

₹23K cr+ GOBARdhan push targets ₹40K cr savings, 10-fold biogas boost

Business Desk

MUMBAI

India unveiled a major ₹23,731 crore push to turn organic waste into domestic energy, targeting a tenfold expansion in compressed biogas output and fuel import savings exceeding ₹40,000 crore.

Launching GOBARdhan in New Delhi on Thursday, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said the programme could contribute over ₹75,000 crore to GDP and generate more than 1.5 lakh jobs.

Capital support and guaranteed purchases could lift production from 0.4 million standard cubic metres daily to 4–6 million, advancing the goal of



increasing natural gas's energy share from 6–7% to 15% by 2030. The scheme processes agricultural residue, cattle dung, press mud, food waste and segregated biodegradable municipal waste into CBG and organic manure.

Capital assistance reaches ₹30 crore per project. Greenfield plants qualify for ₹1.25 crore per tonne of daily capacity; brownfield additions receive half that rate. Biogas upgrades receive ₹0.60 crore per tonne, capped at ₹5 crore.

Assured offtake covers up to 100% of eligible output at ₹2,110 per million British thermal units, approximately ₹98 per kilogram, until March 2036.

City gas procurement obligations increase from 3% in FY27 to 5% from FY29. GAIL oversees nationwide procurement and pooling. By August 2026, 1,908 plants were registered, including 217 commissioned and 339 under construction.

GOBARDhan scheme targets 10-fold CBG output: Puri

PIONEER NEW SERVICE

■ New Delhi

The ₹23,731-crore GOBARDhan scheme aims to drive a 10-fold increase in compressed biogas (CBG) production, save more than ₹40,000 crore in fuel imports, add over ₹75,000 crore to GDP and create more than 1.5 lakh jobs, as the government seeks to turn agricultural and organic waste into a new source of domestic energy.

Speaking at the formal launch of the scheme, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said the scheme provides capital assistance, as well as guaranteed offtake of the renewable fuel produced by processing organic waste such as agricultural residue, animal dung, food waste and other biomass.

Capital support plus guaranteed offtake is likely to lift CBG (essentially methane-rich gas) from current 0.4 million standard cubic metres per day to 4-6 mmscmd, he said, hoping this would help in achieving the target of raising share of natural gas - a cleaner-burning, lower-pol-



Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri along with others unveil the GOBARDhan Handbook during the launch of GOBARDhan Scheme, at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi

PTI

lution fuel — in India's energy basket to 15 per cent by 2030 from current 6-7 per cent.

The scheme is designed to replace about 10 million tonnes of fossil fuel with clean gas, potentially cutting more than 40 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions, while producing around 250 million tonnes of organic

manure for farmers. Puri said the programme would help turn farmers from "Annadatas to also being the Urjadas".

GOBARDhan - Galvanising Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan — will convert agricultural residue, cattle dung, press mud, food waste and segregated biodegradable munici-

pal waste into CBG and organic manure. The CBG can be supplied through city-gas networks for CNG transport and domestic PNG use.

It provides capital assistance of up to ₹30 crore per CBG project across the two eligible capital-support components. For new greenfield plants, assistance is set at ₹1.25 crore per tonne per day (TPD) of eligible CBG capacity. Brownfield projects can receive support at 50 per cent of the applicable greenfield rate for additional capacity created through fresh investment.

Existing biogas plants upgraded to produce CBG can receive ₹0.60 crore per TPD, subject to a ₹5-crore project ceiling.

To make CBG projects more commercially viable, the government is offering producers assured offtake of up to 100 per cent of eligible output, at an administered price of ₹2,110 per million British thermal units — equivalent to about ₹98 per kg. The administered price is set to remain in place until March 2036, providing greater revenue visibility to investors.

Reliance to invest ₹1 lakh crore in Andhra

PIONEER NEW SERVICE

■ Madanapalle

Reliance Industries plans to invest ₹1 lakh crore in Andhra Pradesh to set up compressed biogas plants, creating more than 3 lakh jobs and generating nearly ₹60,000 crore in revenue for the state over the coming decades, the company's executive director Anant M Ambani said on Friday.

Speaking at the foundation stone laying ceremony for the Rayalaseema Horticulture Hub and Indian School of Agriculture in Madanapalle, Ambani said the investment would support the state's transition towards cleaner energy while creating new opportunities for farmers.

"Our kisans, who ensure India's food security, will now strengthen India's energy security too - making



India self-reliant in energy," he said. "That is why Reliance Industries is grateful to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the opportunity to invest Rs 1 lakh crore in the state to set up compressed biogas (CBG) plants."

CBG is a renewable fuel produced by processing organic waste such as agricultural residue, animal dung, food waste and other biomass into methane-rich gas that can be used as a

cleaner alternative to conventional natural gas, including in transport, industry and commercial applications.

Beyond reducing waste and emissions, CBG can help cut dependence on imported fossil fuels, create new markets for agricultural and organic waste, generate rural jobs and income, and support a more circular economy by converting waste into energy and nutrient-rich bio-manure.

GOBARDhan eyes 10-fold increase in CBG output: Puri

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The ₹23,731-crore GOBARDhan scheme aims to drive a 10-fold increase in compressed biogas (CBG) production, save more than ₹40,000 crore in fuel imports, add over ₹75,000 crore to GDP and create more than 1.5 lakh jobs, as the government seeks to turn agricultural and organic waste into a new source of domestic energy.

Speaking at the formal launch of the scheme, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said the scheme provides capital assistance as well as guaranteed offtake of the renewable fuel made by processing organic waste such as agricultural residue, animal dung, food waste and other biomass.

Capital support plus guaranteed offtake is likely to lift CBG (essentially methane-rich gas) from current 0.4 million standard cubic metre per day to 4-6 mmscmd, he said, hoping this would help in achieving the target of raising share of natural gas – a cleaner-burning, lower-pollution fuel – in energy basket to 15% by 2030 from the current 6-7%.

Replace fossil fuel

The scheme is designed to replace about 10 million tonne of fossil fuel with clean gas, potentially cutting more than 40 million tonne of CO₂ emissions, while producing around 250 million tonne of organic manure for farmers.



Puri launches the GOBARDhan Scheme, at Bharat Mandapam, in New Delhi. PIB VIA PTI

Mr. Puri said the programme would help turn farmers from “Annadatas to also being the Urjadatas”.

The scheme provides capital assistance of up to ₹30 crore per CBG project across the two eligible capital-support components. For greenfield plants, assistance is set at ₹1.25 crore per tonne per day (TPD) of eligible CBG capacity. Brownfield projects can receive support at 50% of the applicable greenfield rate for additional capacity created through fresh investment.

Plant upgrades

Existing biogas plants upgraded to make CBG can get ₹0.60 crore/TPD, subject to a ₹5-crore project ceiling. To make CBG projects commercially viable, the Centre is offering producers assured offtake of up to 100% eligible output at an administered price of ₹2,110 per million British thermal units - equivalent to about ₹98/ kg.

Petrol, diesel demand rise in Sept; LPG consumption falls nearly 9 pc: Report

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
New Delhi, 2 October

India's consumption of petrol and diesel increased in September, even as LPG demand continued to weaken amid supply disruptions and efforts to reduce dependence on imported cooking gas, preliminary data from the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC) showed.

Petrol sales rose 7.21 per cent year-on-year (YoY) to 3.64 million tonnes (mt) in September, compared with the corresponding period last year. Diesel demand, which accounts for the largest share of petroleum product consumption in the country, increased 4.86 per cent to 7.12 mt.

In contrast, LPG consumption

declined 9.15 per cent YoY to 2.64 mt during the month.

The decline in LPG demand comes against the backdrop of continued supply challenges linked to the West Asia crisis, which began in late February. India relies significantly on imported LPG, with a substantial portion of supplies moving through the Strait of Hormuz. Disruptions along the key shipping route have affected the availability of the cooking fuel and prompted measures to curb dependence on imports.

The government has also been encouraging a shift towards piped natural gas (PNG), particularly in areas where the network is accessible. Incentives have been extended to city gas distribution companies to expand PNG connections

and encourage eligible LPG users to make the switch.

The measures, along with tighter LPG availability during the crisis, have contributed to a sustained decline in consumption in recent months.

Demand for aviation turbine fuel (ATF), meanwhile, remained broadly unchanged in September. ATF consumption stood at around 720,000 tonnes, almost the same as the level recorded a year earlier. The broader consumption trend during the first six months of the financial year also showed stronger demand for transport fuels. Between April and September 2026, petrol consumption increased 7 per cent YoY to 22.67 mt. Diesel demand climbed 4.85 per cent to 47.89 mt during the period.

OPEC+ delays capacity review crucial for setting 2027 oil quotas

It was due to be completed by the end of September 2026 but is now likely to finish by mid-November

AGENCIES

London/Moscow, October 2

An OPEC+ review to determine members' 2027 oil output quotas has been delayed after the US-Israeli war on Iran disrupted projects aimed at expanding production capacity across the Middle East, creating uncertainty over future output potential, two sources familiar with the matter said.

OPEC+, comprising the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries



(OPEC), Russia and other allies, ordered the production capacity review for all members in late 2025 ahead of setting 2027 quotas. The review was due to be completed by the end

CLOSER LOOK

- » US petroleum consultant DeGolyer and MacNaughton is assessing capacity for OPEC+ members except Russia, Iran and Venezuela, which are under US sanctions
- » The consultant is expected to submit its report to OPEC by mid-November, allowing the group to consider the findings at its next group-wide meeting in late November

of September 2026 but is now expected to finish by mid-November, the sources said.

At its last group-wide meeting in June, OPEC affirmed "the importance

of completing the maximum sustainable production capacity (MSC) assessment for all (member) countries to be used as reference for 2027 production baselines".

US petroleum consultant DeGolyer and MacNaughton is assessing capacity for OPEC+ members except Russia, Iran and Venezuela, which are under US sanctions, the sources said. The consultant is expected to submit its report to OPEC by mid-November, allowing the group to consider the findings at its next group-wide meeting in late November.

The Middle East conflict has delayed projects that were expected to boost production capacity in some

OPEC+ countries, complicating estimates of how much oil they will be able to sustainably produce. Not all countries have submitted the data required for the review, the sources said.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak was reported by Russian state news agency TASS as saying on Friday that OPEC+ countries continue to assess maximum production capacities.

The review is politically sensitive as capacity estimates are likely to influence

individual members' output allocations. Countries with lower assessed capacity could face pressure for lower quotas, while producers that have expanded capacity may seek higher allocations.

The United Arab Emirates, which had pushed for a higher OPEC+ quota to reflect rising production capacity, left the alliance in May.

Iraq is also seeking a higher quota and has considered leaving OPEC, sources told *Reuters* in June.

G7 agree to release 100 million barrels of oil, including diesel

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Washington, October 2

The Group of Seven industrial nations said they agreed to release 100 million barrels of oil, starting with “substantial” amounts of diesel after the fuel recently hit record high prices in the United States, where President Donald Trump said the diesel release would hap-

pen “immediately.”

Trump and his Republican Party face pressure to address surging prices ahead of November’s mid-term elections.

Trump announced the action Friday on social media, saying, “Europe has just agreed to release a massive amount of their heavily stocked Diesel Oil. The process will begin immedi-

ately.” The president faces lagging approval ratings as the Iran war and his trade battles have increased US prices for oil and other goods.

Gas prices in the US and abroad have soared during the war, a cost Trump has repeatedly said is worth it for making sure Iran does not obtain nuclear weapons.

DECRIMINALISES LICENCE BREACHES

Govt suggests tougher penalties for serious offences in petroleum sector

OUR CORRESPONDENT
New Delhi, October 2

The government has proposed decriminalising regulatory breaches such as violations of petroleum licence terms and introducing a civil-penalty regime, while retaining or strengthening criminal penalties for serious offences involving public safety, critical infrastructure and unauthorised petroleum operations.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has sought public and industry comments on draft amendments to the Petroleum Act, 1934, proposing a major overhaul of the law's provisions dealing with offences, penalties and enforcement.

The Petroleum Act, 1934, was enacted to consolidate and amend the law relating to the import, transport, storage, production, refining and blending of petroleum.

"It is proposed to amend the Petroleum Act, 1934, through amendment... to achieve the objectives of de-criminalisation of regulatory issues such as breach of terms and conditions of licenses and provides for a mechanism for imposition of civil penalty through an administrative



mechanism," the ministry said, seeking comments on the draft amendments.

The proposed amendments "provide adequate deterrence against specific offences relating to various aspects of petroleum operations", it added.

Under the proposed amendments, breaches of licence terms would be dealt with through an administrative adjudication mechanism rather than criminal prosecution. An adjudicating officer could impose a civil penalty of up to Rs 2.5 crore for a first breach and up to Rs 5 crore for a second or subsequent breach.

The adjudicating officer could also direct a licence holder to take or refrain from taking specific actions to prevent or remedy a breach, while recommending suspension,

revocation or curtailment of a licence to the licensing authority.

The proposed framework would, however, retain criminal liability where a licensing breach endangers public safety or causes grievous hurt or death, with such proceedings continuing under other applicable laws.

The draft also proposes tougher penalties for several serious offences. Undertaking a licensed petroleum activity without the required licence could attract imprisonment of up to three years, a fine of up to Rs 25 crore, or both.

A continuing violation could attract an additional fine of up to Rs 10 lakh for every day the contravention continues.

Fraudulently or dishonestly obtaining a petroleum licence through misrepres-

KEY POINTS

» The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has sought public and industry comments on draft amendments to the Petroleum Act, 1934

» Undertaking a licensed petroleum activity without the required licence could attract imprisonment of up to three years, a fine of up to Rs 25 crore, or both

sentation or impersonation could attract imprisonment of up to five years, a fine, or both.

Damaging or destroying petroleum facilities, pilfering petroleum or endangering a person's safety could attract imprisonment of up to five years or a fine of up to Rs 15 crore for a first offence. A second or subsequent offence could attract imprisonment of up to seven years or a fine of up to Rs 25 crore.

The draft also proposes imprisonment of up to 10 years for causing damage to designated "critical petroleum infrastructure", along with a fine of up to Rs 25 crore or the cost of the loss, destruction or damage suffered by such infrastructure, whichever is less.

The central government would have the power to

notify infrastructure or areas used for petroleum production, import, storage, refining, transportation or blending as critical petroleum infrastructure.

The amendments also provide for penalties for obstructing authorised officers during inspections and failing to report petroleum-related accidents. Repeat violations would attract higher penalties.

For breaches involving false or misleading information in returns, reports, books of account or other documents, the proposed law would provide for civil penalties following an inquiry based on principles of natural justice.

The Act, which governs the import, transport, storage, production, refining and blending of petroleum, was last amended in 1970. Its penalties then were a maximum fine of 1,000 rupees, or one month's simple imprisonment, for a first offence. The ministry said the penalty, though significant in the 1970s, "is now insignificant".

It cites petrol prices rising from Rs 0.90 per litre in 1970 to between Rs 95 and 105 now, and refineries growing from six with 18.4 million tonnes per annum of capacity to 23 with more than 258 million.



LNG shipments via Hormuz highest since war in Sept

The number of liquefied natural gas (LNG) cargoes exiting the Strait of Hormuz rose in September to its highest monthly level since the United States (US)-Israeli war on Iran began, data from analytics firms, shows, despite persistent security worries and uncertainty.

A total of 19 LNG cargoes were shipped through the key waterway in September, made up of 13 from Qatar and six from the

United Arab Emirates, S&P Global Energy said.

That compares with the June figure of 15, when a pact between the US and Iran had started to take effect, said Eric Yep, a senior principal analyst at S&P.

"LNG transits through the Strait of Hormuz accelerated in the second half of September and if this is maintained into October, we could see full-month transits recover to 25 per cent of pre-war levels." REUTERS

Oil prices drop as Europe to release diesel reserves

Crude slips below \$100 mark

REUTERS
2 October

Oil prices fell more than \$3 and European gasoil futures dropped over 4 per cent on Friday after European countries agreed to release additional diesel and crude stock, easing concerns over tight global energy supplies.

Brent was down \$3.06, or 3 per cent, at \$99.25 a barrel at 1409 GMT. West Texas Intermediate dropped \$3.95, or 4.25 per cent, to \$88.92 a barrel.

Both benchmark contracts were poised for a weekly decline, with Brent down about 4.7 per cent so far for the week and WTI around 3.7 per cent lower. European gasoil futures, a benchmark for diesel prices, fell about 4.3 per cent to \$1,386.75 a metric tonne.

"The whole energy complex trades lower, led by gasoil and ultra-low sulfur diesel (ULSD), as EU countries discuss releasing fuel and crude stockpiles to ease acute market tightness and help avert a potential US diesel export ban," Ole Hansen, head of commodity strategy at Saxo Bank, said.

European Union countries on Friday discussed a French proposal to release additional



diesel stockpiles in response to US pressure on European nations to unleash more supplies, a source familiar with details of the discussion told *Reuters* on Friday.

In a call on Friday, EU countries' governments discussed a French proposal for European countries to release 50 million barrels of diesel, and for International Energy Agency members to release 50 million barrels of crude oil, the source said.

"This highlights that the main stress in the energy market is no longer crude availability, with West Asia flows recovering, but rather refined product supply, constrained by reduced refinery capacity and output across West Asia and Russia," Hansen said.

Prices settled higher in the previous session after Reuters reported that Chinese refiners had suspended oil product exports for October as Beijing looked to preserve

domestic stocks.

Meanwhile, the Wall Street Journal reported that the US was sending a third aircraft carrier and up to 10,000 more troops to West Asia as President Donald Trump weighed resuming strikes on Iran after the US midterm elections.

Hamad Hussain, senior climate and commodities economist at Capital Economics said another release of oil stocks "could be enough to help tip the overall market back into a slight surplus if the recent pick-up in flows from the Middle East is sustained".

"The gradual recovery in oil flows through West Asia Gulf (including pipeline bypass) has picked up pace of late," Barclays said in a note.

However, the bank said physical market fundamentals remained strong, with inventories continuing to be drawn, and prompt cargoes commanding steep premiums over forward prices.

The bank raised its fourth-quarter Brent forecast by \$20 a barrel to \$115 and lifted its 2026 forecast to \$100 a barrel.

Elsewhere, Ukraine has struck oil facilities in Russia's Samara and Volgograd regions over the past 24 hours, President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said on social media on Friday.

Opec+ delays oil capacity review amid war disruption

London/Moscow: An Opec+ review to help to determine members' 2027 oil output quotas has been delayed



AP

after the US-Israeli war on Iran disrupted projects to expand capacity across West Asia, throwing estimates of future production potential into uncertainty, said two sources close to the matter. The deadline has slipped, they said.

REUTERS

Inflation surges, rate hike looms

Mkts await crucial Oct 7 RBI MPC policy verdict

FPJ News Service

MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India may raise its repo rate by at least 25 basis points next week as SBI Research warns of an inflation surge above 6.5%, strengthening the case for monetary tightening.

In its report released on Friday, SBI said the balance of risks had tilted decisively towards an increase at the Monetary Policy Committee's 5-7 October meeting.

A quarter-point rise would lift the benchmark from 5.25% to 5.50%, potentially increasing borrowing costs, curbing credit-financed consumption and prompting investors to reassess interest-sensitive equities and bond valuations.

SBI expects consumer price inflation to reach around 5.65% in Sept, exceed 6.5% in Oct and Nov, then ease below 6% in early 2027.

The hawkish assessment reflects broadening price pressures, deteriorating global macroeconomic conditions, changing liquidity dynamics and renewed risk repricing across financial markets. Retail inflation accelerated to 4.82% in Aug from 4.45% in July. Inflation diffusion intensified: 51 commodities accounted for



90% of CPI's weighted inflation contribution in August, against 22 in January. Rupee weakness compounds imported inflation risks.

SBI attributed currency pressure to dollar strength, foreign-exchange demand from oil marketing companies and corporates, and persistent foreign portfolio investor selling. Agricultural supply constraints threaten price pressures.

Southwest monsoon rainfall stood at 87% of the long-period average, while 43% of districts received deficient rainfall. Strong El Niño conditions and below-normal Oct rainfall could undermine rabi crops, aggravate food inflation and erode household purchasing power.

The MPC unanimously held the repo rate at 5.25% during 3-5 Aug, retaining a neutral stance while awaiting clarity

SBI forecasts inflation above 6.5% in October and November, strengthening expectations of monetary tightening at the RBI's upcoming policy review

on inflation's direction and composition. SBI expects the RBI to raise its FY27 GDP growth forecast by 30 bps from 6.7%, and its inflation projection by 20 basis points from 5%. The decision pits inflation containment against consumption resilience, with markets awaiting the committee's verdict.

CREDIBILITY HANGS IN BALANCE

The deeper question is whether policymakers can prevent temporary shocks from becoming entrenched through wage demands and corporate pricing decisions. Clear communication will matter as much as action. A credible response could reduce uncertainty; hesitation risks allowing defensive behaviour to harden into a more persistent cycle of economic adjustment costs.

Reliance to invest ₹1 lakh cr for CBG plants in Andhra

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Madanapalle (Andhra Pradesh), October 2

RELIANCE INDUSTRIES PLANS to invest ₹1 lakh crore in Andhra Pradesh to set up compressed biogas (CBG) plants, creating more than 300,000 jobs and generating nearly ₹60,000 crore in revenue for the state over the coming decades, the company's Executive Director Anant M Ambani said on Friday.

Speaking at the foundation stone laying ceremony for the Rayalaseema Horticulture Hub and Indian School of Agriculture in Madanapalle, Ambani said the investment would support the state's transition towards cleaner energy while creating new opportunities for farmers.

"Our kisans, who ensure India's food security, will now strengthen India's energy security too — making India self-reliant in energy," he said. "That is why Reliance Industries is grateful to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for the opportunity



Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu with RIL ED Anant Ambani in Annamayya district, Friday PTI

to invest ₹1 lakh crore in the state to set up compressed biogas plants."

CBG is a cleaner alternative to natural gas, which is produced by processing organic waste such as agricultural residue, animal dung, food waste and other biomass into methane-rich gas.

Ambani also said Reliance was investing in clean-energy projects in Rayalaseema and pursuing opportunities in advanced manufacturing.

G7 to release 100 mn barrels of oil

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

AS diesel shortages have hit supplies and pushed up fuel prices, the Group of Seven (G7) industrial nations on Friday announced the release of up to 100 million barrels of crude oil and diesel from emergency reserves to ease soaring prices.

Following the announcement, oil prices fell as much as \$2. Brent was down \$1.80, or 1.76%, at \$100.50 a barrel, while West Texas Intermediate dropped \$2.02, or 2.18%, to \$90.85 a barrel.

The move is also expected to help calm the Indian stock market, which has recorded its longest losing streak in 25 years



amid pressure from high crude oil prices.

The decision came after US President Donald Trump urged European allies, particularly Germany and France, to immediately release emergency diesel reserves or face a potential US diesel export ban.

Trump is under pressure to address surging prices ahead of the midterm elections.

The G7 said the reserves

would be released immediately over four months. The release will be coordinated through the International Energy Agency.

Sharing details of the move, Trump said: "Europe has just agreed to release a massive amount of their heavily stocked Diesel Oil. The process will begin immediately."

Diesel and crude oil prices have been rising amid the deepening US-Iran conflict. Diesel shortage has also been linked to Ukrainian drone strikes on Russian oil-processing facilities. Subsequently, Russia imposed curbs on diesel exports.

China has also restricted fuel-product exports by state-owned refiners.



Election issue

Soaring fuel price has become a source of concern for the Trump administration as it could affect voters ahead of the November midterm polls

Hindustan Times 100

G7 to release 100mn barrels of oil after pressure from Trump

Bloomberg & Reuters

letters@hindustantimes.com

PARIS: The Group of Seven (G7) nations and its partners plan to release as much as 100 million barrels of emergency oil and diesel stocks, capping a week of mounting pressure from the Trump administration to bring down soaring fuel prices.

The release, coordinated by the International Energy Agency (IEA), will take place over the next four months, with an initial focus on diesel, French President Emmanuel Macron said on Friday. The move is intended to “send a clear signal to the markets,” he said.

European diesel prices and Brent crude futures slumped after the news. European diesel’s premium over crude oil, a closely watched measure of market strength, slumped as low as \$69 a barrel, down from \$76.77 on Thursday, fair-value data compiled by Bloomberg show.

Brent was down \$1.80, or 1.76%, at \$100.50 a barrel at 10:19pm (India time). West Texas Intermediate dropped \$2.02, or 2.18%, to \$90.85 a barrel. For the week, Brent was down about 2.84% so far with WTI around 1.54% lower.

The deal followed a US threat to restrict diesel exports unless



A motorist fills a vehicle with fuel at a petrol station in London, on Friday. REUTERS

European countries made more fuel available. Such a move would threaten an essential source of supply for a continent heavily reliant on imports.

Diesel is crucial for transportation, farming and industry, and prices have surged as the wars in Iran and Ukraine disrupt supplies.

The soaring cost has become a political concern for President Donald Trump ahead of November’s US midterm elections. Trump said in a social media post on Friday that he welcomed the latest action.

“Europe has just agreed to release a massive amount of

their heavily stocked Diesel Oil,” Trump said. “The process will begin immediately.”

The IEA already coordinated a 400 million-barrel reserve release in March soon after the Iran war broke out, but Trump has criticised Europe for not making those barrels available quickly enough. The pressure intensified this week, prompting emergency talks among European officials on Thursday as the European Union sought a coordinated response to Washington’s demands.

About a third of the original release had yet to reach the market, IEA executive director Fatih Birol said on Tuesday. As of that day, Germany had yet to release about 77% of its pledged stocks, while Spain had made available only about a third of its commitment. The US, by contrast, approved another 40 million barrels from its Strategic Petroleum Reserve this week, completing its contribution to the March agreement.

The latest release will include barrels pledged but not yet made available under the March agreement, according to people familiar with the matter. The plan envisages a “substantial” release of diesel stocks within 20 days, while the IEA will discuss additional diesel releases if necessary.

OPEC+ delays oil capacity review after Iran war disrupts expansion plans

Reuters
London/Moscow

An OPEC+ review to help determine members' 2027 oil output quotas has been delayed after the US-Israeli war on Iran disrupted projects to expand capacity across West Asia, throwing estimates of future production potential into uncertainty, two sources close to the matter said.

OPEC+, which comprises the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries plus Russia and other allies, had ordered its production capacity review for all members in late 2025 before setting 2027 quotas, with completion due by the end of September 2026.

The deadline has slipped, the sources said, with one saying the review is now expected to be completed by mid-November.

The OPEC producer group did not respond immediately to a request for comment.



UNCERTAINTY AHEAD. The West Asia conflict has delayed projects that were due to boost production capacity in some OPEC+ countries

At its last group-wide meeting in June, OPEC said it affirmed "the importance of completing the maximum sustainable production capacity (MSC) assessment for all (member) countries to be used as reference for 2027 production baselines".

CAPACITY UNCERTAINTY US petroleum consultant DeGolyer and MacNaughton is working on capacity estimates for OPEC+ members except Russia, Iran and Venezuela because they are under US sanctions, sources

told Reuters in late 2025.

DeGolyer won't submit its report to OPEC until mid-November, one of the sources said.

That timeline would still allow OPEC+ to consider the findings at its next group-wide meeting in late November.

DeGolyer and MacNaughton did not respond immediately to a request for comment.

The West Asia conflict has delayed projects that were due to boost production capacity in some OPEC+ coun-

tries, complicating estimates of how much oil they will be capable of pumping.

Not all countries have submitted the data required for the review, the sources said without naming the countries.

The uncertainty complicates a politically sensitive exercise for OPEC+, with production capacity estimates likely to influence how much individual members are allowed to pump.

The review aims to provide an updated independent assessment of how much oil each member can produce sustainably, a key metric used in negotiations over output targets.

Delays to planned capacity additions could affect assumptions underpinning those assessments and potentially, members' future quotas.

Countries whose assessed capacity is lower could face pressure for lower quotas while producers that have expanded capacity might seek higher allocations.

No supply restrictions on dealers: Nayara Energy

Rishi Ranjan Kala

New Delhi

Nayara Energy, which accounts for roughly 7 per cent of India's petrol pump network, said that no supply restrictions have been placed by its dealers.

The Rosneft-backed private sector oil marketing company (OMC) assured that it is maintaining adequate stocks at its more than 7,100 retail outlets.

"No supply restrictions have been imposed on our dealers across our retail network. We remain committed to serving the Indian market and meeting the demand for fuel across the length and breadth of the country," the company, which owns and operates the 20 million tonnes per annum Vadinar refinery, told *businessline*.

Nayara Energy continues to maintain fuel availability

across its nationwide retail network and is taking appropriate measures to ensure seamless access for customers in line with the current demand patterns, it added.

"As the country's largest private sector fuel retailer, our only priority is to ensure optimum supplies to over 7,000 stations and other channels, including bulk customers," the company assured customers.

Nayara's response comes after Petroleum Secretary Neeraj Mittal said on Thursday that OMCs were not allowed to cap fuel sales.

"Nobody is allowed to put a cap on sales, so if they are putting a cap on sale, we will take it up. We will tell them that it is not acceptable, it is not done. In the past also, letters have been issued. So the same thing applies even today. There is no change in the government's view on this," Mittal said.

ENERGY DEMAND

SEPT LPG CONSUMPTION DECLINES 9%, REMAINS BELOW PRE-WAR LEVELS

**Apr-Sept LPG
consumption
falls by 15%**

LPG consumption during April-September fell 14.93% to 13,797 TMT from 16,218 TMT in the corresponding period of 2025-26. This means consumption was 2.42 million tonne lower during the first six months of the current financial year than in the year-ago period

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

EVEN as the West Asia conflict enters its eighth month, India's LPG consumption continues to remain below pre-war levels, falling 9.15% year-on-year in September 2026, according to data released by the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC).

LPG consumption stood at 2,636 thousand metric tonne (TMT) in September, down from 2,902 TMT in the same month last year. In September 2024, consumption stood at 2,725 TMT.

The decline was sharper on a cumulative basis. LPG consumption during April-September fell 14.93% to 13,797 TMT from 16,218 TMT in the corresponding period of 2025-26. This means consumption was 2.42 million tonne lower during the first six months of the current financial year than in the year-ago period.

The fall in LPG consumption comes amid continued disruption to supplies via the Strait of Hormuz due to the West Asia conflict involving Iran, Israel and the US. The Strait of Hormuz is a key route for global energy supplies, and the disruption has forced India to diversify its sources of LPG, crude oil and LNG.

One factor behind the decline in LPG consumption could be increased adoption of PNG by households and industries during the West Asia crisis. To offset the fall in LPG demand, the government issued various directives to accelerate the rollout of PNG connections across the country.



FPIs pull out ₹35,860 cr in September

Foreign portfolio investors pulled ₹35,860 crore from Indian equities in September as global uncertainty, high crude oil prices and elevated US interest rates prompted a retreat after two months of buying.

A weak rupee, firm US bond yields and oil supply risks linked to the Iran-US conflict added to the pressure. Profit booking after July-August inflows and a shift towards AI-led North Asian markets also contributed.

Selling continued on October 1, with FPIs withdrawing another ₹9,232 crore, according to CDSL data. The September reversal followed investments of ₹20,200 crore in July and ₹29,630 crore in August. Equity withdrawals in 2026 have reached about ₹2.7 lakh crore, compared with ₹1.66 lakh crore during 2025. Domestic SIP inflows helped absorb foreign selling, while India's resilient economy and expectations of stronger earnings offered support. FPIs also withdrew ₹20,726 crore from debt markets in September, extending the sell-off beyond equities amid global uncertainty.

—FPJ News Service

RELIEF BILLS MOUNT | Households, industry, govt face tougher choices FUEL MAY REDRAW BUDGETS

Palazhi Ashok Kumar

MUMBAI

India may soon face a harder choice: let households and businesses absorb higher energy costs, or spend more to cushion the blow.

The Middle East conflict has added uncertainty to fuel supplies and transport costs. Further escalation could make relief more expensive just as families face tighter budgets and industry struggles to protect margins.

An IMF assessment covering 175 economies and more than 1,200 announced measures shows governments adjusting—moving from broad subsidies and tax relief towards targeted assistance, price changes and steps to reduce demand.

RELIEF WITHOUT AN END DATE

The report, made available to *The Free Press Journal* on Friday, covers announcements from late February to mid-September. IMF officials Era Dabla-Norris, Antonio C. David, Daria Zakharova and Aleksandra Zdzienicka emphasise targeting support.

About half of recent measures identified beneficiaries, compared with roughly 30% initially. Yet fewer specified expiry dates, raising the risk that temporary relief becomes a lasting spending commitment.

Debt, inflation, foreign-exchange reserves and administrative capacity shaped responses. More indebted economies tended to allow price increases; higher inflation encouraged



interest-rate rises. The assessment used AI-assisted searches reviewed by experts and validated by country teams. Implementation monitoring will follow. Announced assistance, therefore, should not be confused with support already delivered.

UNCERTAINTY BEYOND OIL SUPPLIES

Wednesday's flydubai incident has added to regional unease. Israeli officials said passengers and crew thwarted a co-pilot's alleged attempt to

Wednesday's flydubai incident adds fresh uncertainty, as further West Asia escalation could swell India's fuel and relief bills

crash a Tel Aviv-bound aircraft after he stabbed the captain. Other pilots aboard helped land it in Tabuk, Saudi Arabia. Senior economists and oil traders told *The Free Press Journal* that the incident could further unsettle the energy market. The motive remains unclear; Iranian involvement has not been established.

Separately, the Saudi-led coalition said Houthis attacked a Medina power station, disabling one transformer without disrupting the network. A Houthi military source denied responsibility.

No connection between the incidents has been established. Further regional escalation could nevertheless disrupt airspace and shipping, increasing fuel, freight and insurance costs.

THE SQUEEZE REACHES BUSINESSES

India's August wholesale fuel-and-power inflation reached 22.93%. Wholesale inflation stood at 9.92%, manufactured-product inflation at 8.37%, retail inflation at 4.82% and food inflation at 5.95%.

These figures do not isolate the conflict's impact. Persistent energy costs

threaten aviation, freight, chemicals and manufacturing margins. Businesses need more working capital and face uncertain procurement, while households have less left for other purchases.

A SHARPER CHOICE FOR DELHI

The IMF finds that indebted, exposed economies reduced household transfers while retaining producer subsidies, potentially reflecting administrative constraints.

For India, stronger beneficiary records, reliable payments and clear expiry dates could make assistance more effective. If energy costs remain elevated, the central challenge will be sustaining essential protection without allowing temporary relief to become a permanent fiscal burden.

CONFIDENCE COULD DECIDE THE COST

Fear can change spending before it changes supply. Travellers may cancel flights and cruises, families postpone holidays, and businesses defer trips and orders—weakening tourism revenues and fuel demand.

Panic buying and stockpiling could briefly push demand the other way. If confidence returns, travel and consumption could rebound.

Yet disrupted supplies and higher freight and insurance costs could keep energy expensive even as demand falls. For India, the risk lies in that uneven response: weaker business activity without cheaper fuel.

OPEC+ Delays Oil Capacity Review

An OPEC+ review to help to determine members' 2027 oil output quotas has been delayed after the US-Israeli war on Iran disrupted projects to expand capacity across West Asia, throwing estimates of future production potential into uncertainty, said two sources.

OPEC+, which comprises the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries plus Russia and other allies, had ordered its production capacity review for all members in late 2025 before setting 2027 quotas, with completion due by the end of September 2026.

The deadline has slipped, the sources said, with one saying the review is now expected to be comple-

ted by mid-November.

The OPEC producer group did not respond immediately to a request for comment.



This throws estimates of future production potential into deep uncertainty

the data required for the review, the sources said without naming the countries. **Reuters**

The West Asia conflict has delayed projects that were due to boost production capacity in some OPEC+ countries, complicating estimates of how much oil they will be capable of pumping. Not all countries have submitted

Saudi Hikes Flow via Key Pipeline

Saudi Arabia has raised oil flows through its East-West pipeline to more than 80% of capacity, with volumes available for exports from west coast reaching wartime highs.

State-run Saudi Aramco is pumping close to 6 million barrels a day through the key pipeline, said a source. After accounting for supplies to refineries on west coast, the company now has about 4.5 million barrels a day of flows available for exports.

Bloomberg

G7, Allies to Release Emergency Stocks of Diesel and Crude

About 100 million barrels to hit mkts after Trump applies pressure on Europe

The Group of Seven nations and its partners are to release as much as 100 million barrels of emergency oil and diesel stocks amid pressure from the Trump administration to quell rising fuel prices.

The release, being coordinated by the International Energy Agency, will take place over the next four months, Emmanuel Macron, France's president and the current chair of the G7, said on Friday. The G7 would like to trigger a drop in fuel prices, he added. **European diesel prices and Brent crude futures slumped after the news.**

Brent was down \$1.80, or 1.76%, at \$100.50 a barrel at 1649 GMT. West Texas Intermediate dropped \$2.02, or 2.18%, to \$90.85 a barrel.

The decision came after the US floated the possibility of a debilitating diesel-export ban if European countries didn't release more supplies. Such a move would threaten a crucial source of supply for the continent, which leans on imports to cover a production shortfall.

The IEA already coordinated a



plan to release 400 million barrels in March soon after the Iran war broke out, but US President Donald Trump has criticised Europe for not making those barrels available fast enough. A subsequent G7 statement suggested that the 100 million barrels may include barrels that have not yet been made available under the March release.

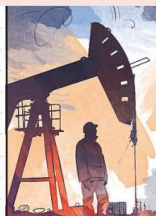
"We have all committed together to releasing these strategic reserves in the proportions I mentioned, with a focus on diesel. And we are all committed to ensuring there are no export bans, and President Trump, in particular, was very clear on this point," Macron said.

Trump said that he welcomed the latest action. **Agencies**

Crude Reality

Imports from major suppliers
(thousand barrels per day) in Sept:

Russia: 1,872
Iraq: 525
Saudi Arabia: 517
UAE: 438
Kuwait: 335
Venezuela: 196
Nigeria: 137
Oman: 132
US: 125
Qatar: 105



BYPASSING HORMUZ BOTTLENECK

Crude Imports Touch Year-High in Sept on Strong Gulf Supplies

Sanjeev Choudhary

New Delhi: India's crude oil imports scaled a year-high of 5.26 million barrels a day (mbd) in September, driven by a surprise surge in Gulf supplies.

Iraq emerged as the second-largest supplier, behind Russia, for the first time since the US-Iran conflict began in February. The sharp increase in volumes moving through the Strait of Hormuz has been enabled by a workaround adopted by Gulf producers and traders, raising questions about whether Iran's control over the waterway is weakening.

Dozens of large crude carriers are now crossing the Strait of Hormuz with their Automatic Identification System (AIS) transponders switched off, before transferring their cargo through ship-to-ship (STS) operations in UAE and Omani waters. Other vessels then carry the crude onward to customers, while the original carriers return to Gulf terminals for another run. The restoration of Gulf supplies has come as a relief to Indian refiners, many of which are configured to process Middle Eastern crude.



Iraq emerges as the second largest supplier for the first time since US-Iran conflict began in February

"Increased Middle East barrels availability not only helps restore some of the lost supply but also provides access to crude grades with relatively strong middle-distillate yields, which align well with India's domestic product demand slate," said Nikhil Dubey, lead analyst, refining at commodity analytics firm Kpler. The increased availability of Gulf crude is particularly important following the recent passage of the Graham Bill, which empowers the US president to impose tariffs of up to 100% on India and other buyers of Russian oil.

"Ample Middle East barrels availability provides Indian refiners with additional sourcing optionality should they need to reduce their exposure to Russian barrels," Dubey said. Saudi Arabia, Iraq, the UAE, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar accounted for 39% of India's total crude imports in September, according to Kpler. Iraq supplied 525,000 bpd, followed by Saudi Arabia at 517,000 bpd and the UAE at 438,000 bpd. The biggest surprise came from Kuwait, which supplied 335,000 bpd, its highest volume in a year.

Supplies from Iraq and Kuwait had nearly disappeared from India's import slate for months after the start of the Iran war on February 28. National oil companies in the Gulf, along with some global traders, are arranging ships and taking the risk of crossing the Strait of Hormuz even as some attacks on vessels continue to be reported. Saudi Arabia's crucial East-West pipeline, which was attacked by the Houthis in September, has also resumed operations and begun loading crude at the Red Sea port of Yanbu.

As prices rise, G7 agrees to release 100mn barrels of oil

Washington: The Group of Seven industrial nations agreed to release 100 million barrels of oil, starting with “substantial” amounts of diesel, after fuel prices in the US hit record highs. President Donald Trump said the diesel release would happen “immediately”.

Trump and his Republican Party face pressure to address surging prices ahead of Nov’s midterms. Trump announced the move on Friday on social media, saying, “Europe has just agreed to release a massive amount of their heavily stocked Diesel Oil. The process will begin immediately.”

The national average price of diesel in the US stood at \$6.37 a gallon on Friday, according to AAA, after hitting a record \$6.52 on Sep 22.

Trump spoke overnight with French President Emmanuel Macron, the G7 chair, about rising fuel prices and the availability of petroleum products, according to the French Embassy in the US. Macron then chaired a video conference of G7 leaders on Friday to discuss the issue. France holds the rotating G7 presidency and announced the decision. —AP



President Emmanuel Macron (R) speaks as France’s Economy, Finance and Industry Minister Roland Lescure looks on after a video conference with G7 leaders in Paris on Friday.

Diesel cost in UK tops £2/ltr

British motorists face higher pump prices after the average cost of diesel climbed to a record £2 a litre. The price has risen 40.5% since late February. The RAC motoring group said on Friday that the average price had reached 200.01p a litre, taking the cost of filling an average family car to £110, nearly £32 more than before the Iran war in Feb.

ENERGY SECURITY

HEAT PUMPS CAN REPLACE MUCH OF THE IMPORTED OIL AND GAS BURNT SIMPLY TO PRODUCE HEAT

Time for a heat pump mission

EVERY YEAR, INDIA spends hundreds of billions of dollars to import crude oil and natural gas. In the last financial year, the net oil and gas import bill was \$117.5 billion, roughly equal to the gross state domestic product of Punjab. Oil and gas imports, therefore, do not merely drain foreign exchange; they also expose the Indian economy to global price shocks and geopolitical risks, which we have experienced vividly in the last few months because of the US-Iran conflict.

There is now a broad consensus on the need to reduce this import dependence and make India more self-sufficient in energy. However, the policy conversation on reducing this dependence largely revolves around the visible frontiers of the energy transition — electric vehicles, green hydrogen, ethanol, and solar parks. But a large and largely ignored share of imported fuel is burnt for something far more mundane: heat. Diesel and furnace-oil boilers generating steam in factories, LPG and piped gas heating water in hotels and hospitals, and gas-fired ovens and dryers in automobile plants are all part of this hidden energy economy. In fact, about 40% of the energy used in Indian industry goes into generating heat — hot water, steam, and hot air.

For all this heat, a proven and commercially available technology can slash fuel use starting today. This technology is the heat pump — and it is perhaps the lowest-hanging fruit in India's energy transition.

A heat pump does not generate heat; it moves it. It extracts warmth from the air, ground, or industrial waste heat and delivers it at useful temperatures. For every unit of electricity it consumes, it delivers two to four units of heat. No boiler or burner can match this efficiency arithmetic. And this is not a laboratory

CHANDRA BHUSHAN

CEO, IFOREST



promise; these are commercially available technologies.

Largely Indian-made heat pumps are already running on factory floors across the country — at automotive facilities in Pune, pharmaceutical factories in Bengaluru, textile plants near Bhubaneswar, and electronics plants near Chennai — reliably delivering hot water and steam at temperatures up to 120°C under real operating conditions. Heat pumps that can deliver even higher temperatures are also available, but they remain expensive and are not yet widely deployed.

Studies conducted by my colleagues and me show that wherever heat pumps displace diesel, furnace oil, LPG, or piped natural gas, heating costs fall by 50 to 75%. A motorcycle plant that replaced its diesel boiler saw its cost of heat drop from ₹8.6 to ₹3 per unit. An electronics manufacturer replaced LPG-fired heating at ₹10 per unit with heat-pump heat at ₹3.5 per unit. In industries requiring low- to medium-temperature heat, heat pumps typically pay for themselves in under three years. In large hotels, hospitals, and hostels using electric heaters or LPG boilers, payback periods often fall below two years.

Our assessment shows that the easiest and most economic case for heat

pumps today is precisely where they replace an oil or gas boiler or an electric resistance heater. Coal- and biomass-fired heat is harder to displace on cost today. But the imported-fuel segment — the one that matters most for India's trade balance — is bankable right now.

Consider what this means at a national scale. In industrial sectors dominated by MSMEs — dairy, textiles, pharmaceuticals, food processing, paper, and others — which require low- and medium-temperature process heat, heat pumps can easily meet one-fourth of the current energy demand at half the cost. This means higher profits for a highly stretched MSME sector and a lower import bill for the country.

In large hotels, hospitals, and hostels requiring hot water, heat pumps can eliminate almost all LPG, PNG, and diesel use. In colder regions, where the demand for hot water is high, the economics of replacing oil and gas boilers with heat pumps is even more attractive.

If we put all these demands together, India has a ready market to install 50 gigawatts (Gw) of heat-pump capacity over the next 15 years, significantly reducing the use of oil and gas in MSMEs and the commercial sector. It will also

reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 54 million tonnes every year by 2040. This is why heat pumps sit at the strategic intersection of energy security and climate action.

So why is India's installed heat-pump base still less than 1 Gw, with an annual market of only a few hundred crore rupees? The answer is not technology. Indian manufacturers already offer systems that can deliver heat up to 120°C. The barriers are upfront capital costs, low awareness, dependence on imported compressors, and the absence of any dedicated policy. India has national missions for solar, hydrogen, and electric mobility. It has none for the technology with arguably the fastest payback of them all.

But this policy gap can be fixed easily. Cutting GST on heat-pump water heaters from 18% to 5%, similar to solar water heaters, would reduce upfront costs. Interest subvention for commercial and MSME installations, similar to existing schemes run by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency to improve energy efficiency, would make heat pumps more attractive to small businesses. A production-linked incentive for high-temperature heat-pump manufacturing would help build a domestic compressor supply chain and make India self-sufficient in high-temperature heat-pump manufacturing. Similarly, minimum performance standards and star labels would allow buyers and lenders to trust the product.

None of this requires a technological breakthrough or a fiscal blowout. It requires recognising that the cheapest barrel of oil is the one we never import. India's factories, hotels, and homes are already proving that heat pumps work here — in Indian conditions and at Indian tariffs. The gap between today's less than 1 Gw and tomorrow's 50 Gw is not a technology gap. It is a policy gap, and it is ours to close.

The barriers are upfront capital costs, low awareness, dependence on imported compressors, and the absence of any dedicated policy



LPG demand down, diesel, petrol sales up

New Delhi: LPG demand fell by over 9% year-on-year in Sept, while petrol and diesel sales registered growth of 7% and 5%, respectively, provisional data released by the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC) showed.

LPG consumption in Sept was recorded at 2.6 million tonnes (MT), compared to 2.9 MT during the same month a year earlier. Month-on-month consumption, however, registered a growth of 8%, up from 2.4 MT. Petrol sales increased from 3.4 MT in Sept last year to 3.6 MT, while diesel consumption rose from 6.8 MT to 7.1 MT.

Cumulative petrol consumption during Apr-Sept in the current financial year increased 7% to 22.6 MT, while diesel consumption rose 4.8% to 47.9 MT. TNN

ऊर्जा सब्सिडी 90 लाख करोड़ पार जाने का खतरा

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली। ईरान युद्ध के कारण दुनिया भर में ऊर्जा की कीमतें बढ़ने से सरकारों के सामने आम लोगों को राहत देने की बड़ी चुनौती खड़ी हो गई है। संयुक्त राष्ट्र विकास कार्यक्रम (यूएनडीपी) की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, ईंधन पर दी जाने वाली वैश्विक सब्सिडी का खर्च इस साल 1 लाख करोड़ डॉलर (करीब 90 लाख करोड़ रुपये) से ज्यादा हो सकता है।

यूएनडीपी ने कहा है कि आने वाले कुछ महीने सरकारों के लिए बेहद अहम होंगे। कई देश पेट्रोल-डीजल की कीमतों को नियंत्रित रखने के लिए सब्सिडी, टैक्स में राहत और

एलएनजी आपूर्ति की चिंता बरकरार

ईरान युद्ध के कारण एलएनजी की आपूर्ति अभी सामान्य नहीं हुई है। दुनिया के सबसे बड़े खरीदार जापान की जेरा कंपनी के चेयरमैन युकिओ कानी ने कहा कि कतर से एलएनजी की आपूर्ति जल्द सामान्य होने की उम्मीद नहीं है। कतर और संयुक्त अरब अमीरात से हॉर्मुज के रास्ते एलएनजी की आवाजाही फरवरी में युद्ध शुरू होने के मुकाबले करीब 80% कम है। एसएंडपी ग्लोबल के अनुसार, सितंबर में हॉर्मुज से 19 एलएनजी जहाज गुजरे, जिनमें 13 कतर और छह संयुक्त अरब अमीरात से थे।



कीमतों पर सीमा लगाने जैसे कदम उठा रहे हैं, लेकिन 100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल वाले तेल और महंगे कर्ज के कारण इन उपायों को लंबे समय तक जारी रखना मुश्किल हो सकता

है। अगर सरकारों ने महंगे भोजन और ऊर्जा से राहत देने के उपाय नहीं किए होते तो इस साल कम से कम अतिरिक्त 13 करोड़ लोग गरीबी रेखा से नीचे जा सकते थे।

अगले साल की शुरुआत में बढ़ सकता है संकट

यूएनडीपी की मुख्य अर्थशास्त्री जॉर्ज ग्रे मोलिना के मुताबिक, ईरान युद्ध, महंगे कर्ज और अल नीनो इन तीनों संकटों से बाहर निकलने का रास्ता अभी साफ नहीं है। इनका असर 2027 की शुरुआत में चरम पर पहुंचने का अनुमान है। अल नीनो के कारण समुद्र का तापमान असामान्य रूप से बढ़ सकता है, जिससे कहीं बाढ़ और कहीं सूखे की स्थिति पैदा हो सकती है। इसका असर खाद्य उत्पादन और खाद्य कीमतों पर पड़ने का खतरा है।

भारत के लिए क्यों अहम?

भारत अपनी तेल और गैस जरूरतों का बड़ा हिस्सा आयात से पूरा करता है। ऐसे में कच्चे तेल और एलएनजी की वैश्विक कीमतों में लंबे समय तक तेजी रहने पर पेट्रोल-डीजल, रसोई गैस, बिजली, परिवहन और रोजमर्रा की कई वस्तुओं की लागत पर दबाव बढ़ सकता है। सरकार के सामने एक तरफ उपभोक्ताओं को राहत देने और दूसरी तरफ बढ़ते सब्सिडी बोझ तथा राजकोषीय दबाव को संभालने की चुनौती रहेगी।

ऊर्जा में अवसर

पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने किया इस योजना का शुभारंभ, कहा- किसानों को "अन्नदाता से ऊर्जादाता" बनाने में मिलेगी मदद

'गोबरधन' कचरे को ऊर्जा में बदलने का अवसर : पुरी

नई दिल्ली, प्रेस : केंद्र सरकार ने गोबर, खेती के अवशेष और जैविक कचरे को ऊर्जा में बदलने के लिए गोबरधन (गैल्वनाइजिंग आर्गेनिक बायो-एग्रो रिसोर्सेज धन) योजना शुरू की है। इस योजना के शुभारंभ के अवसर पर, पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा, गोबरधन कचरे को ऊर्जा में बदलने का अवसर है। 23,731 करोड़ की इस योजना का मकसद कंप्रेस्ड बायोगैस (सीबीजी) के उत्पादन को 10 गुना बढ़ाना, ईंधन आयात पर खर्च होने वाले 40 हजार करोड़ रुपये की विदेशी मुद्रा की बचत करना और 1.5 लाख से ज्यादा नौकरियां पैदा करना है।

पुरी ने कहा, कि सरकार जैविक कचरे को देश के लिए ऊर्जा का नया स्रोत बनाना चाहती है। इसके तहत गोबर, फसलों के अवशेष, खाद्य कचरा व अलग किया गया जैविक कचरा प्रयोग कर सीबीजी व जैविक खाद बनाई जाएगी। इस योजना के तहत न

40 हजार करोड़ रुपये विदेशी मुद्रा की होगी बचत, सृजित होंगे 1.5 लाख से अधिक रोजगार के अवसर

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी नई दिल्ली के भारत मंडपम में आयोजित 'गोबरधन' योजना के शुभारंभ पर कार्यक्रम को संबोधित करते हुए। एएनआइ >>



सिर्फ पूंजीगत सहायता मिलेगी, बल्कि खेती के अवशेष, गोबर, खाद्य अपशिष्ट समेत जैविक कचरे से बनने वाले नवीकरणीय रिन्यूएबल ईंधन की गारंटीड खरीद की सुविधा भी मिलेगी। यह योजना किसानों को "अन्नदाता से ऊर्जादाता" बनाने में मदद करेगी। अभी भारत में 0.4 मिलियन स्टैंडर्ड क्यूबिक मीटर प्रति दिन सीबीजी को 4-6 मिलियन करने का लक्ष्य है। उम्मीद है कि

इससे 2030 तक ऊर्जा में प्राकृतिक गैस की हिस्सेदारी मौजूदा 6-7 प्रतिशत से बढ़कर 15 प्रतिशत करने में मदद मिलेगी। सीबीजी की आपूर्ति सिटी-गैस नेटवर्क के जरिये सीएनजी ट्रांसपोर्ट और घरेलू पीएनजी इस्तेमाल के लिए की जा सकती है। इस योजना से करीब एक करोड़ टन जीवाश्म ईंधन की जगह स्वच्छ गैस इस्तेमाल होने और चार करोड़ टन से ज्यादा कार्बन

डाइऑक्साइड उत्सर्जन कम होने की उम्मीद है। किसानों के लिए करीब 25 करोड़ टन जैविक खाद भी तैयार हो सकती है। इससे सकल घरेलू उत्पाद या जीडीपी में 75 हजार करोड़ से ज्यादा का योगदान का अनुमान है।

हर सीबीजी परियोजना को अधिकतम 30 करोड़ की पूंजी सहायता मिल सकती है। सरकार सीबीजी की शत प्रतिशत तक खरीद सुनिश्चित करेगी। कीमत करीब 98 प्रति किलो रखी गई है। यह व्यवस्था मार्च 2036 तक रहेगी। गैस कंपनियों के लिए सीबीजी खरीद की अनिवार्यता 2026-27 में तीन प्रतिशत और 2028-29 से पांच प्रतिशत होगी। इस समय देश में वार्षिक लगभग 66 अरब घन मीटर गैस की जरूरत है, जिसमें से लगभग आधा आयात किया जाता है, जबकि 2030 तक मांग 95-100 अरब घन मीटर तक पहुंचने का अनुमान है।

वैश्विक ऊर्जा सब्सिडी 1 ट्रिलियन डॉलर तक पहुंचने की आशंका

नई दिल्ली, 2 अक्टूबर (एजेंसियां)। पश्चिम एशिया में जारी संघर्ष, बढ़ती तेल कीमतों और वैश्विक आर्थिक अनिश्चितताओं के बीच दुनिया भर की सरकारों के लिए उपभोक्ताओं को राहत देना लगातार कठिन होता जा रहा है। शुक्रवार को जारी संयुक्त राष्ट्र विकास कार्यक्रम (यूएनडीपी) की एक नई रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, वर्ष 2026 में वैश्विक ऊर्जा सब्सिडी 1 ट्रिलियन डॉलर से अधिक पहुंच सकती है।

रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि ईंधन और खाद्य कीमतों में वृद्धि के असर को कम करने के लिए सरकारें बड़े पैमाने पर सब्सिडी, मूल्य नियंत्रण (प्राइस कैप) और कर रियायतों जैसे उपायों का सहारा ले रही हैं। हालांकि

बढ़ती ब्याज दरों, महंगे कर्ज और मौसम संबंधी जोखिमों के कारण इन उपायों को लंबे समय तक जारी रखना और मुश्किल होता जा रहा है।

यूएनडीपी ने चेतावनी दी है कि आने वाले कुछ महीने उन देशों के लिए बेहद महत्वपूर्ण होंगे जो ईंधन



सब्सिडी और अन्य राहत उपायों के जरिए महंगाई से निपटने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं। रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, कच्चे तेल की कीमतें

100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल के करीब पहुंचने से कई देशों की सार्वजनिक वित्त व्यवस्था पर अतिरिक्त दबाव बढ़ रहा है।

यूएनडीपी के मुख्य अर्थशास्त्री जॉर्ज ग्रे मोलिना ने कहा कि अगले कुछ सप्ताह और महीने अनिश्चितता से भरे रह सकते हैं।

जम्मू-कश्मीर सरकार ने कॉम्प्रेस्ड बायोगैस नीति अधिसूचित की

श्रीनगर, 2 अक्टूबर (एजेंसी) : जम्मू-कश्मीर सरकार ने जैविक कचरे को स्वच्छ ईंधन और उच्च गुणवत्ता वाले जैव उर्वरक में बदलने के लिए व्यापक रूपरेखा प्रदान करने वाली कॉम्प्रेस्ड बायोगैस (सीबीजी) नीति 2026 अधिसूचित की है। एक आधिकारिक प्रवक्ता ने शुक्रवार को यह जानकारी दी। मुख्यमंत्री उमर अब्दुल्ला ने इस नीति को स्वच्छ ऊर्जा को बढ़ावा देने, सर्कुलर यानी संसाधनों के अनुकूलतम उपयोग वाली अर्थव्यवस्था को मजबूत करने और जैविक कचरे को उपयोगी संसाधन में बदलने की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम बताया है। प्रवक्ता ने कहा कि मुख्यमंत्री की अध्यक्षता में हुई मंत्रिपरिषद की बैठक में मंजूरी मिलने के बाद सरकार ने जम्मू-कश्मीर कॉम्प्रेस्ड बायोगैस (सीबीजी) नीति 2026 अधिसूचित की है।

पेट्रोलियम से जुड़े अपराधों के लिए कड़े दंड का प्रस्ताव

एजेंसी ► नई दिल्ली

सरकार ने पेट्रोलियम क्षेत्र में सार्वजनिक सुरक्षा, महत्वपूर्ण बुनियादी ढांचे और अनधिकृत परिचालन से

**लाइसेंस
उल्लंघन
अपराध की
श्रेणी से बाहर**

जुड़े गंभीर अपराधों के लिए आपराधिक दंड को बरकरार रखने या सख्त करने का प्रस्ताव किया है।

साथ ही पेट्रोलियम लाइसेंस की शर्तों के उल्लंघन जैसे विनियामक उल्लंघनों को अपराध की श्रेणी से बाहर करने और एक दीवानी जुर्माना व्यवस्था शुरू करने का प्रस्ताव भी किया गया है। पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय ने पेट्रोलियम अधिनियम, 1934 के मसौदा संशोधनों पर जनता और उद्योग जगत से टिप्पणियां मांगी हैं। इसमें

कानून के अपराध, दंड और प्रवर्तन से जुड़े प्रावधानों में बड़े बदलाव का प्रस्ताव किया गया है। पेट्रोलियम अधिनियम, 1934 को पेट्रोलियम के आयात, परिवहन, भंडारण, उत्पादन, शोधन और सम्मिश्रण से संबंधित कानून को संशोधित करने के लिए लागू किया गया था। मसौदा संशोधनों पर टिप्पणियां मांगते हुए मंत्रालय ने कहा, “लाइसेंस की शर्तों के उल्लंघन जैसे विनियामक मुद्दों को अपराध की श्रेणी से बाहर करने और प्रशासनिक तंत्र के माध्यम से दीवानी जुर्माना लगाने की व्यवस्था करने के लिए पेट्रोलियम अधिनियम, 1934 में संशोधन का प्रस्ताव किया गया है।” मंत्रालय के अनुसार, प्रस्तावित संशोधन पेट्रोलियम परिचालन के विभिन्न पहलुओं से संबंधित विशिष्ट अपराधों के खिलाफ पर्याप्त रोकथाम करते हैं।

पेट्रोलियम से जुड़े अपराधों के लिए कड़े दंड का प्रस्ताव

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी) : सरकार ने पेट्रोलियम क्षेत्र में सार्वजनिक सुरक्षा, महत्वपूर्ण बुनियादी ढांचे और अनधिकृत परिचालन से जुड़े गंभीर अपराधों के लिए आपराधिक दंड को बरकरार रखने या सख्त करने का प्रस्ताव किया है।

साथ ही पेट्रोलियम लाइसेंस की शर्तों के उल्लंघन जैसे विनियामक उल्लंघनों को अपराध की श्रेणी से बाहर करने और एक दीवानी जुर्माना व्यवस्था शुरू करने का प्रस्ताव भी किया गया है।

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय ने पेट्रोलियम अधिनियम, 1934 के मसौदा संशोधनों पर जनता और उद्योग जगत से टिप्पणियां मांगी हैं। इसमें कानून के अपराध, दंड

- लाइसेंस उल्लंघन अपराध की श्रेणी से बाहर

- सरकार ने मसौदा संशोधनों पर जनता और उद्योग जगत से टिप्पणियां मांगी

और प्रवर्तन से जुड़े प्रावधानों में बड़े बदलाव का प्रस्ताव किया गया है।

पेट्रोलियम अधिनियम, 1934 को पेट्रोलियम के आयात, परिवहन, भंडारण, उत्पादन, शोधन और सम्मिश्रण से संबंधित कानून को संशोधित करने के लिए लागू किया

गया था।

मसौदा संशोधनों पर टिप्पणियां मांगते हुए मंत्रालय ने कहा, 'लाइसेंस की शर्तों के उल्लंघन जैसे विनियामक मुद्दों को अपराध की श्रेणी से बाहर करने और प्रशासनिक तंत्र के माध्यम से दीवानी जुर्माना लगाने की व्यवस्था करने के लिए पेट्रोलियम अधिनियम, 1934 में संशोधन का प्रस्ताव किया गया है।'

मंत्रालय के अनुसार, प्रस्तावित संशोधन पेट्रोलियम परिचालन के विभिन्न पहलुओं से संबंधित विशिष्ट अपराधों के खिलाफ पर्याप्त रोकथाम करते हैं।

प्रस्तावित संशोधनों के तहत लाइसेंस शर्तों के उल्लंघन से आपराधिक मुकदमे के बजाय एक प्रशासनिक न्याय व्यवस्था के

माध्यम से निपटा जाएगा। अधिकारी पहले उल्लंघन के लिए 2.5 करोड़ रुपये तक और दूसरे या उसके बाद के उल्लंघन के लिए पांच करोड़ रुपये तक का दीवानी जुर्माना लगा सकता है।

हालांकि, अगर लाइसेंस उल्लंघन से सार्वजनिक सुरक्षा खतरे में पड़ती है या गंभीर चोट या मृत्यु होती है, तो उनसे आपराधिक मामलों की तरह निपटा जाएगा। मसौदे में कई गंभीर अपराधों के लिए कड़े दंड का भी प्रस्ताव किया गया है।

मंत्रालय ने अधिसूचना के प्रकाशन की तारीख से 30 दिनों के भीतर आम जनता और उद्योग से जुड़े पक्षों से टिप्पणियां एवं सुझाव आमंत्रित किए हैं।