

Area Under Hydrocarbon Exploration Expected to Double by 2020, Says DGH

Availability of new seismic data likely to draw investors under second licensing round

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New Delhi: The government expects the area under hydrocarbon exploration in the country to double to 300,000 sq km by March 2020...



data to the national data depository. Under the official programme, ONGC and Oil India had been tasked with carrying out 2D seismic acquisition...

The government has allowed three private companies to collect seismic data for offshore acreage. Gathering offshore data is easier and cheaper than onshore data...

The third round, expected to roll out soon, will serve another 30,000 sq km. The fourth and fifth rounds are expected to offer another 50,000 and 40,000 sq km of exploration acreage respectively...

S. E. RAILWAY TENDER

e-Tender Notice No. M-24-LHB-AMC-FTR-51, Date: 25.01.2019 Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer, South Eastern Railway, Ranchi...

SOUTH EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE FOR INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

e-Tender Notice No. 114-Mech-BSP-Depot-IMS, Date: 23.01.2019 Name of Work: Certification and implementation of Integrated Management System (IMS)...

red acreage of around 30,000 sq km.

Access to seismic data for new areas is letting the government offer new acreages to companies who, under the new licensing policy, have the freedom to carve their own blocks based on available data...

Pulses Prices Below MSP Continue to Hurt Farmers



Traders say prices depend on unpredictable policies, with market fundamentals having little impact

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Latur: Khandu Adatrao had to give up agriculture to end his family's indebtedness that drove his father to suicide.

He was happy growing pulses just four years ago when he could sell tur, or pigeon pea, for a good rate of ₹108/kg. "In 2016, our Prime Minister had appealed to the farmers to increase area under pulses and many farmers did so, but due to heavy imports, I had to sell tur at ₹49/kg in 2016, which was a shock for me," recalls Khandu...

Things turned sour just when farmers in Maharashtra were dreaming of good days ahead as the price of tur shot up to nearly ₹200/kg in 2016 after production fell 18% to 16.3 million tonne over two years.

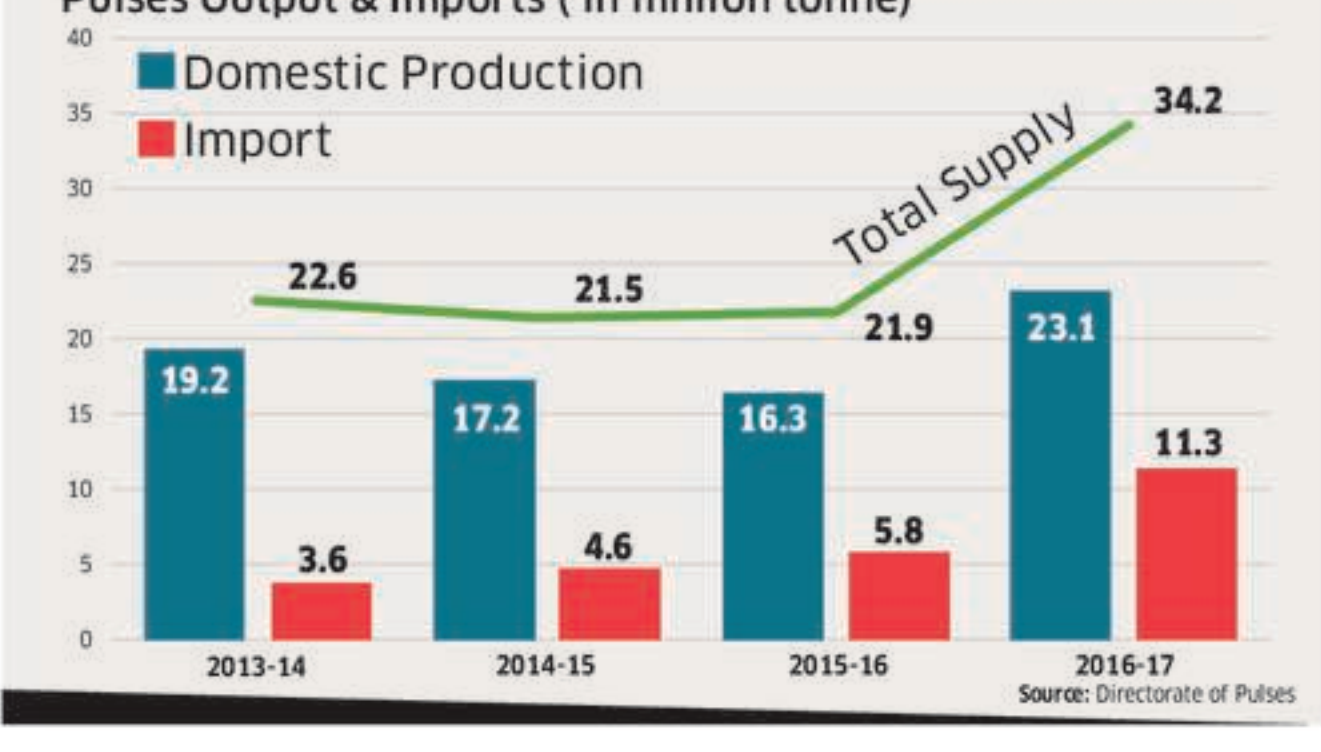
The government responded swiftly with strong policy support that led to a record output of 23.1 million tonne in 2016-17. Having achieved what the Directorate of Pulses proudly describes as "a grand success story and revolution in pulses self-sufficiency", in the same year imports almost doubled to 11.3 million tonne, exposing farmers to a glut.

Production has now fallen, but so have the prices. "In my lifetime, I have never seen prices ruling lower even when production is lower," said Jairaj Mahalingappa Auti, a trader at the Ousa market.

Traders said prices depend on unpredictable policies, with market fundamentals having little impact. Earlier, demand and supply determined prices, said industry veteran and president of Latur Dal Millers' Association Hukumchand Kalantri...

Poor rainfall has made matters worse

Weak Prices Aggravate Rural Distress



for farmers such as Mahadev Boyane who borrowed money at an exorbitant rate of 3% a month, after pledging his wife's jewellery, is struggling.

"Prices of farm commodities always increase only when farmers have sold them off. All that we want is good rate for the crops we produce," said Boyane.

With farmer anger on the rise, protests and farm politics are intensifying in the region which has groomed prominent politicians like Vilasrao Deshmukh, who was twice chief minister of Maharashtra, and Shivraj Patil, who was India's home minister.

Arrival of tur in the market began a month ago but it took Kaji Mansur, a trader from Ousa, 25 days to buy what he usually purchases in five days.

Despite low arrivals, farmers are getting only ₹5,000-₹5,200 per quintal against the MSP of ₹5,675.

With prices remaining low, Khandu Adatrao is happy to have shifted from agriculture to silk farming, and recalls his father's misery.

Long before the suicide, the farmer had dug a well himself in a year, a herculean task which seemed much easier than the five-year struggle to get electricity to pump out water.

"My husband may not have done what my son is doing. My husband always grew food. It did not give him any money," recalls Sindhubai Adatrao, Khandu's mother.

Economists say weak prices are aggravating rural distress. Earlier, market prices were usually higher than the support price. "In recent years, while cost of production is increasing, there is no increase in market prices and farmers are often not able to even cover their paid out costs," said Sangeeta Shroff...

Madan Sabanvis, chief economist, CARE Ratings, said limited irrigation and fall in prices after a good crop hurts farmers. "Therefore, there has been a movement away from agriculture in general (not just foodgrains but also non-foodgrains). They have tended to migrate to the urban areas and gone into construction activity where there is assurance of income."

Vedanta advertisement for 'EXPRESSION OF INTEREST VENDORS REQUIRED FOR SERVICES'. Details include company background, division information, and a table of service requirements like O&M of RMF, Fire Water network, etc.

THIS IS THE FOURTH OF THE SERIES OF ET REPORTS ON THE STATE OF PLAY IN THE FARM SECTOR ACROSS INDIA

TIMES interact advertisement with logo and tagline 'Connecting People, Connecting Needs'.

Business advertisement for U.S. Green Card via EB-5 Investment, featuring Primary Capital and a table of service offerings like Multiple Projects, Independent Due Diligence, etc.

Advertisement for 'BOOK YOUR ADVERTISEMENT 24x7' with phone number 1800 102 1166 and 'Pay through Cash, PayTM or Online Transfer'.

SAVING GRACE Hindrance to RP's Work will be Treated as 'Contempt of Court'

Mumbai: India's insolvency courts are stepping in to provide a judicial shield to the country's bankruptcy administrators, hauling promoters up for putting undue pressure on the officials overseeing the debt resolutions.

"The RP is acting as an officer of the court and any hindrance in the working... will amount to contempt of court," Ravikul-

NSEL Scam: Massey Sent to Police Custody till February 5

Mumbai: A special Maharashtra Protection of Interest of Depositors (MPID) Act court on Monday sent Joseph Massey, former director of National Spot Exchange Limited (NSEL) to police custody till February 5.



Joseph Massey

Advertisement for 'business' featuring categories like 'WANTED GROOMS', 'BY RELIGION', 'CHRISTIAN', 'CHANGE OF NAME', etc.

Advertisement for 'Special English & Hindi Combo for Change of Name and Lost & Found Ads' with phone number 18002705153.

DRAMATIC CHASE An officer was injured while trying to nab Joseph Massey. Sources said, two cop cars waylaid Massey's car and cops broke his vehicle's window pane to stop him