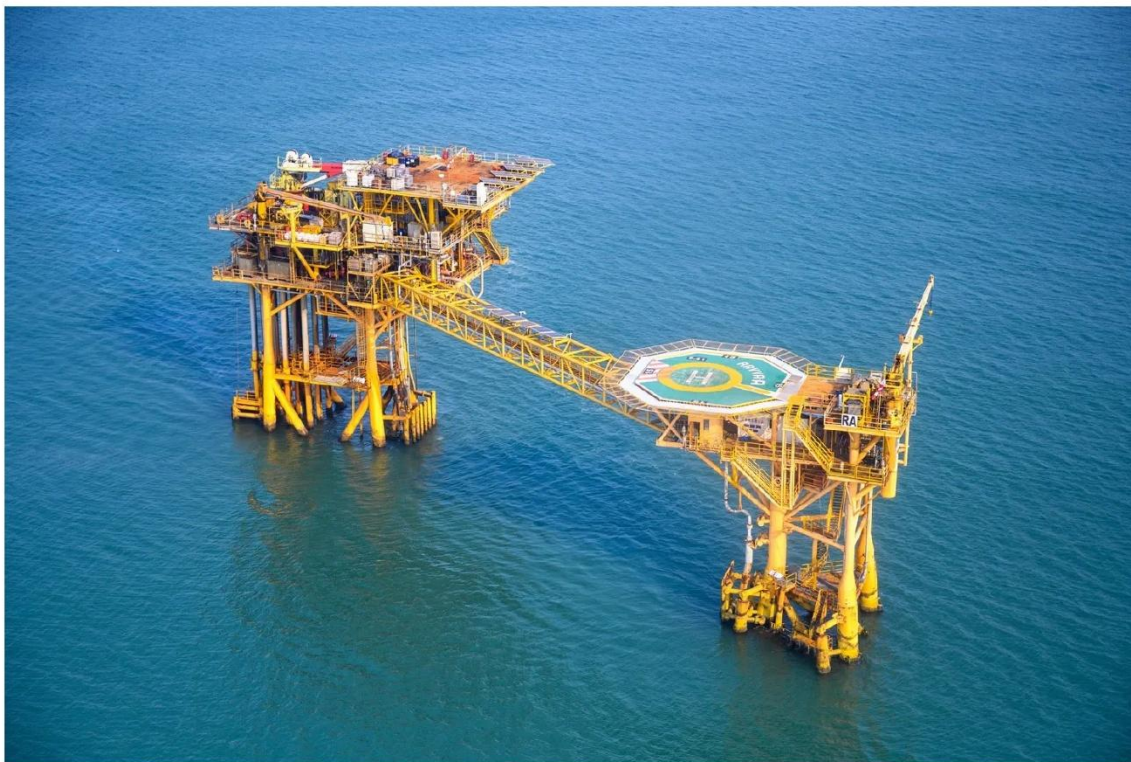


Field Development

# Asian operator completes key subsea installation project

The subsea installation work was carried out using a jack-up rig – the first such execution in the Indian offshore region, Cairn Oil & Gas said



An offshore platform operated by Cairn Oil & Gas.

Photo: Cairn Oil & Gas

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India's Cairn Oil & Gas has completed a key subsea installation project at its Ambe block, offshore the nation's western coast.

The company, a subsidiary of the privately owned Vedanta Group, in August announced its plan to invest up to \$5 billion in exploration and development projects over the next three years.

Cairn said on Monday that it has "successfully installed India's first-ever Sub-Sea Template (SST) on the west coast, marking a significant breakthrough for offshore exploration in the Ambe block as part of CSP (Conductor Supported Platform) installation."

"This milestone marks a major leap for marginal field monetisation in DSF (discovered small field) blocks, with the potential to reshape the way smaller offshore discoveries are brought to production, making them economically viable and contributing to India's energy security," the company said.

The subsea installation work was carried out using a jack-up rig – the first such execution in the Indian offshore region, it noted.

Cairn aims to fast-track the development and monetise the oil and gas asset on the west coast.

With the subsea structure in place, the operator plans to initiate drilling operations soon, it said.

The Indian operator was awarded the Ambe block, dubbed CB-DSF-III, in 2021, as part of the country's DSF bid round.

The offshore Ambe asset is located in the Gulf of Cambay and covers an area of 728 square kilometres offshore Gujarat.

### **Hiring multiple rigs**

**[The operator said earlier this month](#)** that it has kicked off the bidding process to secure up to 12 onshore and offshore rigs for multiple drilling programmes in

India.

The move to charter a dozen drilling rigs is specifically aimed at executing its ambitious exploration programme.

The operator is looking to deploy 10 onshore and two offshore high-quality rigs for a period of two to three years, the company said in an expression of interest (EoI) document, seen by Upstream.

**The oil and gas player in August said** it had initiated a “large exploration campaign to unlock hydrocarbons from Indian sedimentary basins and increase production to meet the country’s growing energy requirements, and reduce its import dependency.”

The Vedanta-owned operator said earlier this year that it will be carrying out exploration activities onshore Rajasthan and North East India, and in promising shallow-water assets off the nation’s west coast.

Cairn has indicated that its up to \$5 billion investment plan includes “both conventional and unconventional hydrocarbons — across deep and shallow waters offshore the east and west coast, and onshore Rajasthan and North East [India]”.

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