



Mr. Sanjay Khanna, Director (Refineries) with Additional Charge of C&MD, presented BPCL's exceptional performance in FY 2024-25 – the best among Oil Marketing PSUs – to our valued shareholders. He also reflected on BPCL's remarkable journey as we mark our 50th Foundation Year, showcasing how we have been shaping the future of energy for the

nation.

Also present in the AGM were Mr V.R.K. Gupta, Director (Finance), Mr Rajkumar Dubey, Director (HR), Mr Subhankar Sen, Director (Marketing), along with Independent Directors. The meeting was conducted by Ms. V. Kala, Company Secretary. Together, we look forward to powering India's growth story and leading the energy transition with purpose and pride.





In a significant recognition of its commitment to sustainability, Bharat Petroleum has been honoured with the SCOPE Eminence Award for "Environment Excellence & Sustainable Development" for the year 2022-23.

The award was presented by Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu to Mr Sanjay Khanna, Director (Refineries) with Additional charge of C&MD, and Mr V R K Gupta, Director (Finance), in the presence of Hon'ble MoS for Finance, Mr Pankaj Chaudhary.

Instituted by the Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE), these awards celebrate excellence in governance, innovation, and sustainability. With its Net Zero 2040 roadmap backed by substantial investments and initiatives in biofuels, CBG, green hydrogen & renewables, BPCL continues to play a pivotal role in shaping India's cleaner and greener energy future.

JWALADHWANI SEP 2025 ( ) 02



# BPCL SIGNS MOU WITH GOVT OF KERALA FOR TWO COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN KOCHI



BPCL signed the MoU for two community projects — one for road connectivity and one for cancer care with the Government of Kerala in the presence of Mr. Pinarayi Vijayan, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala, and Mr. Sanjay Khanna, Director (Refineries) with Additional Charge of Chairman & Managing Director, BPCL, along with Mr. Sankar M, Executive Director, BPCL Kochi Refinery, State Ministers Mr. P Rajeev, (Industries, Law & Coir), Mr. P. A. Mohammed Riyas, (PWD), Mrs. Veena George, (Health and Woman and Child Development) and senior government officials, at the Government Secretariat, Thiruvananthapuram on 20 August 2025.

The MoU envisages the construction of a four-lane road to the Ambalamugal Industrial Hub, Ernakulam, including a new bridge over the Chitrapuzha River, as well as the establishment of an Amenity Centre at the Cochin Cancer Research Centre (CCRC), Kochi. The facility will support patients and provide accommodation for around 185 relatives of those undergoing treatment. With these initiatives, every step in infrastructure development is a step towards better lives.

Also present on the occasion were Mr. George Thomas, CGM(HR), Mr. Harikishen VR, State Head Retail (Kerala) along with KR team comprising of M/s Johnson K, GM (Admn), Vineeth M Varghese, CM(PR&CSR), Vinod T Mathew, SM(L&D&PR), Mohammed Nizar PA, Asst Exec (PR,CSR & Admn) and Kavitha Mathew, Manager (Brand).

### **KR TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2025 UNVEILED**



Mr Sanjay Khanna, Director (Refineries) with Additional Charge of Chairman & Managing Director and Mr Sankar M, Executive Director (Kochi Refinery) formally released the Development Report 2025 prepared by the KR Technology Department.

The report captures a wide spectrum of initiatives undertaken by the department, including troubleshooting interventions, turnaround support, energy efficiency projects, quality control measures, production planning strategies, and process improvement efforts.

Speaking at the release on 21 August 2025, C&MD commended the Technology Department for their pivotal role in driving operational reliability, efficiency, and sustainability at Kochi Refinery. "This report not only documents valuable technical expertise but also reinforces a culture of innovation and knowledge-sharing across the organization. It will serve as a vital reference for future projects and it stands as a testimony to the commitment of Kochi Refinery towards technical excellence," he said.

The Development Report 2025 underlines Kochi Refinery's focus on continuous improvement and the dedication to setting new benchmarks in refining technology and practices. The report has been shared on I-Connect >> Policies & Guidelines >> Kochi Refinery, for ready reference.

JWALADHWANI SEP 2025 ( ) X



## **PMI Kerala Awards**

Project Of The Year Award- Medium



## WINNER



### **BPCL WINS PMI KERALA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

The HTPL Extension project of Kochi Refinery has been recognised as the "Project of the Year" bagging the coveted Award in the Medium Projects category. The award was presented for best-in-class project management strategies, along with technical excellence, timely delivery, and effective execution.

The project was led by a dedicated team comprising of George Simon, Arjun T. Chandran, Sreeja Kumaran, Robin T. J., M. Prabhu, Mani P.H.S and Udheep Mukundan, supported by Project Management Consultant (PMC) Tractebel Engineering Pvt. Ltd. The Kochi Refinery team was bestowed with this honour at the PMI Kerala Chapter's Annual Project Management Conference - Waves 2025, in Kochi on 23 August 2025.

The project showcased how strong planning, disciplined execution, and stakeholder-focused management can overcome challenges. From managing complex marine operations to replacing old pipelines without disrupting refinery processes, and addressing community sensitivities with transparency and empathy, the team turned obstacles into opportunities through robust project management practices. These strategies ensured smooth progress across all phases and played a vital role in the project's success. This recognition is a proud milestone for BPCL, reinforcing our reputation for excellence in project management and our ability to deliver projects of strategic importance under demanding conditions. It also reflects the dedication and professionalism of our teams, whose commitment continues to set new benchmarks for BPCL in the energy sector.

#### FOSTERING SPORTS AS A WAY OF LIFE



Mr. Raj Kumar Dubey, Director (HR), BPCL, in conversation with The Bridge on how Bharat Petroleum is fostering sports as a way of life through the Sports Scholarship Scheme and other initiatives to strengthen India's sporting future. Click on "Play video" to listen to the podcast.

**NATIONAL** SPORTS DAY SPECIAL

SEP 2025 (f) X 04



## 79TH INDEPENDENCE DAY **CELEBRATIONS AT KR**

Mr. Sankar M, Executive Director (Kochi Refinery) led the 79th Independence Day celebrations at BPCL Kochi Refinery by hoisting the National Flag in the presence of a huge gathering of employees, contract staff, the CISF and Security contingents.

The Independence Day message, from Mr. Sanjay Khanna, Director (Refineries) with Addl charge of Chairman & Managing Director reflecting on India's remarkable progress since Independence and BPCL's proud place in the journey, was broadcast at the celebrations.

ED (Kochi Refinery) in his address, expressed gratitude to the Security Forces for the continuous vigil on the Nation and the #Refineries of India. "While the armed forces untiringly watch over the Nation, as Refiners, it is our duty to fuel the Nation's progress safely and sustainably." Mr. Sankar said.

At other locations, Mr. Mahendiran A, Chief General Manager (Operations) hoisted the flag at the BPCL Shore Tank Farm (Puthuvypeen), Mr. Jomy Sebastian, Chief General Manager (CPO) led the celebrations at the Vandipetta Residential Complex and Mr. Sibi Ignatius, Chief General Manager (Inspection) at the Marine Drive Complex.

Patriotic songs, BPCL Golden Jubilee quiz and painting contests for children energised the celebrations. We bring you glimpses from the celebrations.





Onam Vibe 2025 Bigger, Louder & Happier!

Mr. Sanjay Khanna, Director (Refineries) with Additional Charge of Chairman & Managing Director, lit the traditional lamp at Kochi Refinery on 21 August 2025 to mark the initiation of the Onam celebrations 2025. The energy, the rhythms, the celebrations, the vibe kept spreading from department to department and culminated on 04 Sept 2025. We bring you the colourful moments from Onam VIBE 2025... HAPPY ONAM!!



















Click to view the Thrillonam reel by SDI, Kochi

Onam Vibe 2025

Bigger, Louder & Happier!













## POWERING THE NEXT WAVE OF TRANSFORMATION

The world has witnessed four major industrial revolutions. The first was driven by mechanization through steam power, the second by mass production with electricity, the third by electronics and IT, and now we are in the midst of the fourth: Industry 4.0.

"Intelligence is the ability to adapt to change" -Stephen Hawking

Industry 4.0 represents the ongoing trend of automation, interconnectivity, and data exchange in manufacturing technologies. It integrates cyber-physical systems, the Internet of Things (IoT), cloud computing, advanced sensors, and IT-OT convergence to create what is known as a "smart factory."

In a smart factory, machines, systems, and people are connected through digital networks, enabling real-time data collection, seamless communication, and intelligent decision-making. Machine learning and AI allow organizations to predict equipment failures, optimize processes, and reduce downtime, while cloud-enabled platforms ensure scalability and agility.

The benefits of Industry 4.0 are immense: It empowers businesses to gain deeper visibility into operations, improve productivity, ensure higher quality, and accelerate innovation. By leveraging instant data insights, organizations can adapt faster to market changes and enhance customer satisfaction. Today, Industry 4.0 is not just about technological advancement - it is a paradigm shift in how industries operate. It blends technology with human ingenuity to create smarter, more resilient, and more sustainable businesses that can thrive in an increasingly competitive world.

#### **RED FLAGS IN TENDERING & EXECUTION: VIGILANCE PERSPECTIVE**

Corporate Vigilance Team organised a session on Red Flags in Tendering & Execution for officers of BPCL KR . The program was attended by 45 officers from various departments viz. CPO-Kochi Refinery, Maintenance, Engineering & Construction, IS/Digital, HR Estates and Projects.

Mr. Venkataraman P Iyer, CGM (Vigilance) CO and Mr. Himanshu Shah, GM (Vigilance) KR spoke on the occasion on 30 July 2025. KR. Mr. Joji J Melel, DGM (Vigilance) KR welcomed the gathering and Mr. Sashi Nair, Chief Manager (Vigilance) KR administered the Integrity pledge to the officers.

Mr. Skanda Prasad S, GM (Vigilance) CO Vigilance made a comprehensive presentation covering red flags for various stages viz. Pre-Tender Activities, Tendering, Tender Evaluation, Approvals, Award of Contract, Post Award Activities, Site Records and Closure of Contract. The session also included observations on the tendering processes, gaps encountered & case studies. Clarifications were provided on various queries raised by the participants.



#### SERVICE CITATIONS



M SANKAR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### **30 YEARS**



MADHUSOODANAN ... P K / HSE



ANILKUMAR N HSE



SASIDHARAN PILLAI S / HSE



MANI M T OM&S



Jamal P M CPO (KR)



Jayavarma R HSE



CHANDRABABU S



VENUPRASAD A R P&U

## **HRAI UNDER 40 AWARDS: CELEBRATING CHANGE MAKERS**



BPCL HR team member, Praveen Anaswara, Chief Manager (ER), Kochi Refinery has been recognized among the HR Association of India's 40 Under 40 Changemakers – 2025, honoring leaders shaping the future of work with vision and impact.

With over 13 years at Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd., he has led transformative initiatives across Employee Relations and HR Business Partnering.

Currently Chief Manager – Employee Relations at Kochi Refinery, he drives workforce harmony while aligning HR strategy with business goals. Earlier, as HR Business Partner for the Industrial & Commercial and Gas businesses, he championed manpower planning, talent frameworks, and business-linked learning that built organizational capability.

Known for balancing organizational priorities with employee well-being, Praveen has successfully managed complex industrial relations, long-term settlements, and large-scale engagement programs. Beyond BPCL, he contributes to academia as part of the Advisory Board of Executive Education at Woxsen University.

Anchored in the ethos of *Planet - People - Purpose*, Praveen continues to champion people-centric leadership and meaningful change.

### SPORTING TIME AT OFFICE

Mr. George Thomas, CGM(HR) inaugurated the National Sports Day activities with indoor contests organised by HR. Football shoot outs, arm wrestling and walking race marked the indoor challenges. Employees from various departments participated. Sports Manager Kishor Kumar anchored the conceptualisation and execution of the sports day activities. Prizes were distributed to all winners







#### 59TH FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATIONS OF CRS



Cochin Refineries School celebrated its 59th Foundation Day with grandeur and enthusiasm. The programme commenced with a solemn prayer, followed by a welcome speech and the lighting of the ceremonial lamp. The Principal presented the annual report, highlighting the school's achievements and progress in the past year.

The Chief Guest, Madam Parvati Gopakumar, IAS, Assistant Collector, Ernakulam delivered an inspiring address, followed by a felicitation by Mr. M Shankar, Executive Director (KR). The school magazine was released by the Chairman of the School Board, Mr George Thomas, CGM- HR, (KR), who presented the first copy to the Chief Guest. He also addressed the gathering, appreciating the dedicated efforts of students and teachers. The event further recognized excellence through prize distribution to the achievers in academics and co-curricular



The formal programme concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks, after which the engaging Indo-Western fusion music performance, and thought-provoking dramas









#### **CELEBRATING THE 79TH INDEPENDENCE DAY AT CRS**



Cochin Refineries School celebrated the 79th Independence Day with great enthusiasm and patriotic fervor. The day began with the grand flag hoisting ceremony by the Principal and Vice Principal accompanied by NCC wings, filling the campus with pride and reverence.

This was followed by a vibrant array of cultural programmes, including dance, music, skits, and a colourful tableau, each reflecting the spirit of freedom and unity. The celebrations concluded on a sweet note with the distribution of sweets to all present, leaving everyone with cherished memories of the occasion. The whole programme was co-ordinated by the SAGAR house this year.

#### **SMART SUCCESS INITIATIVE**







CR School receives the distinct honour of being selected as the pilot institution for the Smart Success Initiative, a forward-thinking program designed to foster financial literacy and entrepreneurial acumen among youth. CRS bagged the top three spots. First Prize: Shreyas M R - Project: Safe Heaven; Second Prize: Jeffin Thomas - Project: Graphark and Third Prize: Abhiram K B - Project: Smartcare, receiving \$500, \$300 and \$150 as cash prizes.

### **VOLLEYBALL: CR SCHOOL - CHAMPIONS AGAIN!**

Cochin Refineries School once again proved its sporting excellence by lifting the Champions Trophy in the CBSE Cluster XI Volleyball Tournament held at Assisi Vidyanikethan School, Kakkanad, from 31 July to 4 August 2025.

With remarkable skill, unwavering determination, and seamless teamwork, the CRS Volleyball team outclassed their opponents in every match. The triumph stands as a true testament to relentless practice, discipline, and sportsmanship and the super confidence instilled in them by Coach Tom Joseph, who mentored them into a championship team.

This glorious victory has filled the school with pride and serves as an inspiration for future athletes to aim higher, train harder, and dream bigger. Hearty congrats to the winning Team Members: Surya Kiran – XII, Ishan Ismail – XII, Adwin A – XII, Nishan K.P. – XII, Kevin Shinto – XI, Myookh Laiju – XI, Mohan V.R. – XI, Devjith Krishna – X, Akhil Krishna – X Abhinav Biju – X, Shravan Udhay – X and Stuwrt Tom – VIII.

In the Girls Under-14 Volleyball, the Team showcased exceptional skill, teamwork, and sportsmanship to bag the 3rd Position in the CBSE Cluster XI Volleyball Championship 2025. The team included: Evelyn Shiju (VIII), Sneha Sara Joseph (VIII), Manusri D (VIII), Mrya R Nair (VIII), Daksha Ambath (VIII), Liya Vibin (VIII) and Evelia Shyju (VIII)





## The Road to Ambalamugal

The bags were packed and all documents stacked carefully in cardboard and tin boxes, ready to be taken to the new destination. Before locking 'Ravi Vihar' for the last time, they posed to a 120MM Roliflex camera. Behind them was the first office of Kochi Refinery. On the extreme left of the double-storied pre-Independence style building hung a board with 'Cochin Refineries Limited' written in English and Malayalam.

The seven men, dressed informally in slack shirts and pants, were leaving the first registered office of the company that was setting up a petroleum refinery about 12 kilometers from the place they stood. Ravi Vihar at Kallathiparambu Road was in the center of Ernakulam city, only few yards from the South Railway Station.

Among the seven was the first Managing Director of the fledgling company whose office was now literally on the move through the narrow roads of Kochi. John W Loy was a soft spoken man with the intellectual air of an Ivy League professor. Competent as he was with the growing technology of refining, he had an extra flair for economics and petroleum business which gave the perfect blend to lead the development of the first joint venture refinery in India. "He had a special developed mind and was respected by people of all levels. With his high emotional quotient and down-to-earth nature, he could connect with local people in the same way he could with the high government bureaucrats," recalls K B Malhotra who assisted Loy as the Private Secretary.

As they closed the gates of Ravi Vihar, which meant Sun's Abode, they could have seen the ray of hope of the great times ahead.

We all knew even then that this small institution was moving towards a great destiny," says BM Gopal who was in the group. He was then working under Company Secretary T S Menon whom he succeeded later. "I came to know about the new venture at Kochi from the finance manager at Caltex India Limited, Mumbai where I was working. I was interviewed and recruited at the New Delhi office which was then a rented house in the Defense Colony," says Gopal whose company badge number is '12.'

Gopal recalls that at the time of the shifting there were hardly 20 to 25 persons working, including the Managing Director. Among the others were Assistant Company Secretary N S Rao and C P Surendranathan. Finance was headed by JMF Lobo. Under him were D Krishnan, who later became the first Director (Finance) of CRL, KC Sethuraman and O A Kurian. Personnel and General Administration was under JC Polson who was a very strict man who used to stand at the door of the office to warn those who came late. The Technical Group under I Taylor Martin had already moved their office to Ambalamugal.



The vehicles carrying them moved on. The road to Ambalamugal in many ways was a difficult one. The State highway from Ernakulam up to SN Junction at the temple town of Thripunithura, which was once the capital of erstwhile princely state of Cochin, took one through the swamps and the picturesque backwaters spotted with the Chinese fishing nets and sways of coconut palms. Thereafter the last two miles to Ambalamugal, which in Malayalam meant Temple Top, was a sort of pilgrim's final stretch. This road had been developed recently by Kochi Refinery through the difficult terrain of low-lying muddy land, crossing streams and the Chitrapuzha River.

Ambalamugal, till recently was a wilderness. Before Independence, it was in the far fringes of Travancore, bordering the neighbouring Cochin. Chitrapuzha River was a natural boundary that divided the two erstwhile princely states. Ambalamugal residents had to cross the river in a ferry to reach Kochi city. They had been demanding a bridge for many decades. As a precursor to the refinery project, the Chitrapuzha Bridge had come up.

## The Key Stone

Among the documents being transported on that fine morning of early 1966 was the copy of a document which went into the creation of the organization. A kind of keystone, it was a much referred to and sought after document in the

That was the Formation Agreement. It was the result of an agreement inked by the Government of India, Philips Petroleum Company, USA, and Duncan Brothers & Company Limited, Calcutta, on 27 April, 1963.

"That was the first document I was given when I joined. That time it was not in a binded form. The papers were stapled and given to me to read and understand. Our office was then one of the rooms of the suite at Ashoka Hotel where Loy was staying," recalls Malhotra.

The agreement provided for the construction of a refinery in south India with a design capacity of approximately 50,000 barrels of crude oil each stream day. The design needed to be such as to allow a capacity augmentation to 70,000 barrels per day or 3.5 Million Metric Tonnes Per Annum (MMTPA) subsequently.

The Government of India (Gol) retained the majority stake of around 52.4% while Philips had a quarter of the shares with it. The products of the company would be sold to the Government or its nominee and Gol would establish marketing zones for each product so as to assure maximum sales.

The Formation Agreement further contemplated the execution by the company of a Technical Agreement with Philips Petroleum Company and a Refinery Construction Contract with Philips Petroleum International Corporation.

This was a rare historic document in the annals of Indian Industry. Describing later about the setting up of Kochi Refinery, then Union Minister of Petroleum & Chemicals O V Alageshan wrote: "This project is a different kind of experiment in collaboration for the development of the public sector in oil. Up till now, oil refineries were either private owned or Government owned. This is the first instance where in addition to the Government of India and the Kerala Government, M/s Philips Petroleum Company of USA, who are our collaborators, and the Indian public also hold shares."

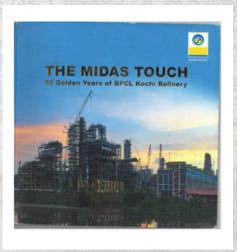
The first oil deposits in India were discovered in Assam in 1889 and a refinery was set up in 1901 at Digboi which was supposed to have got its name from the explorers ordering the labourers to 'Dig Boy.' However, at the turn of the century, colonial rulers saw India as a market and not as a producer. Refined petroleum products, especially kerosene and gasoline, were exported to India.

Indian Independence changed the scenario. In private sector, two refineries were commissioned in Mumbai and one in Visakhapatnam in the 1950s. This included the Mumbai Refinery, set up by Burmah Shell Refineries Ltd, which later became Bharat Petroleum. Meanwhile, work to set up public sector refineries with foreign collaboration started. Indian Oil Corporation's Guwahati Refinery came up with collaboration with Romania in 1962. Refineries in Barauni and Koyali were commissioned in 1964 and 1965 with Soviet collaboration.

In the early 1960s, thanks to high global competition, multi-national companies were forced to offer cheaper crude supplies and participate more in oil business in developing countries like India. Minimizing the balance-ofpayment and saving precious foreign exchange was a rallying idea of those years. Hence, it laid the ground for most of the state-owned joint ventures.

The Formation Agreement of Kochi Refinery had its genesis from all these considerations.

Writing from the headquarters of Philips Petroleum Company at Bartlesville, Oklahoma, USA, it's the then Chief Executive Stanley Learned reflected this spirit of camaraderie: "The Cochin Refinery is part of the first refining venture in India in which private sector is participating with the public sector. I hope that the experience gained in this pioneering venture will help pave the way for other projects of this kind."



Stories adapted from The Midas Touch Golden Jubilee Coffee Table Book of Kochi Refinery



## Celebrating an ICONIC Refinery

Kochi Refinery - the jewel of India

As Kochi Refinery proudly gears up to celebrate its Diamond Jubilee, we invite you to be a part of this historic milestone!

For 60 years, this institution has not just refined fuels but shaped lives, built communities, and created memories that continue to inspire. Behind every unit, every shift, and every milestone. there are people — dedicated, passionate, and resilient — who have made this journey possible.



#### We are calling for write-ups that capture:

- Personal stories of people who have been part of the Refinery's journey – past and present
- · Moments of transformation, growth, or pride within the Refinery
- Milestones, untold contributions, and behind-the-scenes heroes
- Reflections on how the Refinery has impacted your life, family, or community
- Photos, anecdotes, and nostalgic glimpses from across the decades

Whether you're an employee, a retired staff member, a family member, contractor, or a well-wisher your story matters.

#### **Submission Guidelines:**

- Word limit: 300-800 words
- Language: English. Malavalam or Hindi
- Include your name, designation (past or present), and contact details (phone & email)
- Photographs (old or new) are welcome and encouraged
- Send entries to: kavithamathew@bharatpetroleum.in and z\_krweb@bharatpetroleum.in
- Last date for submission: 15 SEPTEMBER 2025

Let your memories shine as bright as the legacy we celebrate. Together, let's honour the people and stories that have built this remarkable journey from the first drop to sixty years strong.







**JWALADHWANI**