

उपभोक्ताओं को स्वच्छ ऊर्जा विकल्प अपनाने के लिए जागरूक कर रहा गेल

एजेंसी ■ नई दिल्ली

गेल (इंडिया) लिमिटेड ने अपने उपभोक्ता जागरूकता अभियान 'वाह क्या एनर्जी है' का सीज़न 2 लॉन्च किया है। इसके तहत गेल ने अपने आधिकारिक यूट्यूब चैनल पर चार लघु फिल्में जारी की हैं और अभियान का एंथम 'नए भारत की नई एनर्जी' भी रिलीज़ किया है। अभियान का उद्देश्य सीएनजी, पीएनजी, एलएनजी और सीबीजी जैसे स्वच्छ ऊर्जा विकल्पों के प्रति जागरूकता बढ़ाना और उपभोक्ताओं को इन्हें अपनाने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करना है। अभियान के साथ जारी एंथम 'नए भारत की नई एनर्जी' चार मिनट से अधिक लंबा है। इसमें गेल के ऊर्जा बुनियादी ढांचे और समाधानों को दिखाया गया है, जिसमें वाराणसी का भारत का पहला फ्लोटिंग सीएनजी स्टेशन और कंप्रेसड बायोगैस (सीबीजी)

शामिल हैं। एंथम में बच्चों, युवाओं, वरिष्ठ नागरिकों और रक्षा बलों सहित विभिन्न वर्गों के लोगों को दिखाते हुए यह संदेश दिया गया है कि बेहतर ईंधन विकल्प अपनाकर लोग अपने कार्बन फुटप्रिंट को कम करने और टिकाऊ भविष्य में योगदान दे सकते हैं।

अभियान के बारे में गेल के निदेशक (मानव संसाधन) और कॉर्पोरेट कम्युनिकेशन्स एवं ब्रांडिंग प्रमुख आयुष गुप्ता ने कहा, 'वाह क्या एनर्जी है' सीज़न 2 और 'नए भारत की नई एनर्जी' एंथम के जरिए हमारा उद्देश्य उपभोक्ताओं में स्वच्छ ऊर्जा और पर्यावरणीय जिम्मेदारी के प्रति जागरूकता बढ़ाना है। सहज और जमीन से जुड़ी कहानियों के माध्यम से हम लोगों को भविष्य के लिए बेहतर ईंधन विकल्प चुनने के लिए प्रेरित करना चाहते हैं। हमने जेन जी को भी इस संवाद में शामिल किया है।



गेल ने 'वाह क्या एनर्जी है' अभियान का सीजन-2 लांच किया

नई दिल्ली (वि)। गेल (इंडिया) लिमिटेड ने उपभोक्ताओं के बीच स्वच्छ और टिकाऊ ऊर्जा विकल्पों को लेकर जागरूकता बढ़ाने के उद्देश्य से अपने अभियान 'वाह क्या एनर्जी है' के सीजन-2 की शुरुआत की है। इसके तहत कंपनी ने अपने आधिकारिक यूट्यूब चैनल पर चार शॉर्ट-फॉर्म फिल्में जारी की हैं। साथ ही अभियान का एंथम 'नए भारत को नई एनर्जी' भी लांच किया गया है। अभियान के माध्यम से सीएनजी, पीएनजी और एलएनजी जैसे स्वच्छ ईंधन विकल्पों को अपनाने के लिए लोगों को प्रेरित किया जा रहा है। इसमें खासतौर पर जेन-जी को ध्यान में रखा गया है, क्योंकि युवाओं का उपभोग संबंधी फैसलों पर बढ़ता प्रभाव है और वे स्वच्छ ऊर्जा की ओर बदलाव में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभा सकते हैं। गेल के निदेशक (एचआर) और कॉरपोरेट कम्युनिकेशंस एवं ब्रैंडिंग का नेतृत्व कर रहे आशुष गुप्ता ने कहा कि अभियान का उद्देश्य स्वच्छ ऊर्जा विकल्पों और पर्यावरणीय जिम्मेदारी के प्रति जागरूकता बढ़ाना है। अभियान की चार फिल्मों में अभिनेता श्रीकांत वर्मा, दिव्य जगदले, लख विस्मये और अहमद खान नजर आएंगे।

व्यावसायिक
गतिविधि

US pitches maize for India's E85, SAF ethanol push

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NEW DELHI: The US grain industry is making a fresh push to get American maize into India's expanding ethanol economy, this time arguing that corn should be judged on its life cycle carbon emissions rather than simply as imported genetically modified grain, five people familiar with the discussions told HT.

The pitch was made at a full day US-India biofuels summit in New Delhi on September 22, where the US Grains & BioProducts Council and US-India Strategic Partnership Forum brought together industry and policy stakeholders to discuss higher ethanol blending, sustainable aviation fuel and new uses for ethanol.

A dedicated session at the summit was titled "Lifecycle Assessment of Maize to Ethanol – India & US Case Studies". The agenda also included discussions on on-road blending in the US and India, ethanol-based cooking, sustainable marine

fuel, ethanol in consumer products and its impact on rural economies.

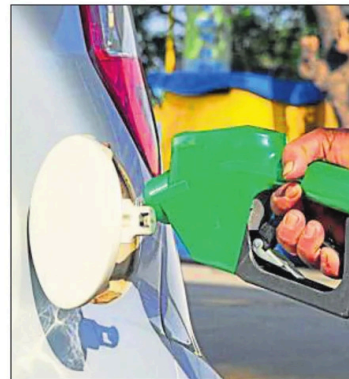
People familiar with the discussions said the US side is exploring several routes into the Indian market, including higher ethanol blends, sustainable aviation fuel and cooking ethanol.

One person familiar with the discussions said the broad pitch was to continue using Indian feedstock for the existing E20 programme, while examining whether US maize could be used for higher blends such as E85, particularly for flex-fuel vehicles.

The argument is that India should compare the carbon intensity of different feedstocks — the greenhouse-gas emissions associated with producing and using a fuel — rather than reject imported maize solely because it is US-origin or genetically modified.

The LCA pitch

The life cycle argument is significant because India and the US currently approach ethanol differently.



The assessment is expected to compare emissions associated with different feedstocks. MINT

The US system has increasingly placed emphasis on the carbon-intensity value of fuels, while India's ethanol programme has largely been driven by administered procurement prices, feedstock availability and blending requirements, according to a person familiar with the discussions.

An industry representative familiar with the matter said the US Grains & BioProducts Council has commissioned the Indian Institute of Petroleum (IIP) to

undertake a life cycle assessment (LCA) of maize-based ethanol. The study is still being finalised and has not yet been released publicly.

The assessment is expected to compare the emissions associated with different feedstocks used to produce ethanol.

Another person familiar with the discussions said preliminary work on Indian feedstocks had found maize to have a relatively low carbon-intensity value, but cautioned that the US and Indian maize cannot be compared until the full study is released.

The US side is therefore seeking to make carbon intensity part of the conversation around future ethanol policy in India.

To be sure, this does not necessarily mean India will agree to import US maize. India's agricultural policy, according to several government statements, remains protective of domestic farmers, and the government has repeatedly ruled out compromising on maize and other sensitive farm commodities in trade discussions.

Beyond E20

The timing of the pitch is important.

India has achieved its 20% ethanol-blending target ahead of the original 2030 deadline, but the government has said that any increase in nationwide blending beyond E20 will be considered only after further scientific and technical studies. E85, however, has already been introduced for flex-fuel vehicles and is not the same as raising the nationwide petrol-blending mandate. That creates a potential opening for the US industry.

Rather than seeking immediate access to India's existing E20 market, the US grain industry appears to be looking at the feedstock requirement that could emerge if India develops a much larger market for E85 and other higher ethanol blends.

The third person who HT spoke to said one proposal discussed was effectively to use Indian feedstock for the existing 20% blend and consider US corn for higher blends as the market develops.

Fuel For Thought? In 14 Yrs, Only Emission-Free Vehicles On Roads

Among Panel Suggestions, No Non-Electric 4-Wheeler Registration From 2031

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New Delhi: An expert committee constituted to suggest measures for curbing vehicular emissions in Delhi-NCR has recommended the immediate exit of BS-I, II and III vehicles, while proposing that BS-IV vehicles go by 2030, BS-VI two-wheelers by 2035 and BS-VI four-wheelers by 2040. It said that from Jan 1, 2031, no new ICE private four-wheeler vehicle should be allowed to be registered.

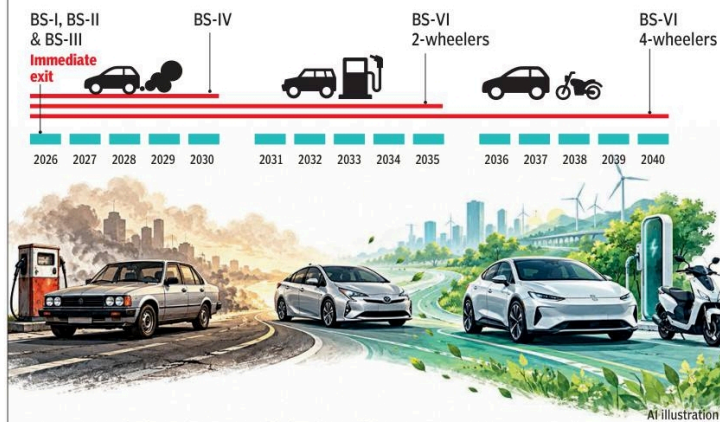
The committee has also recommended additional restrictions when pollution is high from Nov 1 to Jan 31. It proposed restricting or banning BS-IV vehicles in Delhi-NCR from this winter, beginning with a pilot and expanding it to full scale from the following year. From 2035, restrictions on BS-VI vehicles may be considered if the average air quality index exceeds 200.

Last Dec, Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) set up the 15-member committee to recommend a multi-pronged roadmap for emission reduction in the vehicular sector. The interim report, which was submitted to CAQM on Aug 18, was shared Wednesday. "We previously ordered phasing out of light goods vehicles and three-wheelers based on it. The report is being considered," an official said.

The report said the active and fitness-approved fleet across Delhi-NCR comprised 2.2 crore vehicles, of which electric vehicles (EVs) accounted for only 3.6 lakh, or 1.6%. "The latest emission factor made available by Automotive Research Association of India is heavily skewed towards older vehicles: BS-I to BS-III vehicles constitute around 30% of the fleet, but account for nearly

BY 2035, CURBS ON BS-VI VEHICLES IF AQI >200?

A 15-member expert committee has recommended phasing out of BS-VI vehicles by 2040



Recommendations for new vehicles in Delhi-NCR

Vehicle segment	ZTE* transition
Private four-wheelers	From Jan 1, 2031
3 wheelers	From April 1, 2027
2 wheeler taxis, delivery vehicles	From April 1, 2027
4 wheeler taxis	From April 1, 2028
Light goods vehicles	From April 1, 2027
Medium goods vehicles	From Jan 1, 2031
Heavy goods vehicles	From April 1, 2032
Medium and large buses	From April 1, 2028
2 wheelers - non-transport	From April 1, 2028

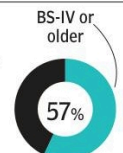
*A ZTE vehicle is a vehicle that produces no direct exhaust gas, carbon dioxide, or harmful air pollutants from a tailpipe while operating

Restrictions during high-AQI period

From 2026 | Restrict BS-IV vehicles in Delhi-NCR. Initiate a pilot in 2026 winter to expand it at full scale from next year onwards
From 2035 | Consider restricting BS-VI vehicles if the average AQI exceeds 200

Share of vehicles

Active and fitness-approved fleet across Delhi-NCR | 2.2 crore vehicles
EV share in this | 3.6 lakh vehicles (1.6%)



74% of particulate matter emissions, while BS-IV vehicles contribute a further 19%. In contrast, BS-VI vehicles constitute over 41% of the fleet, but contribute only around 7% of PM emissions," it stated.

For phasing out existing internal combustion engine

(ICE) vehicles, the exit timelines are similar to Delhi EV Policy 2026.

The committee has recommended an aggressive transition to zero-tailpipe-emission (ZTE) vehicles, proposing phased exit timelines for ICE vehicles and mandating higher

shares of ZTE vehicles in new sales. For private four-wheelers, it recommended a progressive ZTE sales mandate for every original equipment manufacturer selling vehicles in Delhi-NCR — 20% of new sales in 2027, 45% in 2028, 70% in 2029 and 100% in 2030. "Whi-

le EVs are currently the available ZTE option, the recommendation is technology-neutral, leaving room for other ZTE technologies, such as hydrogen fuel-cell vehicles, as they become viable in the future," said a committee member.

The panel has also recommended that all central, state and city govt offices and public-sector organisations procure, hire or contract only ZTE vehicles from April 1, 2027, wherever technically feasible. It proposed that municipal services transition to ZTE vehicles by April 1, 2030, and all construction vehicles and equipment should transition from April 1, 2028, and earth-moving, material-handling and mining equipment by April 1, 2030. Tractors and agricultural machinery should transition in accordance with the recommendations of Agriculture and Stubble Burning Committee, and not later than April 1, 2030.

"Similar principles could be considered across the Indo-Gangetic plain, given the contiguous transboundary nature of air pollution. Vehicles phased out from Delhi-NCR should not migrate to other cities in the Indo-Gangetic plain," said the report. "Mechanisms should be devised to prevent the transfer of high-emitting vehicles from Delhi-NCR to other highly polluted regions."

The committee has also suggested enactment of "right to charge" laws across Delhi-NCR, proposing a statutory right for EV owners to install 3kW, 7kW or 11kW AC chargers at their allocated parking spaces, subject to safety norms. The right should apply equally to homeowners and tenants.

It has suggested additional scrappage incentives for BS-IV and BS-I/II/III vehicles if owners buy a ZTE replacement within six months.

MARKET MELTDOWN | Crude shock, rate fears batter equities

SENSEX PLUMMETS TO LOWEST CLOSE IN TWO-AND-A-HALF YRS

Agencies

NEW DELHI

Benchmark stock index Sensex tanked 1,045 points, while Nifty slid to a 21-month low on Thursday following heavy selling in rate-sensitive, commodities and fast-moving consumer goods shares amid a sharp spike in crude oil prices and growing prospect of tighter domestic and global monetary conditions.

Falling for the second day running, the 30-share Bombay Stock Exchange Sensex tumbled 1,045.46 points, or 1.44%, to settle at a more than two-and-a-half-year low of 71,593.24. During the day, it slumped 1,310.95 points, or 1.80%, to 71,327.75. The Bombay Stock Exchange barometer had previously



closed near this level on Feb 13, 2024.

The 50-share National Stock Exchange Nifty dropped 371.25 points, or 1.64%, to end at a 21-month low of 22,231.80. During the day, it dropped 423.15 points, or 1.87%, to a low of 22,179.90, also its intra-day 52-week low.

Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, jumped 4.25% to

\$104.5 per barrel.

"The domestic market continued in its sharp sell-off mode as the ripple effects of hawkish Reserve Bank of India policy weighed on rate-sensitive sectors, effectively resetting near-term valuation multiples. This headwind was further amplified by persistent Foreign Institutional Investor outflows, harder

bond yields, and a depreciating INR," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Investments Limited, said.

Moreover, volatile crude oil prices hovering stubbornly above the \$100 mark continue to be a hurdle for the national economy, he added. The Bombay Stock Exchange SmallCap Select index dived 2.58% and MidCap Select index tumbled 2.53%.

All Bombay Stock Exchange sectoral indices ended lower. Power slumped 3.51%, Metal 3.34%, Utilities 3.38%, Realty 3.07%, Capital Goods 3.02%, Industrials 2.93%, Services 2.76% and Commodities 2.71%. A total of 3,426 stocks declined, while 1,003 advanced and 225 remained unchanged on the Bombay Stock Exchange.

Investor wealth drops sharply by ₹10 lakh cr

Stock investors lost around ₹10 lakh crore due to a market crash on Thursday. The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms eroded by ₹10,01,898.68 crore to ₹4,60,97,032 crore in a single day.

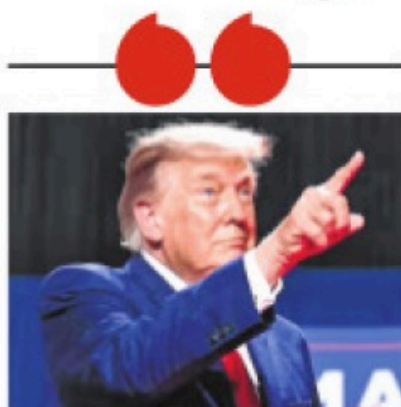
Meanwhile, stocks of Adani Group companies ended lower on Thursday, in tandem with a sharp sell-off in the equity market, with Adani Green tumbling 7.5%. Shares of Adani Green Energy dived 7.53%, Adani Enterprises tumbled 5.43%, Adani Energy Solutions dropped 5.08%, Adani Power was down 4.37% and Ambuja Cements fell 4.07% on the BSE. NDTV slipped 3.73%, Adani Total Gas fell 3.48%, ACC shed 3.05% and Adani Ports was down 2.59%.

Trump repeatedly interrupted by hecklers during Texas rally

Washington: US President Donald Trump mocked hecklers and made personal remarks about one protester during a campaign rally in San Antonio on Wednesday, where at least a dozen demonstrators interrupted his speech backing Republican Senate candidate Ken Paxton.

Some protesters were escorted out by police as Trump's supporters booed them. "He's going back home to mom," Trump said as one heckler was removed, adding that the man's mother had voted for him. Trump then claimed protesters were paid before turning on another heckler: "That guy's got to lose a lot of weight."

He later told any remaining protesters to "raise your hand and get the hell out of here".



We are having productive discussions with Iran. We will not be attacking it at any time prior to the midterms on Nov 3.

Donald Trump, POTUS

CASH FOR THE ELDERLY

Trump said over 20 million Americans enrolled in Medicare would receive payments of over \$100, including over 1.4 million seniors in Texas.

CAMP DAVID-STYLE PRESIDENTIAL RETREAT

Trump said he wanted to turn one of his Florida golf courses into a presidential retreat where future presidents could spend weekends, describing it as "sort of a Camp David".

He said the property had many security features needed to host presidents and world leaders, and claimed the idea came from the Secret Service.

'OUT OF IRAN SOON; OIL PRICES TO FALL'

Trump said Iran would never be allowed to acquire a nuclear weapon.

"And we'll be out of there soon, and you watch those oil prices come down like a rock," he said.

—IANS

Govt bonds fall sharply as crude, US yields surge

Government bond prices ended sharply lower on Thursday due to a rise in crude oil prices and United States Treasury yields, making a case for both further repo rate increases and more concentrated selling by foreign investors, dealers said. Losses in short-term gilts were limited as the Reserve Bank of India has so far refrained from announcing open market operation auctions to sell bonds in October, they said.

The ten-year benchmark 6.94%, 2036 bond ended at

₹97.63, or 7.2868% yield, the highest closing since December 1, 2023.

The bond had ended at ₹97.94, or 7.2410% yield on Wednesday. The benchmark yield moved between 7.23% and 7.30% on Thursday, with the day's highest yield level drawing demand from banks' asset-liability management desks, dealers said. Traders refrained from covering short sales in liquid papers before the ₹360-billion auction of two longer-term bonds on Friday, they said. **-Informist**

BRENT CRUDE CROSSES \$105

Crude prices swung sharply higher on Thursday after a report that the White House has directed the Pentagon to prepare military options against Iran that could be carried out before next month's congressional elections, a scenario that would upend expectations that President Donald Trump would avoid escalation ahead of the vote, Biggo reported.

Brent crude, the global benchmark, climbed more than 5% to touch \$105.48 a barrel in London trading before retreating somewhat. West Texas Intermediate, the main U.S. contract, rose as high as \$92.84. The rally added to a year-long surge driven by the U.S.-Iran conflict, which has throttled exports from the Middle East and drained global energy inventories. The Atlantic reported that the White House asked the Pentagon for strike options against sites in Iran, citing two administration officials.

WTO raises trade growth forecast

The World Trade Organisation has raised its forecast for global merchandise trade growth to 3.9% this year, as surging investment in artificial intelligence infrastructure counteracts disruption from the Middle East war, AP reported on Thursday.

The upgrade more than doubles the 1.9% expansion projected in spring. The Geneva-based body also lifted next year's forecast to 4.1%, from the 2.9% predicted in March.

Both estimates cover goods rather than services. The WTO said global supply chains had adapted to upheaval in energy and fertiliser markets, while spending on AI infrastructure delivered a substantial lift to merchandise flows.

Global merchandise trade expanded 3.5% during the first half of 2026, with demand for semiconductors, servers and other AI-enabling products providing much of the momentum.

These goods accounted for 47% of global merchandise trade growth during the period. Trade in the products surged 67% year-on-year, accelerating beyond the



already rapid expansion recorded in 2024 and 2025. The technology-driven upswing helped offset severe interruptions to Persian Gulf shipments of oil, gas and fertiliser after the US-Israeli war against Iran began in February.

Middle Eastern liquefied natural gas exports plunged 47% during the first half, while crude oil exports declined by nearly a quarter.

Additional shipments from alternative suppliers cushioned the global impact. Consequently, the overall decline was limited to roughly

1% for LNG and about 6% for crude oil.

The figures indicate that supply diversification helped sustain trade despite the loss of volumes from the region. AI investment simultaneously strengthened demand for the equipment underpinning expanding digital infrastructure. Nevertheless, the WTO expects the Middle East conflict to continue restraining trade through higher energy prices and disruption to transport routes.

The organisation forecasts global GDP growth of 2.6% this year and 2.9% in 2027, with continuing conflict expected to exert pressure through energy costs and interruptions to shipping routes.

The brighter outlook hinges on whether technology spending can sustain its momentum while businesses navigate costlier energy and disrupted shipping lanes.

Alternative suppliers have cushioned the immediate shock, but prolonged conflict could erode that resilience. For policymakers, the challenge is to preserve access to essential inputs and keep commercial routes functioning. —Commodity Desk

Crude oil rises as supply concerns persist



London: Crude oil prices jumped on persistent worries about supply from West Asia amid an increase in attacks on shipping in the Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz. Brent crude futures were up \$4.55 at \$104.75 a barrel by 1205 GMT. US WTI crude gained \$4 to \$92.28. REUTERS