the calendar from an October-November time-slot to a January fixture, CMD said that the move was in keeping with the first eight editions of the event which were held during the early part of the year and that the previous two editions had to be held late into year was primarily a result of the event's timeline clash with other events of national significance which could have most likely resulted in a lower turnout for this showpiece event and an attenuated overall impact. Mr. Vasudeva also highlighted the fact that Petrotech for the first ever time in its organized history is having the conference & exhibition co-located (at India Expo Mart, Greater Noida) breaking the longstanding tradition of having both of them at separate venues (Conference at Vigyan Bhavan and Exhibition at Pragati Maidan) will translate to a more engaged, non-disruptive and integrative experience for delegates and participants alike.

During the presentation made to the distinguished house on the agenda for Petrotech 2014 and the progress achieved on that count by the organizing team, Director (Exploration) Mr N K Verma, Chairman (Organizing Committee, Petrotech 2014) committed to provide a world-class experience to delegates that would set the next edition apart as a 'benchmark of sorts' for all subsequent instalments in terms of design, innovativeness of approach and scale of execution. He, supplementing what Mr. Vasudeva's said, was equally unequivocal in his assessment of the 'novelty of experience' that a co-located Petrotech brings to the table for the event's many stakeholders. As the countdown to the event's rollout has well begun, Mr. Verma hoped for greater involvement and support and assistance from Petrotech's benefactors and peers from the oil & gas industry across the region. A more granular presentation on Petrotech 2014 events line-up and progress schedules was made by Mr. A Kumaria (GM Civil), Convenor, Petrotech 2014.



CMD IOCL R S Butola hands over the cheque to Rahul Dhir, President, Petrotech Society

Another highlight of the evening was the handing over of a cheque of worth Rs 8 Crores by the previous Chairman of the Petrotech Steering Committee (2012) Mr. R S Butola, CMD IOCL to the Petrotech Society. Most notably, this amount, the cumulative generated surplus from the last Petrotech, is the highest ever contribution made by a host organization to the Petrotech Society and is reflective of the resounding success story that Petrotech has become over the years.

As part of the Organizing Committee's working vision, Petrotech 2014 is being planned as a campaign event that pans out over the period of a year finally culminating with the showpiece 3-day International Conference & Exhibition to be held from January 12-15 at India Expo Mart (Greater Noida). In keeping with that outlook, a raft of events has been slated for the later part of this calendar year for the oil & gas fraternity – the rollout starts with Leadership Conclave that will be held on August 23 at Delhi. Some of the other key events which are a part of the Petrotech 2014 roster are CEO's Summit, CII Training/Workshop on Oil & Gas Regulations, Fuel Retailing & Petrochemical Summit, Youth & Gender Forum and Special Business Partners' Meet. Above all, the Shale gas Policy Release by the Government is also expected to be launched as part of Petrotech 2014 itinerary.