

# PETROLEUM IN INDIA 2003

## 1. ANDHRA PRADESH HEAT WAVE KILLS 513, NO RELIEF YET

A heat wave gripping Andhra Pradesh has killed 513 people in the past two weeks with temperatures soaring as high as 47 Celsius, an aid official said on Thursday.

Most of those who died were poor, homeless people such as rickshaw pullers, street hawkers and construction workers, and there was no immediate sign of relief from the hot weather.

"As many as 833 people were affected by sunstroke, of whom 513 succumbed during the fortnight-long dry spell," State Relief Commissioner D.C. Rosaiah told Reuters.

Relief officials said the death toll was likely to rise with no sign of pre-monsoon showers and the weather office forecasting two more days of scorching heat. Government officials have advised people to stay indoors during the day. More than 1,000 people were killed in Andhra Pradesh in a heat wave last May.

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**Source:** RESISTANCE OILWATCH NETWORK BULLETIN Number 39. - June2003

## 2. INDIA INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN TURKMENISTANAFGHANISTAN- PAKISTAN PIPELINE

By OGJ editors

HOUSTON, Apr. 16 -- Oil and gas ministers from Pakistan, Turkmenistan, and Afghanistan formally invited India on Apr. 9 to participate in their proposed Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan natural gas pipeline project (OGJ Online, Feb. 27, 2003) reported OPEC News Agency. Participants said New Delhi's participation in the \$2.5-3.2 billion project would make it more viable, providing significant additional gas markets.

The pipeline, estimated in various reports as 1,300- 1,600 km long, would carry 20-30 billion cu m/year of natural gas and likely would be constructed to Pakistan's Sui field, from which existing infrastructure could be tapped to supply major local markets (OGJ, Oct. 7, 2002, p. 21).

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