

## Panel Discussions GEO India 2022 Continued...

### ***Topic: Digitalisation, Energy transition, Net zero- Challenges in shaping the Energy future of India (Session-3)***

The third panel discussion of 5th edition of South Asian Geosciences Conference and Exhibition – GEO India 2022 in Jaipur, comprising of eminent international and national experts deliberated on the topic “Digitalisation, Energy transition, Net zero-Challenges in shaping the Energy future of India”.

Shri Gajendra Singh, Member, Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board, Shri Rajarshi Gupta, MD, OVL, Shri S.K. Srivastava, Former Chairman & MD OIL, Shri Neeraj Sethi, Country Director Baker Hughes India, and Shri P. Chidambaram, Ex Director, OIL were the esteemed panellists for the discussion. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Vikram Vishal, Associate Professor, IIT Powai & Convener-NCE-CCUS.



Former CMD OIL Shri S K Srivastava expressing his thoughts on the topic.

Commenting on digitalisation adaptability in oil sectors, Shri S.K. Srivastava said we are still behind the other sectors. Fast pace of digitalisation is essential to increase the speed of energy transition towards net zero. Oil companies need to transform themselves into energy companies resulting in widening of their objectives. India is a gas deficient country; hence efforts should be taken to accelerate gas exploration. Transition to ecosystems needs to facilitate EVs, which will promote mining-big pollution agents. Hence banking on EV is shifting of carbon emission centre.

Shri Gajendra Singh said that devastation due to climate change is evident and Net zero is the need. With a net emission of 2.5 Giga Tonnes India is doing quite well in comparison to China (10GT) and US (5.6GT). A target of 15% by 2030 is quite achievable. And for that phasing out of coal as source of energy is the biggest challenge. He opined that transport sector should change over to cleaner fuels and gas based infrastructure should be developed.

Shri Rajarshi Gupta talking about transition said it is a slow process vis-a-vis development which is comparatively fast. He substantiated by saying that, 50% transition from Biomass to coal took 70 years and 50% transition from coal to oil & gas took 50 years. He said that gas discoveries should be encouraged and efficient distribution system is required for transition wherein government intervention is required to set up gas grids and facilitate other elements to move towards gas based economy. He opined that stepwise transition- from oil to gas, gas to renewable, CCS should gain momentum, and transition has to be led by business and companies to achieve proper gas prices & CCS profitable. To speed up transition with efficient planning & implementation digitalisation is a big tool.



MD OVL Shri Rajarshi Gupta pouring out his thoughts on the topic.

Shri Neeraj Sethi opined that there are pathways to transition while safeguarding the business interests. He said that huge data is available for digitalisation, but openness is needed for ease of data accessibility. He emphasized on securing the present with an eye on future and multiplicity of efforts, technological prowess and capital efficiency. He said that India is developing as an engineering hub and is ahead of China in the race.



VP APG Dr. Ravi Misra felicitating moderator and panellists for their outstanding contribution.

Upstream, according to Shri P. Chandrashekharan, must prepare extensively for the transition, and the next two decades are critical because there are three points of urgency: to explore, to evolve, and to shift paradigm. Adding further, he said that 85% of the resources are in Category I, while deep water exploration needs time to mature. He reiterated that we should exhaust all studies before going to bit.



One for the album.

Published by:  
Publicity Committee, GEO India 2022