

Following the inauguration of the Urja Ganga gas pipeline, gas output at Essar's Raniganj East coal bed methane (CBM) block in West Bengal has surpassed 0.8 million metric standard cubic metres per day (mmscmd) and is likely to surpass 1 mmscmd soon.

"We faced various obstacles as a result of the inevitable delay in the GAIL Urja Ganga trunk line. However, consistent efforts and technology applications to double gas output and cross 0.8 mmscmd have put us back on track," Pankaj Kalra, CEO of Essar Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Ltd, said (EOGEPL).

"Our next milestone is 1.0 mmscmd, and we're working hard to get there as soon as possible."

The laying of the Urja Ganga pipeline has resolved evacuation challenges that had forced some fields to produce below potential.

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