

From the desk of the Executive Director



Esteemed Readers,

Greetings,

The post pandemic business environment is a new challenge and each one of us must acclimatize to the "New Normal" of doing business and navigate through the evolving working ecosystem. It is time to accept that technology & Innovation are the lifelines of modern-day business to meet the growing needs of the present and the future. The Indian economy is opening up varied opportunities in the energy sector including steadfast progress towards a low-carbon economy.

During this period, CHT held various important meetings through video conferencing keeping in view the prevailing COVID-19 situation and by maintaining all the requisite guidelines & protocols at work place. The major meetings held were the 40th Governing Council Meeting of CHT, Expert Group Meeting for R&D Projects, Activity Committee Meeting - "Digitalization in Refining Business Process". I am very happy to share that the long-awaited Digitization project eOffice lite 7.0 is implemented on centralized basis in CHT, OISD, OIDB and PCRA wef 1st April 2021. In this period, a workshop was organized by CHT on 8th March 2021 to mark the International Women's Day to celebrate the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women globally. We salute the woman Shakti whose growing significance shall help in shaping a stronger India.

I am signing off on a positive note with a firm belief in my heart that this period of Springtime shall usher colours of happiness, optimism, celebrations, joy, and many more pleasant things in our lives. My best wishes to all for the upcoming New year time across our country i.e. Gudi Padava, Navreh, Bohag Bihu, Boisakh, Ugadi, Puthandu.

Your views, suggestions and ideas to improve the CHT Newsletter further are solicited.

(K.K. Jain) Executive Director, CHT

Governing Council (GC) Meeting of CHT

The 40th Meeting of the Governing Council of CHT was held under the Chairmanship of Shri Tarun Kapoor, Secretary, P&NG through video conference on 16th February 2021. The meeting was attended by GC members from MoP&NG, viz., AS&FA, JS (R), JS (GP), JS (E), JS (M) and Secretary, OIDB; Chairman, IOCL; CMD, BPCL; CMD, GAIL; CMD, OIL; CMD, EIL; MD, MRPL; MD, NRL; Dir (R), HPCL; Dir (R&D), IOCL; Dir (T), EIL; MD (I/C), CPCL; ED-I/C (Refineries), BPCL; ED (O), IOCL; Dir (T), NRL; and ED (R&D), GAIL.

Shri K.K. Jain, ED-CHT, made a detailed presentation



Shri Tarun Kapoor, Secretary, P&NG chairing the 40th Governing Council Meeting of CHT on 16th February 2021 through Video Conference in the presence of GC members from MoP&NG and various PSUs.

on the progress and status of various activities taken-up by CHT since the last GC meeting. The presentation covered the Refinery Performance Improvement Programme (RPIP) of PSU Refineries, Reduction of Water Footprint at PSU Refineries, Performance Benchmarking Study of PSU Refineries & Pipelines by Solomon, MBN Roadmap and Actual Performance, Petrochemicals Study, Catalyst Manufacturing Unit in India, Study on Additional Strategic / Operational Crude Oil Storage, Feasibility Study by M/s LanzaTech for Ethanol Production from Off-gases, Feasibility Study for manufacture of Reference Fuel, Finalization of Refinery Performance and Innovation Awards, Status on PM JI-VAN Yojana, Status update on HCF and major CHT funded R&D projects, Adoption of Annual Audited Accounts for Financial Year 2019-20, and CHT budget (RBE for 2020-21 and BE for 2021-22).

Expert Group Meeting of R&D Projects

The Expert Group meeting of R&D projects was held though Video Conference on 22nd March 2021, under the chairmanship of Prof. R. Kumar, Professor Emeritus, IISc. Following projects were reviewed:

- a. Biomass Hydro-pyrolysis for production of fuel grade Hydrocarbons: IIP/ HPCL
- b. Scale-up studies and process development for H₂ production by Catalytic Decomposition of Natural Gas (CDN): HPCL/IIT-D/CeNS

Shri K.K Jain, ED-CHT, welcomed Prof. R. Kumar & the participants. He gave the brief background of projects and expressed concern for delay in the completion of both projects. The Chairman, Prof. R. Kumar, made some suggestions for improvement in both projects and IIP & IIT-Delhi agreed to implement the suggestions. For IIT-Delhi, timeline for implementation of suggestion is 3 months. HPCL was advised to send detailed future plan along with time extension required for the CDN project, as term is ending in March 2021. For Biomass project, HPCL/IIP were advised to review path forward based on performance achieved till date regarding continuation or foreclosure of the project.

Activity Committee Meeting -"Digitalization in Refining Business Process"

CHT organized a virtual Activity Committee Meeting on "Digitalization in Refining Business Process" on 25th February, 2021. The meeting was attended by representatives from all the private and public sector oil companies along with Global Consultants who are spearheading the "Digitalization" initiatives across the world in the area of "Refining Business Process". During the Inaugural session, Shri K.K. Jain, ED(CHT), welcomed the special invitees of the meet comprising of Shri S.M. Vaidya, Chairman, IOCL, Shri V.S. Shenoy, Director, HPCL and Shri P.V. Ravitej, ED, BPCL along with all the delegates and participants.





The theme, keynote and inaugural addresses were given by special invitees where they emphasized on the need to embed digital capabilities in all aspects of refinery business operations in order to improve yields, efficiency, explore market opportunities, improve plant safety, reliability and availability thereby reducing cost and protecting revenues and margins. The closing remarks were given by MD (NRL), ED (BPCL) and ED (IS, IOCL). The ACM was co-hosted by BPCL, Kochi and was attended by more than 200 participants.

e-office Implementation at CHT/OIDB/OISD/PCRA

The Executive Committee Meeting during its 29th meeting held on 24th June 2020, approved the implementation of e-office at CHT for 5 years. NIC recommended to implement e-Office Lite version due to

constraint of customizing e-leave and e-tour rule of multiple organizations in single office as the present manpower is drawn on deputation from different organizations. CHT has taken initiative for E-office implementation over Internet which can be accessed from everywhere and anywhere in the world using GOV.IN email id and password. The URL to access eOffice is https://eofficemop.gov.in.

A three days online Master Training Programme and PIMS & Product Administrator Training programme on e-Office Product Suit was imparted to the identified master trainers and local administrator officials (PIMS Manager) from CHT, OIDB, PCRA, OISD on 23-25 March 2021. e-office Implementation at CHT has gone live from 1st April, 2021.

Baseline Report of the Working Group on R&D and Innovation constituted under Integrated Monitoring and Advisory Council (IMAC)

During 2nd meeting of Integrated Monitoring and Advisory Council (IMAC) chaired by Hon'ble Minister, P&NG, it emerged that holistic and coordinated strategy in close coordination with all IMAC Member Ministries is imperative towards the exercise of Reassessment of the Roadmap to implement the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of reducing oil import dependency. Accordingly, 6 Working Groups have been constituted for monitoring the progress on various initiatives, schemes, projects and strategies taken under respective Member Ministries domain with a view to augment Supply of energy, Savings in energy as a means to achieving oil import reduction with following Terms of Reference;

"To Study / analyse and document various initiatives taken by concerned ministry/ Departments from FY 2016 to FY 2020 towards the achievement of roadmap of reducing import dependency of Oil/Gas/coal and in overall energy Sector;

- i. Quantify the impact of initiatives on reduction in import dependency vis-a-vis that "without initiative Scenario".
- ii. Arrive at Quantum of Savings realised in Nation's import bill through interventions under each pillar."

PPAC will prepare comprehensive report based on inputs highlighting the progress on efforts by different Stakeholders along with actions that need to be taken towards reducing dependence of imported crude by 10% by 21-22.

CHT has been entrusted to coordinate the activities of

the Working Group-5 on R&D and Innovation under the chairmanship of Prof. Sandeep Verma, Secretary, Science & Engg. Research Board (SERB-DST) (Chairman) and convenorship of Shri Dinesh Dayanand Jagdale, Joint Secy., MNRE. The other members of the working Group are drawn from the important Sectors, namely Renewable Energy, Railways, Heavy Industries, Automotive, Chemicals & Petrochemicals and Oil & Gas: Petroleum Refinery & upstream and Defence. The task of this working group is very significant as R&D and Innovation can provide thrust and could be an important input for the policy makers. The recommendations from this group would greatly help in reducing dependence on energy import.

The Baseline Report of the Working Group has been submitted to MoP&NG and PPAC. The final report on the above is to be submitted by June 2021. Subsequently, Working groups shall submit quarterly report after June 2021 covering the progress on actionable as detailed in previous reports to PPAC/MoPNG.

International Women's Day Celebrations at CHT office

Centre for High Technology celebrated International Women's Day-2021 on 8th March 2021. International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call for action in accelerating women's equality. On this occasion, Centre for High Technology organised a Workshop on "Importance of Woman in Building Modern India".

All officials at CHT whole-heartedly participated in the Workshop and the discussion spanned across several areas, including education and skill development, the need to strengthen the ecosystem for bringing in diversity, creating a culture of learning, psychological well-being and ways of nurturing more women in becoming financially independent.

This celebration of International Women's Day reiterated the growing significance of a woman in building a strong foundation in our society.

