

From the Desk of the Chairman

8th August 2022

Dear Team NRL,

Greetings to you all and your family members!

With a legacy spanning more than 28 years that has been replete with challenges and accomplishments alike, it is a matter of great pride and privilege for me to become a part of an esteemed organization like Numaligarh Refinery Limited. Ever since its commissioning in the year 2000, NRL has been contributing significantly to the socio-economic development of the region and has consistently been contributing to the State and Central exchequer in the form of taxes, duties and dividends, apart from proactively reaching out to the community through its well-conceived and structured CSR programs.

Having joined the NRL family, I am immensely excited not only to pursue the shared vision of the company but also the envisioned strategy of high growth in the coming years through our collective efforts. Relating with this vibrant institution that is so close to the hearts of the people, my initial interaction with the functional directors and senior colleagues has been very satisfying and enriching and I have been able to garner adequate insights about different facets of the Company as well as its core values that defines its essence. I could also sense the enthusiasm and commitment among every member of the NRL family that I interacted with, which augurs well for the future roadmap of a Company that is poised for tremendous growth in the coming years.

Our immediate focus and thrust are to seamlessly implement the ongoing mega Numaligarh Refinery Expansion project to treble its Refining capacity to 9 MMTPA; a game changer which would open a floodgate of opportunities for the people of the region and enhance the economic landscape of the North East region.

OIL and NRL have been two consistent and sturdy pillars in the industrial landscape and development of Assam and the North East region. Therefore, the vertical integration of NRL and OIL on 25th March 2021 has been a landmark moment for both the companies and the people of Assam alike. The Central Government as well as the State Government have laid great emphasis on Act East Policy with focus on creating long lasting business relations with the neighbouring countries on the North Eastern frontiers of our country. Together, OIL and NRL will be able to play a pivotal role in contributing towards fulfilling this vision.

It is imperative that we harness our intrinsic strengths for the greater cause of energy security of the country. With the ongoing massive Refinery expansion project of NRL and aggressive exploration plans of OIL in existing and new hydrocarbon blocks in North East India, OIL-NRL synergy will be able to contribute immensely in ensuring energy security of the nation and achieve the targets set by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas under North East Hydrocarbon Vision 2030.

Today, due to current geopolitical risks and associated volatilities in energy prices across the spectrum starting from Crude Oil to Coal, many countries are facing adversities related to energy security. Simultaneously, there have been accelerated energy transitions arising out of the quest to reduce carbon footprints globally. This has led the Govt. of India to aggressively pursue alternative and renewable sources of clean energy. With this as backdrop, it is important to align the future roadmap of NRL on similar lines.

It is heartening to know that NRL is one of the pioneers in accomplishing the country's energy vision and transition towards green fuels. The 2G Bio Refinery under implementation, the first of its kind with bamboo biomass as feedstock will provide a major boost to the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme of Govt. of India and contribute in achieving India's target of 20% Ethanol blending in Motor Spirit by 2030 (now advanced to 2025-26). All of this will translate into multiple benefits in terms of enhancing India's energy security, reducing import dependency for India's fuel needs, save foreign exchange, address environmental issues other than uplifting the rural economy by encouraging farmers the cultivation of bamboo on commercial scale, a giant step towards Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Notwithstanding the above, the appetite for energy in countries like India with a burgeoning population will be witnessing escalated economic growth in the near future. Therefore, inspite of aggressive penetration of renewable energy, oil and gas will continue to remain a vibrant source of energy for a few more decades to come.

Moreover, transition towards a gas-based economy has been fast paced across the country with an emphasis on building robust pipeline infrastructure for transportation of Natural Gas. The upcoming North East Gas Grid, where OIL and NRL have equity holding is one such flagship NE projects that would radically change the energy scenario in North East India. Power, fertiliser, industrial and commercial establishments can easily switch over to Natural Gas for their energy requirement, the demand of which is expected to further increase once the City Gas Networks are created.

The strategic 130 km long Indo-Bangla Friendship Pipeline being implemented by NRL will help in strengthening bilateral relations with our neighbouring country of Bangladesh and contribute in actualising the Govt. of India's efforts of consolidating its position in South Asia. It would also open up opportunities to gain ground on oil exports by India to other neighboring countries.

I understand the hard work that our frontline workers, our #EnergyWarriors, perform to achieve the collective goal of the company. A Company is not run by individuals or department in silos, instead it is a team effort, where individuals effectively complement each other's roles to accomplish the shared vision of the company. I would like to take this opportunity to assure to each one of you that for NRL and for me, every individual of this elite organization of ours, is a contributing member and is important & precious.

NRL is on a high growth trajectory and with its high human capital of dedicated and knowledgeable employees, I am sure we will be able to achieve the ambitious goals that we have set for ourselves with élan.

Given that we all are #EnergyWarriors with high risk-taking abilities, I urge each one of you to unleash your potential, set your sights on the new pathways of opportunities staring at us. Together, we can, and we will.

Jai Hind!

Ranjit Rath
08.08.2022
Dr. Ranjit Rath