

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS OF INDIA
CONCERNING COOPERATION ON STRATEGIC PETROLEUM RESERVES

The Department of Energy of the United States of America (DOE) and the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas of India (MoPNG), hereinafter collectively the "Participants":

AWARE of the important role a country's strategic petroleum reserves play in stabilizing the international petroleum market in the event of a supply disruption and securing domestic petroleum supply; and

DESIRING to cooperate, to their mutual benefit, concerning their respective countries' strategic petroleum reserve holdings,

Have reached the following understanding:

Section 1 – Areas of Planned Cooperation

DOE, through its Office of Fossil Energy/Strategic Petroleum Reserve Office (SPRO) and MoPNG, through its Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserve Limited (ISPRL), plan to:

- 1.1 Cooperate in areas of safety, technology development, and management of strategic petroleum reserves;
- 1.2 Conduct regular interactive activities and bilateral site visits to strategic petroleum reserves of the United States and India for exchange of operational best practices;
- 1.3 Hold symposia on technological subjects and exchange scientific and technical information;
- 1.4 Facilitate engagement with U.S. companies, as appropriate, on opportunities to participate in India's Strategic Petroleum Reserve program, including but not limited to filling the crude in existing and to-be-developed strategic petroleum reserves in India;
- 1.5 Hold annual conferences to facilitate communication aimed at improving their capabilities to address unexpected disruptions of petroleum supply;

1.6 Conduct Emergency Response Exercises and share data about release and replenishment mechanisms;

1.7 Cooperate in other areas that the Participants may jointly decide upon in writing.

Section 2 – Annual Conferences

2.1 Representatives of SPRO and ISPRL are expected to participate in annual conferences, to be held alternately in the United States and in India, or at such other times and places as the Participants jointly decide.

2.2 The theme(s) of each annual conference may include, but are not limited to, technology (such as construction techniques and standards specifications); management (such as reserves project management and enterprise operation); policy (such as fill, release, and drawdown policy); international oil market analysis; and emergency response exercises.

Section 3 – Management

3.1 SPRO and ISPRL are expected to each designate a working-level Coordinator to manage the cooperative activities contemplated under this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), including efficient and effective means of ensuring the exchange of relevant scientific and technical information concerning the maintenance and management of strategic petroleum reserves.

3.2 The Principal Coordinators may, as appropriate, create a working group composed of experts from SPRO and ISPRL for each particular area of cooperation.

3.3 Each working group is to hold meetings at such times and places as the Participants jointly decide.

Section 4 – General Considerations

4.1 This MOU does not create any legally binding obligations.

4.2 Each Participant is responsible for the costs it incurs in participating in the activities contemplated by this MOU.

4.3 Each Participant should protect any non-public information received from the other Participant to the maximum extent permitted by the laws of the receiving Participant's government.

Section 5 –Commencement, Revision, and Discontinuation

5.1 Cooperative activities under this MOU are intended to commence upon signature and to continue for 5 years.

5.2 This MOU may be revised and extended by the Participants' mutual written decision.

5.3 The Participants may discontinue their participation under this MOU at any time by mutual written decision. Alternatively, a Participant that wishes to discontinue its participation in this MOU should endeavor to provide at least 90 days advance notice in writing to the other Participant.

Signed ~~in duplicate~~, on 17th day of July 2020.
in Washington, D.C.

IN NEW DELHI.



DAN BROUILLETTE 09/01/2020
SECRETARY OF ENERGY
(For the Department of Energy of the
Government of the United States of
America)



DHARMENDRA PRADHAN
MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS & STEEL
(For the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
of the Government of the Republic of India)