

BHARAT PETROLEUM UPGRADES ITS BUNKERING FACILITY AT MARINE OIL TERMINAL, MUMBAI TO SERVE MARITIME VESSELS EXPEDITIOUSLY

The second largest Oil Marketing Company, Bharat Petroleum, upgraded its bunkering facility at Marine Oil Terminal for bunkering Very Low Sulphur Oil (VLSFO), which Maritime vessels use to power their motors, at Jawahar Dweep, off the coast of Mumbai. The upgradation of these facilities, including the construction of underwater pipeline, connecting the terminal with BPCL Mumbai Refinery, for receipt of product was completed in record time, despite the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic and heavy monsoons in Mumbai.

Bharat Petroleum can now supply bunkers through pipelines also, once a vessel is berthed at the jetties at Jawahar Dweep. Pipeline bunkering at four out of the five Jetties have already been commissioned while facilities at Jetty 5 is under construction. Prior to this, bunkering of maritime vessels was undertaken by first filling barges which required unloading of around 40 filled tank lorries which in turn used to supply bunker to the maritime vessel. With the upgradation of the bunkering facility, bunkers are supplied by pumps at a pumping rate of around 800kls/hour thereby reducing the bunkering operation time, to just four hours from two days earlier. This facility has exponentially reduced the time taken for bunkering operation, enabling quick turnaround of vessels.

Jawahar Dweep, also known as Butcher Island, is home to the marine oil terminal of the Mumbai Port Trust. The total tankages of Bharat Petroleum at Marine Terminal is 16 thousand kls and is connected to BPCL Mumbai Refinery through subsea pipelines.

S. Jena, Executive Director, Industrial & Commercial, Bharat Petroleum, said “On an average, 5000 vessels’ berth at Mumbai, JNPT and adjoining ports (Digi and Dharamtar) in a year, which provides bunkering business opportunity of close to 400TMT of VLSFO. The current Bunkering business carried out by the industry in this belt is close to 120 TMT with BPCL having a share of 60%. So far, Industry has failed to tap the total bunker potential due to the inadequate infrastructures. Upgradation of BPCL’s bunkering facilities at Jawahar Dweep will facilitate us in providing just in time bunker fuel to the ships and we hope to almost double our bunkering volume from an existing average sales of 7 TMT per month to 14TMT”.

Other than Mumbai port, Bharat Petroleum also has bunkering facilities at Kochi and commands 120TMT of Marine Fuels volume annually.

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About Bharat Petroleum:

A Fortune Global 500 Company, Bharat Petroleum is the second largest Indian Oil Marketing Company and one of the premier integrated energy companies in India, engaged in refining of crude oil and marketing of petroleum products, with a significant presence in the upstream and downstream sectors of the oil and gas industry. Bharat Petroleum attained the coveted Maharatna status, joining the elite club of companies enjoying enhanced financial autonomy and other decision making authorities.

Bharat Petroleum's Refineries at Mumbai and Kochi, subsidiary Numaligarh Refinery Limited at Assam and joint venture Bina Refinery at Madhya Pradesh have a combined refining capacity of over 40 MMTPA. While BPCL's upstream subsidiary, Bharat PetroResources Ltd. has acquired participating interests in 27 oil & gas blocks in India and abroad, BPCL's gas subsidiary, Bharat Gas Resources Ltd. has been granted authorization to expand its City Gas Distribution network to 17 Geographical Areas.

Bharat Petroleum is India's second largest retailer with a nationwide robust marketing and distribution network comprising more than 17,000 Retail Outlets, 6,600 LPG distributorships, 733 Lubes distributorships, 123 POL storage locations, 52 LPG Bottling Plants, 58 Aviation Service Stations, 3 Lube blending plants and 4 cross-country pipelines.

During the year 2019-20, BPCL's Gross Revenue from Operations stood at Rs.3,27,581 Crores, Net Profit at Rs. 2,683 Crores, Market Sales were 43.10 MMT and Market Share amongst Public Sector Oil Companies was the second highest at 24.5%. The products have a wide range of applications in industrial, transport, power and agriculture sectors. Bharat Petroleum has also formed 24 joint venture companies covering refining, city gas distribution, renewable energy, pipelines, gas, into-plane servicing, airports, payment banks etc. to cater to the diverse requirements of its customers.

As a good corporate citizen, Bharat Petroleum thrust is primarily in the areas of education, water conservation, skill development, health, community development, capacity building and employee volunteering. With 'Energising Lives' as its core purpose, Bharat Petroleum vision is to be the most admired global energy company leveraging talent and technology.