

ELSTER AROUND THE GLOBE

In India, natural gas has been utilized in Assam and Gujarat since the Sixties. There was a major increase in the production and utilization of natural gas in the late Seventies with the development of Bombay high fields and again in the late Eighties when the South Bassein field in the Western Offshore was brought to production. The production of natural gas during 1998 – 99 was around 75 Million Standard Cubic Meters per Day (MMSCMD). Sale of natural gas during 1998 – 99 was around 60 MMSCMD of which Gas Authority of India (GAIL) sold about 57.4 MMSCMD.



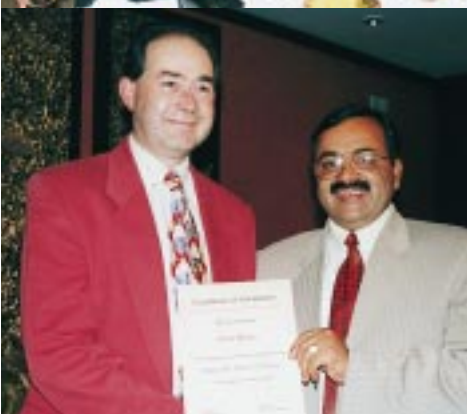
Ready for the New Challenge in India

The gas produced in the western offshore fields is brought to Uran in Maharashtra and partly in Gujarat. The gas brought to Uran is utilized in and around Mumbai. The gas brought to Hazira is partly utilized in Hazira and the rest is fed into the Hazira-Bijaipur-Jagdishpur (HBJ) pipeline which passes through Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, U.P., Delhi and Haryana. The gas produced in Gujarat, Assam, etc; is utilized within respective states. There have been demands from the Southern states for a Southern Grid to carry gas from Western offshore gas fields and other sources to Southern India. The concept of Southern Grid has been accepted in principle. A pre-feasibility study to estimate the potential demand has been completed.

Mahanagar Gas presently is implementing the Mumbai City Gas distribution project. The project envisages supply of natural gas to 600,000 households, commercial and industrial units at an estimated cost of Rs 450 Crores. The project will replace LPG in the domestic sector saving foreign exchange and will also reduce environmental pollution in the city. Currently around 19,000 households are being supplied with gas.



Jack Cheng (left), Sales Manager ELSTER-AMCO Singapore, with Onkar Chadha, (right) Director of Oil & Gas Plant Engineers (I) Pvt. Ltd.



David Haddock (left), IGA Manager with Vivek Madan (right), Director of Oil & Gas Plant Engineers (I) Pvt. Ltd.

Gas Authority of India (GAIL) has formed a joint venture company "Indraprastha Gas Limited" with Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited for distribution of natural gas in the domestic, commercial and automobile sectors in Delhi. A pilot project was commissioned in 1998 – 99 and piped gas connections have been provided to over 1300 domestic households.

In view of the present activities that are taking place in India, we appointed Oil & Gas Plant Engineers (I) Pvt. Ltd. (OGPE) in July 2000 as our exclusive distributor for all ELSTER-AMCO products as well as our skids and systems integrator in India. OGPE, having experience in the field of design, manufacturing and construction of pressure vessels, heat exchanger and regulating & metering stations since 1985, has supplied numerous pressure reduction and gas metering stations to most of the key end users in India. The range of stations designed and built by OGPE are from 20,000 m³/h stations to as small as 200 m³/h skids.

The appointment of OGPE is in line with our strategy to be the market leader for gas measurement and control products and systems in India and also to strengthen our presence in the Indian sub-continent.

JACK CHENG,
ELSTER-AMCO SINGAPORE