



Press Release

Dated: 12th August 2012

Guru Gobind Singh Refinery Organises Seminar on Protected Cultivation

Guru Gobind Singh Refinery (GGSR), Bathinda, of HPCL-Mittal Energy Limited (H MEL) in coordination with Indian Society for Protected Cultivation, New Delhi organised a One –Day Seminar on “Protected Cultivation and Precision Farming” on 12 August, 2012. The seminar was organized by the refinery as a step toward supporting the large scale initiatives taken by the Government of Punjab, in the area of protected cultivation. Nearly 150 farmers participated in the seminar.

Dr Balraj Singh, Principal Scientist & In-Charge, Centre for Protected Cultivation, Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI) emphasised on the prospects of protected cultivation technology for rural prosperity and entrepreneurship opportunities. He focussed on the challenges concerning sustainable agriculture in the state. He highlighted the overall gaps in Indian Agriculture practices and drew attention of the farmers to overcome the same through modern technological innovations.

“Sulphur deficiency in soil is largely prevalent in most states”, added Dr Singh and stressed on Integrated Nutrient Management for soil fertility and better productivity. “With the GGSR now operational the requirements for the state’s sulphur needs for the fertiliser industry would be largely met,” he commented.

Dr Naved Sabir, from National Centre for Integrated Pest Management, New Delhi, spoke on “environment friendly pest management technologies for protected cultivation and precision farming”. He categorically emphasized the role of good agricultural practices and Integrated Pest Management for sustainable agriculture and the benefits of modern technologies for Indian farmers to gain a competitive edge.



Mr Kuldeep Brar, one of the progressive growers from Kotkapura, speaking on behalf of the farmers' fraternity said, "This seminar aims at creating awareness among the participants about the innumerable challenges that the farmers in the region face. He thanked the organisers on behalf of farmers for the guidance provided through this forum on protected cultivation."

A HMEL official in his address said, "This seminar organised by HMEL is one of the many initiatives aimed at educating farmers. As a responsible corporate HMEL plans to educate farmers by undertaking various such knowledge-sharing platforms and contribute to the economic prosperity of the state and enriching the lives of the farmers in the region."

The Guru Gobind Singh Refinery, Bathinda was dedicated to the Nation on April 28, 2012 by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh. The refinery is a testimony to a successful Public Private Partnership in the oil and gas sector.

About HPCL-Mittal Energy Limited (HMEL)

HMEL is a joint venture between Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and Mittal Energy Investment Pte Ltd, Singapore – a Lakshmi N Mittal Company. Both the joint venture partners hold a stake of 49% each in the company, the balance 2% is held by Indian financial institutions.

HMEL has built a world-class state of the art refinery, GGSR, incorporating the latest technologies. The refinery has high Nelson Complexity Index which will enable maximizing value added products.. The SBM, COT and the 1017 km pipeline were constructed and laid through Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Haryana reaching Punjab in record time. The import facility Single Buoy Mooring, is capable of berthing Very Large Crude Carriers (VLCCs) reducing transportation costs.

GGSR set up in the heartland of the country will meet the growing requirements of the Northern domestic market. The refinery is an energy efficient, environmental friendly and high distillate yielding complex. Diverse environmental protection measures have been incorporated in the designs of all the Project facilities which include Sulphur Recovery Units, Hydro-treaters, Desulphurisation Units, State-of-the-art Effluent Treatment Plants, Vapour Recovery Systems and Low NOx Burners in the furnaces.



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