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Suresh Manglani, Chief Executive Officer, Adani Total Gas Limited

Natural Gas Society spoke to Shri Suresh Manglani, the CEO of Adani Total Gas Limited, a joint venture between India's Adani group and France's TotalEnergies, about his journey and achievements in the gas sector...

seasoned professional with 32 years of varied experience in diversified businesses, Shri. Suresh Manglani is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Adani Total Gas Limited. Prior to joining Adani, Manglani was working with Reliance Industries Limited as Senior Vice President & Head of Commercial of its petroleum retail business. He started his career with Kelvinator (now Whirlpool India) and subsequently worked with GAIL (India) Limited, Mahanagar Gas Limited and then Reliance Industries and India Gas Solutions (a JV of RIL and BP).

Manglani specialises in forming and successfully running joint ventures, stakeholder management, conceptualising, negotiating, forming & successfully running retail businesses such as City Gas Distribution and Petroleum Retailing. He worked at the apex level for over 19 years with MNCs' joint ventures. His vast experience in the domain of City Gas Distribution, Gas Marketing, RLNG Business and Petroleum Re-

tail businesses enables him to speak on these subjects with great conviction and the ability to put forward a vision of the future in the most lucid manner. "I love to bring innovation in the business and constantly think about what could drive further growth", says Manglani.

Adani has got licenses for 52 GAs in 125 districts today, a big leap from just four GAs four years ago when Manglani joined the company. "When I joined Adani it was a very small setup and now has become a dominant player in India in the CGD sector. I have been working with multinationals and it was an enriching experience welcoming Total as our joint venture partner in India", says Manglani.

According to him, one of the most notable achievements in his professional career includes single-handedly setting up Mahanagar Gas Ltd. (MGL), the city distribution company in Mumbai and one of the oldest and primary city gas distribution companies in India. He takes pride in the fact that MGL is a household name today. "When I moved to Mahanagar Gas, I was the single point of contact for my company. From concept to negotiating, developing the entire application and finally incorporating the company, I enjoyed every phase", shares Manglani.

Suresh is very positive about gas in India. "I'm quite optimistic that India will see huge upside in the gas economy. The government is continuously developing policies in line with its vision to increase the gas share to 15% in the energy mix. It has brought almost the entire

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Additional Responsibilities

- Director on the Board of Indian Oil Adami Gas Private Limited (IOAGPL), a 50:50 JV between Adami Total Gas and IOCL
- Director in Total Adani Fuel Marketing Private Limited, a 50:50
 JV between Adani and TotalEnergies.
- Chairman of Smartmeters Technologies Private Limited, a 50:50 JV between Adani Total Gas Limited and GSEC Limited.
- Director on the Board of Association of CGD Entities Company.
- Co-Chair of the National Council on Hydrocarbon and Petrochemical of ASSOCHAM
- Member of the CII National Committee on Hydrocarbons.

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But he thinks much more needs to be done if gas has to be made the fuel of the future. "The government needs to look at how to increase the allocation of APM gas. Stability in gas prices is another area that demands government's attention. Another challenge is faster permissions, approvals and clearances for projects. Also, if India has a CGD or Gas Act just like it has an Electricity Act, there would be clearly laid out rights and responsibilities".

A cost accountant by profession, Suresh has educational degrees of M.COM, LLB, ACMA, FCS. But getting here wasn't easy for him. Coming from a big joint business family in Rajasthan, it would be difficult for him to study surrounded by so many people in the house. So he would rush to the nearby temple to study peacefully. "I chose a professional career over

my family business and God has been really kind to me. I feel very satisfied today. I have come a long way and I feel if I can travel the journey from a temple to corporate it is truly a lesson for all the aspirers to keep looking out for possibilities even in their hardest of times".

Suresh has two daughters Riya and Moksha. Riya is currently working with Ernst & Young in Mumbai and Moksha is in her third year of medicine. His wife Taruna is a homemaker and also enjoys fashion designing. When asked about his favourite activity in leisure time, when he is not working, he says "Work is my hobby. I don't remember when I took any leave last time. I feel responsible since someone else has trusted my shoulders to do the work. Any time that I get away from work I like to spend with my daughters and wife". Suresh also likes to read books and watch some comedy movies or laughter shows.