

Govt may extend free food scheme, expand fuel subsidy

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NEW DELHI: The government may continue providing free food grains to over 813 million underprivileged Indians even after the December 31, 2023 deadline for the popular scheme, and could extend the annual fuel subsidy up to ₹2,400 per beneficiary to about 96 million households beyond the current financial year because of both economic and political reasons ahead of the 2024 general elections, two people aware of the development said on Monday.

The cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on December 23, 2022 decided to provide free food grains to about 81.35 crore (813.50 million) beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) "for one year" from January 1, 2023.

"The government is closely monitoring the food inflation situation and, if required, the benefit could be extended beyond the one-year period, with or without any modification in the scheme," one of the people cited above said.



The government's move is likely driven by a seasonal spike in inflation.

The people said the government is also committed to shielding the underprivileged from rising prices of cooking gas (domestic LPG). The government has been providing a targeted subsidy of ₹200 per 14.2kg cylinder to Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) beneficiaries for up to 12 refills a year for 2022-23 and 2023-24. This deadline could also be extended if cooking gas prices continue to remain high, they said.

According to the latest data from the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), the current price of a 14.2kg cooking gas cylinder is ₹1,103 in Delhi, the third-highest in about 10 years after touching a record high of ₹1,241 on January

1, 2014. Currently, the government provides ₹200 per cylinder subsidy to about 9.6 crore (96 million) PMUY beneficiaries out of the total 313.6 million consumers as of March 2023. Technically, a PMUY beneficiary can claim subsidy on 12 cylinders in a year amounting to ₹2,400 in a financial year. However, according to official data, the per capita consumption of 14.2kg cylinders by PMUY beneficiaries was 3.01 in 2019-20, which rose to 3.71 in 2022-23. Shielding the underprivileged from inflationary pressures is the prime focus of the government, the two persons mentioned above said.

According to a statement issued by the cabinet secretariat on October 12, 2022, "During the period from June 2020 to June 2022, the international prices of LPG increased by around 300%. However, to insulate consumers from fluctuations in international prices, the cost increase was not fully passed on to consumers of domestic LPG. Accordingly, domestic LPG prices have been raised by only 72% during this period. This has led to significant losses for these

OMCs." "India imports 60% of the domestic LPG (cooking gas) it consumes," it added.

Similarly, the government provided 5kg per person per month free food grains to the underprivileged immediately after the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, which continued for over 28 months under the Prime Minister Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY) worth over ₹3.90 lakh crore. While the temporary scheme, PMGKAY, ended on December 31 after several extensions, the cabinet on December 23, 2022, decided to provide free food grains to 813.5 million beneficiaries under the NFSA for one year from January 1, 2023, effectively merging PMGKAY into an existing scheme.

The government's thinking is likely driven by a seasonal spike in inflation, driven by the prices of vegetables, pulses, even cereals. Retail inflation in July touched a 15-month high of 7.44%. Hence, the priority is to ensure adequate supply of grains and continue providing subsidies on food and fuel to the underprivileged, the people said.

ONGC to raise green energy capacity to 10 GW by 2030

Energy major to increase spending on initiatives to cut carbon footprint

MANISH GUPTA
New Delhi, August 16

CHARTING A ROADMAP for opportunities in renewable energy and low-carbon sectors, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) is planning to increase its renewable energy capacity from 189 mega watt (MW) to 10 giga watt (GW) by 2030.

The state-owned energy major also plans to significantly increase its spending on green initiatives to reduce its carbon footprint as a broader effort to achieve net zero for scope-1 and scope-2 emissions by 2038.

"ONGC is investing around ₹1 trillion by the end of this decade, on its multiple green initiatives and is planning to scale up its renewable portfolio to 10 GW by 2030," the company said in a statement.

It is in advanced stage of crafting collaborations with players in energy space on various low-carbon energy opportunities including renewables, green hydrogen, green ammo-



RENEWABLES PUSH

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nia and other derivatives of green hydrogen.

Integrating sustainable practices into core operations has enabled reduction in scope-1 and scope-2 emissions by 17% in last five years, it said, adding that it has reduced its emissions by 2.66% in FY23.

ONGC, which is also planning to set up two green-field oil-to-chemical (O2C) plants in India, has increased its focus on R&D in carbon capture, utilisation, and storage (CCUS) technologies to mitigate emissions from existing processes.

However, oil and gas explo-

ration and production (E&P) will remain the cornerstone of its energy business. Extensive exploration in known basins as well as frontier plays, sustained production from existing fields and exploitation of deep-water fields remain the central areas of emphasis.

Under the 'Future Exploration Strategy', ONGC has set up an ambitious target to bring five lakh square kilometers of area under active exploration by acquiring one lakh square kilometer every year, spending ₹10,000 crore annually on exploration by 2025.

TO TRANSFORM INTO A LOW-CARBON ENERGY PLAYER

ONGC to scale up renewable portfolio to 10 GW by 2030

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: In an important move, ONGC (Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited) has charted an extensive roadmap to drastically enhance its low-carbon energy portfolio.

State owned ONGC, has long pioneered decarbonization initiatives, achieving substantial emissions reductions over the years. Integrating sustainability into its core operations led to a remarkable 17 per cent reduction in Scope-1 and Scope-2 emissions within the past five years. In fiscal year 2023 alone, ONGC slashed its emissions by an impressive 2.66 per cent. Demonstrating their dedication to a greener future, ONGC is ramping up investments in eco-friendly endeavors to realize a Net-Zero status for Scope-1 and Scope-2 emissions by 2038.

Officials say, ONGC is engaging in strategic collaborations with prominent energy players to explore a myriad of low-carbon energy avenues, including renewables, green

hydrogen, and their derivatives. This forward-thinking approach extends into the Oil to Chemical (O2C), refining, and petrochemical sectors, reflecting ONGC's insightful understanding of India's evolving energy landscape.

Recently, in his Independence Day address, Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized the nation's commitment to renewable energy, sparking ONGC's determination to curtail carbon emissions by 1 billion tons and simultaneously slash carbon intensity by 45 per cent before 2030.

Two state-of-the-art green-field O2C plants are poised to emerge under ONGC's visionary plan, igniting excitement for the green energy revolution. ONGC's roadmap also envisions a robust expansion into renewable energy and low-carbon sectors, with an impressive target of 10 GW in its renewable portfolio by 2030. As the horizon of possibility expands, ONGC remains actively engaged in forging collaborations with industry lead-



ers to harness the full potential of renewables, green hydrogen, and their derivatives.

Underlining its commitment to innovation, ONGC is directing substantial efforts towards research and development in carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS) technologies, a critical step in mitigating emissions from existing processes.

However, ONGC remains steadfast in its commitment to oil and gas exploration and production (E&P), an essential cornerstone of its energy business. The company is unwavering in its pursuit of extensive exploration in known basins and frontier plays, alongside sustained production from

existing fields and the exploration of deep water reserves.

Harnessing the prowess of cutting-edge technologies, ONGC is unlocking additional commercial value from existing producing pools through time-bound and technology-intensive IOR/EOR schemes. These projects are poised to contribute substantial increments of oil and gas to ONGC's illustrious portfolio.

In a remarkable display of ambition, ONGC's 'Future Exploration Strategy' aims to bring a staggering 5 lakh square kilometers of area under active exploration. This entails acquiring one lakh square kilometers annually, with a committed annual investment of Rs. 10,000 crore by 2025.

Adapting to the dynamic energy landscape, ONGC is poised to evolve into a future-ready entity that embodies resilience, agility, and adaptability. This strategic evolution will redefine ONGC as an 'energy' company, transcending its legacy as a mere oil and gas explorer and producer.

Petrol, diesel sales fall in August on rain impact

Press Trust of India

New Delhi

India's petrol and diesel consumption fell in the first half of August from the previous month and a year ago, as rains hit mobility and slowed industrial activity, preliminary data of state-owned firms showed on Wednesday.

This is the second month in a row that fuel sales have fallen. The four months of monsoon generally see muted consumption.

Consumption of diesel, the most-consumed fuel in the country accounting for about two-fifths of the demand, fell 5.7 per cent to 2.67 million tonnes from August 1 to 15, compared to the year-ago period.

Consumption had fallen by a steep 15 per cent in the first half of July, but picked up in the second fortnight.

Month-on-month sales fell 9.5 per cent, when compared to 2.95 million tonnes of diesel consumed in the first half of July.

Diesel sales typically fall in

monsoon months as rains lower demand in the agriculture sector, which uses the fuel for irrigation, harvesting and transportation. Also, rains slow vehicular movements.

Consumption of diesel had soared 6.7 per cent and 9.3 per cent in April and May, respectively, as agriculture demand picked up and cars yanked up air-conditioning to beat the summer heat. It started to taper in the second half of June after the monsoon set in.

Petrol sales fell 8 per cent to 1.19 million tonnes in the first fortnight of August, when compared with the same period last year.

Consumption had dropped 10.5 per cent in the first fortnight of July, but picked up in the latter half. Sales were down 5.2 per cent month-on-month, the data showed.

India's economy has demonstrated remarkable resilience and is likely to have surpassed the performance of most major economies during the first half of 2023.

Petrol, diesel sales fall in Aug as rains ebb demand

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With steady and healthy economic activity and ongoing air travel recovery, India's demand for oil products is anticipated to remain strong in the remainder of the fiscal, analysts said.

Consumption of petrol during August 1-15, was 20.6

per cent more than in the COVID-marred first half of August 2021 and 25.6 per cent more than in pre-pandemic August 2019.

Diesel consumption was up 26 per cent over August 1-15, 2021 and 16.8 per cent when compared with August 1-15, 2019.

With the continuing rise in passenger traffic at airports, jet fuel (ATF) demand rose 8.1 per cent to 290,300 tonnes during the first fortnight of August as compared to the same period last year.

It was 66.7 per cent more than in August 2021, but 4.1 per cent lower than pre-COVID August 2019.

Month-on-month jet fuel sales fell 2.1 per cent when compared with 296,500 tonnes in July 1-15, 2023.

Cooking gas LPG sales were up 3.7 per cent year-on-year to 1.21 million tonnes in August 1-15. LPG consumption was almost 12 per cent higher than in August 1-15, 2021 and 11.2 per cent more than pre-COVID August 1-15, 2019.

Month-on-month, LPG demand was however down 2 per cent compared to 1.23 million tonnes of LPG consumption during July 1-15, the data showed.

AGENCIES



Petrol, diesel sales fall in Aug as rains ebb demand

PTI / New Delhi

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Petrol, diesel sales fall in August

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PSU Oil Retailers see Fall in Petrol and Diesel Sales

New Delhi: Petrol and diesel sales by state-run oil companies fell 8% and 6% respectively over the last year in the first half of August as the private sector fuel retailers clawed back market share and as heavy rains affected mobility and industrial activity in some parts of the country. Compared to the first half of July, state-run oil companies sold 5% less petrol and 9.5% less diesel in August, the data showed.

Their sales of aviation turbine fuel (ATF), as well as LPG, fell by 2% each month-on-month. The sales of ATF, however, were up 8% year-on-year and those of LPG 3.7% higher. Fuel demand trends may change by the end of the



month when the data for the entire industry is released. Rains affect transport and also reduce the need for diesel for irrigation. The demand for diesel, which accounts for about 40% of total refined fuel consumption in the country, is considered a gauge for economic activity because of the fuel's wider linkages.

Private fuel retailers have been regaining the market share they lost last year after they discouraged sales at their pumps by keeping prices higher than state-run companies' pumps. State companies such as Indian Oil, Hindustan Petroleum and Bharat Petroleum sold fuel at below-market rates last year when international prices skyrocketed while private players were unwilling to do the same. — **Our Bureau**

Rising inflation, volatile crude stymie Centre from revising fuel prices daily

CATCH-22 SITUATION. Raising retail fuel price ‘out of question’, say OMCs; reducing it also has pitfalls

Rishi Ranjan Kala
New Delhi

India’s retail inflation hitting a 14-month high in July coincided with global crude oil prices trading at \$85.22, making it difficult for the government to resume the daily revision of retail prices of petrol and diesel, which have been on hold since April 2022.

Retail inflation hit 7.4 per cent in July with expectations that August numbers could be in the range of 6.5-7.2 per cent. While vegetable prices are expected to cool down as rains recede, there are concerns that prices of cereals, pulses, milk and spices could spoil the kitchen budget of the common man, particularly with the festival season shopping just a month-and-a-half away.

Besides, as Saudi Arabia and Russia continue with

voluntary production cuts, which are expected to last till 2023-end, crude oil prices have already breached the \$85 per barrel range, which is the highest since April 2023.

Declining Russian discounts on Urals have also adversely impacted the marketing margins of oil marketing companies (OMCs).

PRICE REVISION

OMC officials and analysts point out that raising retail prices of petrol and diesel is “out of the question at present”, as it will have a cascading impact on food prices. It is expected that the government will not raise the retail prices of the two auto fuels.

On the other hand, reducing retail prices has its own pitfalls, a senior OMC official explained. He said discounts by Russia have come down significantly which, going ahead, will pinch the



SLIPPERY PATH. Raising retail prices of petrol and diesel will have a cascading impact on food prices

margins of PSU OMCs. S&P Global Commodity Insights’ energy security sentinel pointed out that the Russia-Ukraine conflict hit prices of Russia’s key crude grade Urals, which was trading at times at a discount of over \$40 per barrel to dated Brent since the conflict began (February 24, 2022).

By August 8, 2023, the discount had fallen to \$12.80,

following decline in Russian crude production. Ural prices crossing \$60 per barrel (G7 price cap) further complicates the situation, said the official, adding that discounts are now in the range of \$8 a barrel for September and October loading.

A change of \$1 per barrel in benchmark petrol or diesel price makes an impact

of around 48 paise per litre on margins. Marketing margins are likely to be hit if international crude oil prices continue to strengthen, coupled with lesser discounts from Russia. This will also have a bearing on the profit from exporting refined products, particularly diesel, to Europe.

According to ICICI Securities, a combination of geopolitical worries, steady demand, and refinery supply woes kept gross refinery margins (GRMs) elevated in FY23, with benchmark Singapore GRMs at \$10.8 per barrel in FY23, up \$2.2 year-on-year.

RECESSION WORRIES

However, global recession worries and lack of demand momentum in China in Q1 FY24 led to a sharp pullback in GRMs, with SG GRMs declining \$4.1 a barrel quarter-on-quarter, it added.

Rupees for UAE oil

Settlement of a part of India's oil imports in local currencies eases strains on its current account

THE FACT THAT India's refiner, Indian Oil Corporation, paid in rupees for the purchase of a million barrels of oil from the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company is good news for the country's energy security. Settlement of even a part of its growing oil import bill in rupees would ease the strains on its current account. This follows another recent deal involving the sale of 25 kg of gold from a UAE-based exporter to an Indian buyer for approximately Rs 12.84 crore. In July, India signed an agreement with the UAE, allowing it to settle trade in rupees instead of dollars. India, in fact, sought to promote settlement of trade transactions in rupees in July 2022 to facilitate more trade with Russia (and neighbours like Sri Lanka), that is facing US-led sanctions for its war in Ukraine. But that hasn't worked according to the script. India's sourcing of deeply-discounted Russian oil has also entered an uncertain phase of late due to the breach of the price cap of \$60 a barrel imposed by western nations and cuts in Russia's crude exports by 500,000 barrels per day this month and 300,000 bpd next month. India must look for alternative sources of supplies.

Oil imports from the UAE rose by 76% to 290,000 bpd in July, albeit on a lower base in June. But if this uptrend gathers momentum, the rupee settlement augurs well for the comprehensive economic partnership between India and the UAE. Settlement in local currencies, however, would have made a much bigger difference for India's burgeoning oil imports from Russia that rose 14-fold to \$31.02 billion in FY23 from \$2.2 billion in the previous fiscal. Although the rupee-rouble trading arrangement is in place with RBI approving the opening of special vostro accounts by several banks, Russia prefers the payment for oil in hard currencies to fund its ongoing war in Ukraine. So long as the oil was sold below the price cap of \$60 a barrel, India had no problem in paying for it in US dollars.

But all of that has changed with Russia's Urals blend hitting more than \$73 a barrel in recent weeks, forcing India to explore other options, including trading via Singapore and Hong Kong. A small part of these imports were settled through yuan (and the UAE dirham) but that is not India's preference. Although India's dependence on Russian oil still continues, rising prices, lower discounts and higher shipping costs contributed to a drop in purchases of Russian oil by 25% in the first half of August. The prospect is for a similar order of purchases until October. But there are difficulties in paying for it without breaching western sanctions. For such reasons, the settlement of UAE oil in rupees should encourage India to pursue similar arrangements with other oil exporting countries in Africa from which it has been sourcing some of its oil.

The possibility of vostro accounts being used to transact in Singapore or Hong Kong dollars also needs to be explored. Russia and India need to discuss the modalities for settling their bilateral trade and make the rupee-rouble trading arrangement work. India has allowed banks in 22 countries to open vostro accounts to facilitate trade in rupees. Looking ahead, India must push the global acceptance of the rupee through its inclusion in the continuous linked settlement initiative which provides protection for cross-currency settlement in 18 currencies if its efforts to settle trade transactions in local currencies is to gain traction.



Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri Releases Rendition of National Anthem and Inspirational Video 'Jaya Hey'



On the occasion of India's Independence Day, the Honorable Union Minister for Housing & Urban Affairs and

Petroleum and Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri Ji, released a rendition of India's National Anthem featuring sportspeople who have brought glory to India across various sporting disciplines and have been supported by **Indian Oil** Corporation Ltd. (IndianOil). The Union Minister also unveiled an inspirational music video titled 'Jaya Hey!', a creative expression that signifies our country's entry into an era where the principle of 'Nation First and First Always' is practiced daily by everyone, resulting in all-around Progress.

अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में घटी पेट्रोल-डीजल की खपत

■ इस दौरान डीजल की खपत 5.7 फीसद तक लुढ़की ■ पेट्रोल की डिमांड में 10.5 फीसद की गिरावट आई

मुंबई (भाषा)।

भारत में पेट्रोल और डीजल की खपत अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में घटी है। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की पेट्रोलियम कंपनियों के आंकड़ों से यह जानकारी मिली है। मानसून की वजह से आवाजाही प्रभावित होने तथा औद्योगिक गतिविधियों में सुस्ती की वजह से वाहन ईंधन की मांग में लगातार दूसरे महीने गिरावट आई है। आमतौर पर मानसून के चार माह के दौरान ईंधन की खपत कम रहती है।

देश में सबसे अधिक इस्तेमाल वाले ईंधन डीजल की खपत एक से 15 अगस्त के

दौरान 5.7 प्रतिशत घटकर 26.7 लाख टन रह गई है। जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े में भी ईंधन की खपत में भारी गिरावट आई थी। हालांकि, दूसरे पखवाड़े में मांग कुछ सुधरी थी। मासिक आधार पर देखा जाए, तो डीजल की बिक्री में 9.5 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई है।

अप्रैल और मई में डीजल की खपत क्रमशः 6.7 प्रतिशत और 9.3 प्रतिशत



बढ़ी थी। इसकी वजह यह है कि उस समय खेती के लिए डीजल की मांग में उछाल आया था।

पेट्रोल की मांग भी अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में पिछले साल की समान अवधि से आठ प्रतिशत घटकर 11.9 लाख टन रह गई है। जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े में पेट्रोल की खपत में 10.5 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई थी, लेकिन दूसरे पखवाड़े में बिक्री में सुधार

आया था। आंकड़ों से पता चलता है कि मासिक आधार पर पेट्रोल की बिक्री 5.2 प्रतिशत घटी है। अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में पेट्रोल की खपत कोविड महामारी से प्रभावित अवधि यानी 1-15 अगस्त, 2021 की तुलना में 20.6 प्रतिशत अधिक रही है।

उधर हवाई यात्रियों की संख्या लगातार बढ़ रही है। इससे विमान ईंधन एटीएफ की मांग अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में 8.1 प्रतिशत बढ़कर 2,90,300 टन पर पहुंच गई है। रसोई गैस की बिक्री समीक्षाधीन अवधि में 3.7 प्रतिशत बढ़कर 12.1 लाख टन पर पहुंच गई।

औद्योगिक गतिविधियों में सुस्ती से अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में घटी पेट्रोल, डीजल की मांग

एजेंसी ■ नई दिल्ली

भारत में पेट्रोल और डीजल की खपत अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में घटी है। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की पेट्रोलियम कंपनियों के आंकड़ों से यह जानकारी मिली है। मानसून की वजह से आवाजाही प्रभावित होने तथा औद्योगिक गतिविधियों में सुस्ती की वजह से वाहन ईंधन की मांग में लगातार दूसरे महीने गिरावट आई है। आमतौर पर मानसून के चार माह के दौरान ईंधन की खपत कम रहती है। देश में सबसे अधिक इस्तेमाल वाले ईंधन डीजल की खपत एक से 15 अगस्त के दौरान 5.7 प्रतिशत घटकर



26.7 लाख टन रह गई है। जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े में भी ईंधन की खपत में भारी गिरावट आई थी। दूसरे पखवाड़े में मांग कुछ सुधरी थी। मासिक आधार पर देखा जाए, डीजल की बिक्री में 9.5 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई है। जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े में डीजल की बिक्री 29.5 लाख टन रही

थी। डीजल की बिक्री आमतौर पर मानसून के महीनों में गिर जाती है क्योंकि बारिश के कारण कृषि क्षेत्र की मांग घट जाती है। अप्रैल और मई में डीजल की खपत क्रमशः 6.7 प्रतिशत और 9.3 प्रतिशत बढ़ी थी। उस समय खेती के लिए डीजल की मांग में उछाल आया था।



पेट्रोल और डीजल की खपत में गिरावट दर्ज

नई दिल्ली। भारत में पेट्रोल और डीजल की खपत अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में घटी है। डीजल की खपत एक से 15 अगस्त के दौरान 5.7% घटकर 26.7 लाख टन रह गई है। पेट्रोल की मांग भी अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में पिछले साल की समान अवधि से आठ प्रतिशत घटकर 11.9 लाख टन रह गई है। जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े में पेट्रोल की खपत में 10.5% की गिरावट आई थी।

माननीय. मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने राष्ट्रगान और प्रेरणादायक वीडियो 'जय हे' का गायन जारी किया

नई दिल्ली। भारत के स्वतंत्रता दिवस के अवसर पर, माननीय केंद्रीय आवास और शहरी मामलों और पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री, हरदीप सिंह पुरी जी ने भारत के राष्ट्रगान की एक प्रस्तुति जारी की, जिसमें उन खिलाड़ियों को शामिल किया गया है,



जिन्होंने विभिन्न खेल विधाओं में भारत को गौरवान्वित किया है और जिसे इंडियन ऑयल कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड (इंडियन ऑयल) द्वारा समर्थित किया गया है। केंद्रीय मंत्री ने 'जय हे!' शीर्षक से एक प्रेरणादायक संगीत वीडियो का भी अनावरण किया, जो एक रचनात्मक अभिव्यक्ति है जो हमारे देश के एक ऐसे युग में प्रवेश का प्रतीक है जहां 'राष्ट्र प्रथम और सर्व प्रथम सदैव' के सिद्धांत का हर कोई प्रतिदिन अभ्यास करता है, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप सर्वांगीण प्रगति होती है। इस अवसर पर बोलते हुए, हरदीप सिंह पुरी जी ने कहा, "भारत में खेल एक भावना है और भारत की खेल प्रतिभा का पोषण करना देश को वैश्विक मंच पर आगे ले जाने के अनुरूप है। खेल के मैदान में जीत या हार मायने नहीं रखती, खेल की भावना और खेल भावना ही मायने रखती है जो राष्ट्र को खुशियां लाती है। इस शुभ दिन पर, इंडियन ऑयल द्वारा लॉन्च किया गया खेल मान खेल के प्रति देश के जुनून को फिर से सक्रिय करता है। पैरा-एथलेटिक्स सहित असंख्य खेलों को इंडियन ऑयल द्वारा प्रदान किया गया समर्थन सराहनीय है और 'राष्ट्र पहले, हमेशा पहले' रखने के अनुरूप है। राष्ट्रगान गायन और इंडियन ऑयल के खेल थीम गीत के अनावरण के दौरान, इंडियन ऑयल के अध्यक्ष, श्री श्रीकांत माधव वैद्य ने इन प्रयासों के प्रति संगठन की प्रतिबद्धता को स्पष्ट रूप से व्यक्त किया।

मानसून, औद्योगिक गतिविधियों में सुस्ती से अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में घटी **पेट्रोल, डीजल** की मांग

नई दिल्ली, 16 अगस्त (एजेंसी): भारत में पेट्रोल और डीजल की खपत अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में घटी है। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की पेट्रोलियम कंपनियों के आंकड़ों से यह जानकारी मिली है। मानसून की वजह से आवाजाही प्रभावित होने तथा औद्योगिक गतिविधियों में सुस्ती की वजह से वाहन ईंधन की मांग में लगातार दूसरे महीने गिरावट आई है। आमतौर पर मानसून के चार माह के दौरान ईंधन की खपत कम रहती है।

देश में सबसे अधिक इस्तेमाल वाले ईंधन डीजल की खपत 1 से 15 अगस्त के दौरान 5.7 प्रतिशत घटकर 26.7 लाख टन रह गई है। जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े में भी ईंधन की खपत में भारी गिरावट आई थी। हालांकि, दूसरे पखवाड़े में मांग कुछ सुधरी थी। मासिक आधार पर देखा जाए, तो डीजल की बिक्री में 9.5 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई है। जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े में डीजल की बिक्री 29.5 लाख टन रही थी।

डीजल की बिक्री आमतौर पर मानसून के महीनों में गिर जाती है क्योंकि बारिश के कारण कृषि क्षेत्र की मांग घट जाती है। अप्रैल और मई में डीजल की खपत क्रमशः 6.7 प्रतिशत और 9.3 प्रतिशत बढ़ी थी। इसकी वजह यह

है कि उस समय खेती के लिए डीजल की मांग में उछाल आया था।

पेट्रोल की मांग 8 प्रतिशत घटी

पेट्रोल की मांग भी अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में पिछले साल की समान अवधि से 8 प्रतिशत घटकर 11.9 लाख टन रह गई है। जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े में पेट्रोल की खपत में 10.5 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई थी, लेकिन दूसरे पखवाड़े में बिक्री में सुधार आया था।

आंकड़ों से पता चलता है कि मासिक आधार पर पेट्रोल की बिक्री 5.2 प्रतिशत घटी है। अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में पेट्रोल की खपत कोविड महामारी से प्रभावित अवधि यानी 1-15 अगस्त, 2021 की तुलना में 20.6 प्रतिशत अधिक रही है। वहीं महामारी-पूर्व की अवधि यानी अगस्त, 2019 की तुलना में 25.6 प्रतिशत अधिक रही है। इससे विमान ईंधन ए.टी.एफ. की मांग अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में 8.1 प्रतिशत बढ़कर 2,90,300 टन पर पहुंच गई है। मासिक आधार पर जेट ईंधन की बिक्री 2.1 प्रतिशत घटी है।



मानसून, औद्योगिक गतिविधियों में सुस्ती से अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में घटी पेट्रोल, डीजल की मांग

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा)। भारत में पेट्रोल और डीजल की खपत अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में घटी है। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की पेट्रोलियम कंपनियों के आंकड़ों से यह जानकारी मिली है। मानसून की वजह से आवाजाही प्रभावित होने तथा औद्योगिक गतिविधियों में सुस्ती की वजह से वाहन ईंधन की मांग में लगातार दूसरे महीने गिरावट आई है। आमतौर पर मानसून के चार माह के दौरान ईंधन की खपत कम रहती है।

देश में सबसे अधिक इस्तेमाल वाले ईंधन डीजल की खपत एक से 15 अगस्त के दौरान 5.7 प्रतिशत घटकर 26.7 लाख टन रह गई है। जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े में भी ईंधन की खपत में भारी गिरावट आई थी। हालांकि, दूसरे पखवाड़े में मांग कुछ सुधरी थी। मासिक आधार पर देखा जाए, तो डीजल की बिक्री में 9.5 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई है। जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े में डीजल की बिक्री 29.5 लाख टन रही थी। डीजल की बिक्री आमतौर पर मानसून के महीनों में गिर जाती है क्योंकि बारिश के कारण कृषि क्षेत्र की मांग घट जाती है।

अप्रैल और मई में डीजल की खपत क्रमशः 6.7 प्रतिशत और 9.3 प्रतिशत बढ़ी थी। इसकी वजह यह है कि उस समय खेती के लिए डीजल की मांग में उछाल आया था। इसके अलावा गर्मी से बचाव के लिए वाहनों में एयर कंडीशनर का इस्तेमाल बढ़ा था। हालांकि, मानसून के आगमन के बाद जून के दूसरे पखवाड़े से डीजल की मांग घटने लगी थी। पेट्रोल की मांग भी अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में पिछले साल की समान अवधि से आठ प्रतिशत घटकर 11.9 लाख टन रह गई है।

जुलाई के पहले पखवाड़े में पेट्रोल की खपत में 10.5 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई थी, लेकिन दूसरे पखवाड़े में बिक्री में सुधार आया था। आंकड़ों से पता चलता है कि मासिक आधार पर पेट्रोल की बिक्री 5.2 प्रतिशत घटी है। अगस्त के पहले पखवाड़े में पेट्रोल की खपत कोविड महामारी से प्रभावित अवधि यानी 1-15 अगस्त, 2021 की तुलना में 20.6 प्रतिशत अधिक रही है। वहीं महामारी-पूर्व की अवधि यानी अगस्त, 2019 की तुलना में 25.6 प्रतिशत अधिक रही है।