

GAIL INDIA'S Integrated energy major, Petronet LNG Limited, and MC² Foundation, in association with iTIC Incubator of IIT Hyderabad organised 'MC² Plus IGNITE Hyderabad Connect' at IIT Hyderabad. Dr. Anil K Khandelwal,

former CMD, Bank of Baroda, delivered the keynote address. The event was graced by Deepak Gupta, CMD, GAIL (India), Akshay Kumar Singh, MD & CEO, Petronet LNG, Prof. B. S. Murty, Director, IIT Hyderabad and Ayush Gupta, Director (HR), GAIL. Addressing the gathering at MC² IGNITE event, Shri Deepak Gupta, CMD, GAIL said that India is at a "remarkable inflection point", with rapidly growing energy requirements alongside its ambition to become a developed economy, ensure affordable and reliable energy, build globally competitive industries and meet its climate commitments.



STRAIT OF HORMUZ UNDER BLOCKADE SINCE THE WAR BEGAN

Iran says it captured US submarine in Hormuz after attack on 5 oil tankers

AGENCIES

Tehran, September 9

The Iranian navy has claimed to have captured one of the US military's "most modern, smart" unmanned submarines at the entrance of the Strait of Hormuz.

In a statement published by Sepah News, the official news outlet of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), the navy said it captured the unmanned underwater vehicle -- identified as a Dive-LD -- in a complex intelligence operation.

The submersible vehicle is equipped with the world's most modern subsurface vehicle technology, it said, and released a video of the captured vehicle. This comes after the US mil-



Representational Image

itary said it destroyed five Iranian oil tankers on Tuesday in response to the latest attacks on its warships.

Meanwhile, Tehran hit back at American targets in Jordan. Following the American strikes, Iran

HIGHLIGHTS

- » 'The submersible vehicle is equipped with the world's most modern subsurface vehicle technology'
- » Tehran also hit back at American targets in Jordan
- » The latest strikes are part of a dual economic and military approach by President Donald Trump as he struggles to bring an end to the war

launched missiles toward US targets in Jordan, Iranian state-run media said. Jordan's military said its last air defence systems intercepted 18 ballistic missiles launched toward its territory and two others fell in places where no one lives. It said it has no reports of casualties. Jordan is a staunch US ally that hosts American forces, making the kingdom's military bases

a target of repeated Iranian strikes. US Central Command said it had no information to offer.

The latest strikes are part of a dual economic and military approach by President Donald Trump as he struggles to bring an end to the war. The Trump administration on Tuesday also imposed sanctions on additional elements of Iran's aviation industry, targeting

more than two dozen commercial and private airlines as well as foreign cargo service providers, in its new push to isolate Tehran from its remaining trading partners.

Both the US and Iran are seeking to exert control over the Strait of Hormuz, where about one-fifth of the world's oil passed before the war began. Rising energy prices are posing political problems for Trump and his Republican Party ahead of the November midterm elections. A barrel of international standard Brent crude briefly climbed as high as \$99.46 on Tuesday.

Iran said it planned to announce a new "exclusion zone" near the Strait of Hormuz aimed at vessels intending to transit.



L&T secures 'large' offshore order from ONGC

NEW DELHI: Larsen and Toubro (L&T) on Wednesday said it has secured a large order from state-owned ONGC in India.

According to the company's classification, a large order is valued between Rs 2,500 crore and Rs 5,000 crore.

"L&T Energy Hydrocarbon Offshore has secured a large offshore order from the Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) for the Additional Development of Ratna-I (ADR I) and NLM-14 project off India's west coast," L&T said.

AS RETAIL PUMP RATES REMAIN UNCHANGED

Oil cos losing Rs 5 on petrol, Rs 23/litre on diesel as oil prices cross \$100-mark

MPOST BUREAU
New Delhi, September 9

State-owned fuel retailers are losing Rs 5 per litre on petrol and Rs 23 a litre on diesel as fresh hostilities in West Asia pushed international oil prices above USD 100 per barrel, analysts said on Wednesday.

Brent crude, the international benchmark for oil prices, rose 2.5 per cent to over USD 100 a barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate crude gained almost 2 per cent to about USD 95. This after tensions rose in the Middle East amid the latest tit-for-tat exchange of fire between the US and Iran.

Brent last touched the USD 100-mark on July 23.

India, the world's third-largest oil importing and consuming country, is particularly exposed to swings in international crude prices. It imports over 88 per cent of its crude -- raw material for making fuels like petrol and diesel -- requirements.

A sustained increase in prices raises the country's dollar-denominated import bill and can put pressure on the trade balance and the rupee, analysts said.

Also, with retail pump rates remaining unchanged, it leads to fuel retailers incurring losses



CLOSER LOOK

- » India, the world's 3rd-largest oil importing country, is particularly exposed to swings in international crude prices
- » It imports over 88 per cent of its crude -- raw material for making fuels like petrol and diesel -- requirements

on sale of petrol, diesel and cooking gas LPG.

Prashant Vasisht, Senior Vice President and Co-Group Head, Corporate Ratings, ICRA Ltd, said with escalation in hostilities between Iran and the US, Brent prices have crossed the USD 100 per barrel-mark on Wednesday and the Indian crude basket is at about USD 109 per barrel.

"At the average price for the month of September till date, market margins on petrol are

negative Rs 5 per litre and diesel at negative Rs 23 a litre and under recoveries on domestic LPG are at Rs 200 per cylinder," he said.

"If the current geopolitical situation persists, crude oil prices could rise further given that several countries, including China, were tapping their strategic reserves for a significant proportion of their consumption and their return to the market could increase demand in a period of restricted supplies."

Higher crude prices can also feed into domestic inflation through fuel, transport and other energy-related costs. But the impact on consumers and the wider economy would depend in part on how much of the increase is passed through to domestic fuel prices and how long international prices remain elevated.

For now, retail petrol and diesel prices remain on freeze for over three months. Rates were last revised on May 25 when they were hiked Rs 2.61 a litre for petrol and Rs 2.71 per litre for diesel.

Those hikes were part of the revision in rates that happened in the second half of May in response to international prices rising due to the war in West Asia disrupting energy flows from the Gulf countries. In all, petrol price was raised Rs 7.35 a litre and diesel by Rs 7.53 in four instalments.

India's crude oil import bill surged over 56 per cent during April-July to USD 63.4 billion compared to USD 40.5 billion in the same period last year, according to the Oil Ministry's Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC).

The volumes bought remained almost the same -- 81.9 million tonnes in

the first five months of the current fiscal year and 81.5 million tonnes last year.

The basket of crude oil India imports averaged USD 108.91 per barrel on September 8, according to PPAC. The basket is made up of sweet or low-sulphur (Brent) and sour grades containing more than 0.5 per cent sulphur (Oman & Dubai average) in the ratio 77.81:22.19. The Indian basket of crude oil breached the USD 100 mark earlier this month, and the September average is USD 102.11 per barrel against USD 90.19 in August and USD 82.04 in July.

Rajeev Sharan, Head of Research, Brickwork Ratings, said Brent crude has crossed USD 100 a barrel again, the highest since late July, driven mainly by US-Iran tensions and supply worries around the Strait of Hormuz rather than by stronger demand.

"With OPEC+ holding output steady and geopolitical risk still high, prices are likely to stay firm and volatile through the coming month, easing only if tensions cool," he said, adding that costlier crude will squeeze margins in oil-sensitive sectors such as aviation, paints, tyres, chemicals, logistics, and parts of FMCG.

‘Govt plans ethanol blending beyond E20 amid FFV push’

PM’s Advisor says focus is on going into flexi-fuel vehicles and allowing blending beyond E20 level

MPOST BUREAU

New Delhi, September 9

The government is working to permit ethanol blending beyond the existing E20 level, enabled through flexi-fuel vehicles, Advisor to the Prime Minister Tarun Kapoor said on Wednesday.

Addressing virtually the fourth edition of The India Sugar & Bio-Energy Conference 2026, Kapoor said the E20 programme has been “very successful” so far and several automobile companies have announced plans to roll out flexi-fuel vehicles soon.

“E20 has been very successful. Now our focus is on going into flexi-fuel vehicles and allowing blending at a percentage which will be higher than E20 and it will have to be through flexi-fuel vehicles,” Kapoor said.

E20 is blended petrol containing 80 per cent petrol and 20 per cent ethanol.

He said biofuels and other alternative energy sources are very important for India, and government policies are now focused on promoting biofuels on a large scale. “The industry has also been very supportive and we’ve got huge capacities,” he said.

The push for biofuels



has become more critical amid the West Asia crisis, which has disrupted supplies and pushed crude oil prices to nearly USD 100 a barrel, with fears of a further increase, Kapoor said.

“It is important that we try to have whatever is available in the country,” he said. Ethanol production capacity in the country has surpassed blending requirements, he said, and the industry will need to explore additional uses for ethanol to fully utilise the surplus capacity.

While ethanol has been a great success story, criticism of E20 blending has largely stemmed from misinformation or “motivated reasons”, Kapoor said.

“But then a lot of studies have been done, a lot of experiments have been done, and it has come out that E20 is quite good and works very well. Maybe a little bit of fuel efficiency declines somewhere, but it gets compensated with higher octane,” he said, adding that the issues

being faced are generally due to other reasons, not the blending.

Several motor vehicle companies have announced that they are coming up with flexi-fuel vehicles very soon, “and so we should see good numbers in the market,” he said, adding that supply of pure ethanol and related additives at petrol stations also needs to expand in tandem with availability of flexi-fuel vehicles.

“So with that then at least in this sector, in the transport sector we should see more traction,” he said.

On the diesel segment, Kapoor said the government is looking at biofuel-based additives, noting that experiments with isobutanol could open up a “large” new avenue for biofuels if successful, given diesel’s significant share of refinery output.

Products derived from ethanol or close to it – made from sugarcane residues, byproducts, or surplus foodgrains – are finding good market uptake, he said, helping the country fully utilise capacity that has come up.

“We are very keen that we are able to expand the market as much as possible so that this overcapacity issue is resolved at the earliest,” he said.

CPSEs achieve 40% of FY27 capex target in April-August

PRASANTA SAHU
New Delhi, September 9

CENTRAL PUBLIC SECTOR enterprises (CPSEs) and other major government agencies, including the Railway Board and the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), achieved aggregate capex of ₹ 3.36 lakh crore, or 40% of the annual capex target, in the first five months of FY27.

However, the entities' monthly capex growth moderated to around 5% in August, compared with robust growth of 35% in July, largely due to the impact of monsoon rains.

These state-run entities, with an annual capex target of ₹ 100 crore and above, invested ₹ 3.36 lakh crore in April-August of FY27, 23.5% more than the ₹ 2.72 lakh crore invested in April-August of FY26. The capex achievement by these entities 36.5% of the FY26 target.

In whole of FY26, these state-run entities invested ₹ 8.64 lakh crore, reaching 110% of their ₹ 7.85 lakh crore target. The target is ₹ 8.43 lakh crore for the current financial year.

Monthly data show that these entities reported their sharpest increase in April, when capex jumped 62.9% year-on-year to ₹ 81,108 crore, followed by a 35.2% rise in July to ₹ 72,218 crore. Growth moderated to 15% in May, while June and August recorded more modest

IN NUMBERS



CPSE and agencies' monthly capex achievement

(₹ cr) FY26 FY27 Chg (% y-o-y)

Apr	49,781	81,108	62.9
May	55,239	63,553	15
Jun	62,425	65,470	4.9
Jul	53,406	72,218	35.2
Aug	51,481	53,930	4.8

increases of 4.9% and 4.8%, respectively.

The Railway Board and NHAI are the biggest investors. For context, FY27 capex for the Railways and NHAI is estimated at ₹ 4.52 lakh crore, equivalent to 54% of the total capex target for state-run agencies in FY27. These two entities are almost fully funded through the Union Budget and account for 37% of the Centre's overall FY27 capex estimate of ₹ 12.2 lakh crore.

Brent crude storms past \$100 as oil lifelines fracture



Commodity Desk

MUMBAI

Brent crude stormed through \$100 a barrel on Wednesday for the first time since July 24, as intensifying Middle East hostilities, tanker strikes and shrinking shipping flows forced the oil complex to price a deeper, more protracted supply shock.

Front-month Brent climbed \$2.74, or 2.8%, to \$100.66 by 1315 GMT after hitting \$100.95. West Texas Intermediate surged \$2.74, or 3%, to \$95.77, its highest since early June. Both contracts headed for their steepest daily percentage gains since September 1.

Brent has spiked as high as \$126.41 since the Iran war erupted on February 28, touching that peak on April 30.

Commodity strategists said Brent's return above \$100 reflected a market increasingly reassessing how long the Middle East crisis could throttle regional supply.

On the MCX, September crude rallied ₹189, or 2.16%, to ₹8,923 per barrel across 5,969 lots, as aggressive long accumulation and surging overseas benchmarks injected fresh bullish momentum.

Supply arteries under siege

Supply fears intensified after US forces struck Iranian oil tankers, while Iran targeted a US base in Jordan and attacked ships.

A seafarer was killed aboard the Gibraltar-flagged products tanker Hercules Star off Dubai. Iran-backed Houthis also attacked Saudi energy

Brent's charge beyond \$100 has deepened oil-shock fears as tanker strikes, strangled Hormuz flows and scorching refining cracks threaten supplies worldwide

installations, raising the spectre of deeper disruption across the Red Sea, a crucial alternative corridor to the Strait of Hormuz. Hormuz flows have plunged below 2 million barrels per day from roughly 8-9 million bpd in the week before fighting resumed on August 30, according to Rystad Energy.

Physical barrels flash distress

Physical markets were already signalling acute scarcity. Dated Brent, which prices roughly two-thirds of global crude supply, has traded above \$100 since September 3 as refiners scramble for replacement barrels.

European diesel traded near \$190 a barrel, while diesel cracks hit a record \$78.90 on September 1, dwarfing averages of \$21 in 2025 and \$19.52 in 2024.

Wood Mackenzie's Alan Gelder said normal refining margins would imply crude near \$150.

European gasoline has remained above \$100 since March, while record US fuel prices are sharpening the inflationary dilemma confronting central banks.

—With inputs from traders and Agencies

Escalating US-Iran clash pushes Brent past \$100

GROWING CONCERN. If geopolitical crisis persists, crude prices may rise further, say experts

Rishi Ranjan Kala
New Delhi

International crude oil prices surpassed the \$100 per barrel psychological mark on Wednesday with India's monthly average crude oil import basket price rising by more than 13 per cent as the escalation in conflict between the US and Iran exacerbated geopolitical uncertainty, increasing war risk premiums.

By late Wednesday, Brent was trading at \$101.4 per barrel, while WTI was ruling at \$96.13. The crude oil price for Indian basket stood at \$108.91 per barrel on Tuesday. The average September 2026 price rose to \$102.11 a barrel against the August average of \$90.19 and is the highest since June.

Crude oil (Indian basket) comprises sweet grade (Brent Dated) and sour grade (Oman and Dubai Average) imported by Indian refineries each month. It acts as a key indicator for importing costs, inflation risks and economic impact.

RISING IMPORT BILL

Refiners, traders and analysts do not anticipate any major supply disruptions than those already present, such as the closure of the

Average monthly crude oil price (Indian basket)

	Crude oil price (\$/barrel)	Ratio*
Apr-26	114.48	61.02 : 38.98
May-26	106.23	70 : 30
Jun-26	83.22	71.02 : 28.98
Jul-26	82.04	79.40 : 20.60
Aug-26	90.19	74.94 : 25.06
Sep-26**	102.11	77.81 : 22.19

Ratio: Brent dated : Oman and Dubai average
**Monthly crude oil prices are average of daily prices of respective month. Average for September are till date (Sept 8)



Strait of Hormuz (SoH) and the Bab-el-Mandeb (BeM).

However, high price means that India's crude oil import bill will rise. Besides, a weak Indian rupee against the US dollar also adds to the rising current account deficit. A \$10 per barrel increase in crude prices adds about \$13-14 billion to import bill.

Prashant Vasishth, Senior V-P and Co-Group Head of Corporate Ratings at ICRA, said: "At the average price for September till date, market-ing margins on petrol are negative ₹5 per litre and diesel at negative ₹23 a litre and under recoveries on domestic LPG are at ₹200 per cylinder." If the current geopolitical situation persists, crude oil prices could rise further given that several countries including China

were tapping their strategic reserves for a significant proportion of their consumption and their return to the market could increase demand in a period of restricted supplies, he anticipated.

N S Ramaswamy, Head of Commodity & CRM at Ventura, said the intensified military actions involving the US, Iran and regional proxies have heightened the oil supply anxiety.

The shipping choke points are threatening the global crude flows. It has reignited the physical damage to the gulf refining and production infrastructure.

Geopolitical risk premium is back into the market with diminishing prospects for an immediate diplomatic resolution. Brent crude oil's return of triple-digit price has

triggered immediate warning signs across global financial systems, he added.

BIG IMPACT

Besides Brent, the benchmark crude WTI rallied significantly, trading at \$95 a barrel. Vulnerable economies face renewed threats of increasing import bills, widening current account deficit, currency stability and fiscal deficits with the global inflation raising worries on the global economic growth, Ramaswamy pointed out.

Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst Commodity and Currency at LKP Securities, pointed out that rupee traded weak at 95.10, down around 0.32 per cent, as higher crude prices and dollar strength continued to weigh on the currency. Going ahead, crude prices, geopolitical developments and FII flows will remain key triggers.

On the economic impact of higher prices, Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Investments, said that persistent geopolitical uncertainty is making it difficult for major central banks to achieve a balance between growth and inflation, while higher energy costs pose risks to both economic activity and price stability.

Hormuz tensions flare as Iran, U.S. intensify strikes

U.S. attacks Iranian oil tankers and Tehran responds by targeting at least 20 ships trying to pass through the Strait of Hormuz; Brent crude futures cross \$100 a barrel for first time since July 2024

Stanly Johny

Tensions between the United States and Iran flared again on Tuesday night after U.S. forces struck five Iranian oil tankers in retaliation for what Washington said was Tehran's attack on its warships near the Strait of Hormuz.

Iran responded by firing a barrage of ballistic missiles at the U.S. base in Al-Azraq in Jordan, and targeted at least 20 ships trying to pass through the Strait, according to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC).

This is the second U.S. strike on Iranian oil tankers in less than a week, which U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) said was a direct response to Iran's attacks on American



An image released by the U.S. Navy on Wednesday shows a sailor on the flight deck of guided-missile destroyer *USS Mason*. AFP

warships enforcing a naval blockade on Iranian ports. Following the flare-up, Brent crude futures breached \$100 a barrel on Wednesday, for the first time since July 2024.

On Tuesday night, CENTCOM said in a statement that U.S. forces destroyed five Iranian crude

oil carriers after the IRGC targeted a Navy warship with ballistic missiles twice over the past two days.

"In response to Iran's most recent failed attacks, CENTCOM destroyed the IRGC crude oil carriers *M/T Kaviz*, *M/T Charminar*, *M/T Horizon 1*, and *M/T Riesco* in the Gulf of Oman

as well as *M/T Derya* near Kharg Island. American forces directed the crews to abandon ship before the vessels were struck and rendered inoperable," CENTCOM said.

The IRGC said in a statement that its forces continue to exercise full control over the Strait. It also, according to an AFP report, added parts of the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea to a new "prohibited zone", saying that exact coordinates will be announced later. "If a vessel enters that area without coordination, it will be subject to our sanctions," IRGC spokesperson Hossein Mohebi told state television.

CONTINUED ON

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EDITORIAL

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Tensions flare as Iran, U.S. intensify strikes

Meanwhile U.S. president Donald Trump said on Wednesday night he believes the war will end "immediately" after his country votes in midterm elections in November.

"I think the war will end immediately after the election" because Iran "cannot hold out any longer," Mr. Trump told journalists, accusing Tehran of being "desperate to try and affect" the vote. He added that the oil prices that spiked because of Iran war likely will not come down until after the midterm elections.

The war that U.S. and Israel initially launched against Iran in February 28 has gone through phases of escalation and temporary respite. over the past six months. The latest phase has seen both sides increasingly target oil tankers, opening a new front in the naval war.

On September 5, CENTCOM had announced that it had "destroyed" three Iranian tankers after the IRGC launched missiles at a U.S. aircraft carrier and a guided-missile destroyer. On Tuesday, the IRGC claimed that it had struck two U.S. Navy destroyers operating near the Strait of Hormuz. CENTCOM, however, said on Wednesday that no U.S. Navy warship had been hit.

Iran's attacks against the U.S. warships are seen as a risky move aimed at breaking the naval blockade which has largely prevented the Islamic Republic from exporting oil out of the Gulf waters.

"The IRGC Navy, in response to the aggression and hostility of the U.S. military in its attack on five Iranian oil tankers in the Persian Gulf, targeted two U.S. vessels and eight oil tankers in the area, inflicting heavy damage on them," the Guards said, adding that 10 ships attempting to pass through "a prohibited and unsafe area" of the Strait were also targeted. "The Strait of Hormuz remains firmly under the surveillance and management of the capable and valiant IRGC Navy," it added.

After striking the U.S. base in Jordan on Tuesday night, the Guards said the "punitive operation" damaged maintenance and repair facilities, deployment locations, and shelters for fighter jets. Jordan's army said it had shot down 18 Iranian missiles targeting the kingdom.

L&T SECURES LARGE ORDER FROM ONGC

Larsen & Toubro on Wednesday said it has secured a large order from state-owned ONGC in India. According to the company's classification, a large order is valued between ₹2,500 crore and ₹5,000 crore.

"L&T Energy Hydrocarbon Offshore has secured a large offshore order from the Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) for the Additional Development of Ratna-I (ADR I) and NLM-14 project off India's west coast," L&T said in an exchange filing.

The project involves engineering, procurement, construction, installation and commissioning of three new well-

head platforms, one riser platform, multiple segments of subsea pipelines and cables, and brownfield modifications to existing offshore installations. Parthasarathi Chatterjee, Senior Vice President and Head, L&T Energy Hydrocarbon Offshore, said the Ratna-I and NLM-14 developments are "significant additions to India's offshore energy infrastructure". "These projects combine new offshore facilities with brownfield modifications in existing operating fields, calling for careful planning, engineering integration and precise execution," Chatterjee said.

-Agencies

Govt working to allow ethanol blending beyond E20 via flexi-fuel vehicles, says top official

NEW DELHI, Sept 9: The government is working to permit ethanol blending beyond the current E20 level, enabled by flexi-fuel vehicles, Advisor to the Prime Minister Tarun Kapoor said on Wednesday.

Addressing virtually the fourth edition of The India Sugar & Bio-Energy Conference 2026, Kapoor said the E20 programme has been "very successful" so far and several automobile companies have announced plans to roll out flexi-fuel vehicles soon. "Now our focus is on going into flexi-fuel vehicles and allowing blending at a percentage which will be higher than E20," he said, adding that availability of pure

ethanol at fuel outlets will need to be expanded alongside the rollout of such vehicles.

prices to nearly USD 100 a barrel, with fears of a further increase.

"It is important that we try to



Now our focus is on going into flexi-fuel vehicles and allowing blending at a percentage which will be higher than E20

– Tarun Kapoor

Kapoor said the push for biofuels has become more critical amid the West Asia crisis, which has disrupted supplies and pushed crude oil

have whatever is available in the country," he said.

He said ethanol production capacity in the country has surpassed re-

quirements for blending, and the industry will need to explore additional uses for ethanol to utilise this surplus capacity fully.

Responding to recent criticism over E20 blending, Kapoor said much of it stemmed from misinformation or "motivated reasons", and that studies have shown E20 performs well, with any marginal decline in fuel efficiency offset by higher octane content.

On the diesel segment, Kapoor said the government is looking at biofuel-based additives, noting that experiments with isobutanol could open up a large new avenue for bio-fuels if successful, as diesel accounts

for a significant share of refinery output.

He also referred to the government's new GOBARdhan scheme, which brings together incentives from various ministries to promote compressed biogas, an area where progress has been limited so far.

Kapoor urged ethanol manufacturers to diversify into CBG production and other value-added by-products such as potash.

The government remains "totally committed" to the biofuels sector and will work to ensure existing investments face no uncertainty as the market expands, Kapoor said. – PTI

ESCALATION | Tehran targets vessels near strait; DC says strikes avenged warship attack; Iran launches missiles at base in Jordan

Iran hits 10 ships after US sinks 5 oil tankers

Dubai: Iran said on Wednesday it attacked 10 ships near the Strait of Hormuz after the US destroyed five Iranian oil tankers, in the biggest declared wave of tit-for-tat attacks on shipping since the six-month-old war began.

Iran also said it fired ballistic missiles at a base used by US forces in Jordan.

The IRGC warned it would sharply escalate its response to any further attacks, saying a strike on two or three Iranian targets would draw a response against 20 targets. The Guards said Iran would soon announce a larger off-limits maritime zone extending as far as the Arabian Gulf off Chabahar, near Pakistan.

The US said it destroyed five Iranian oil tankers overnight after IRGC targeted a US Navy warship twice with ballistic missiles over two days. No Americans were harmed.

"Iran continues to try to hit US naval ships, and for every time they do that or try to do that, they're going to lose tankers," US Secretary of State Marco Rubio told reporters during a visit to Colombia.

Iran said it retaliated by firing at two US vessels and eight tankers. The UK Maritime



Trade Operations Centre said it received reports of several merchant vessels being hit by disabling fire in the northern Gulf and Gulf of Oman.

Jordan said its air defences intercepted 18 of the 20 Iranian missiles, while two fell in unpopulated areas. No casualties were reported. A US official said the strikes were ineffective and all US troops were accounted for.

A source said an LNG tanker was damaged at the Emirati port of Khor Fakkan, while Iran threatened oil tankers in Kuwaiti and Bahraini ports, as per state media.

A seafarer was killed and another crew member went missing after an incident involving the oil products tanker Hercules Star while it was anchored off Dubai, the vessel's charterer Peninsula said.

Sources said the tanker may have been hit by a drone. UKMTD separately reported a vessel listing near Port Rashid in the UAE, possibly due to

SEIZED AMERICAN SUBMARINE, CLAIMS ISLAMIC REPUBLIC

Washington: Unmanned vessel malfunctioned, carried no sensitive or classified equipment

Iran's Navy said it seized an uncrewed US submarine in the Strait, a claim the US countered by saying the sub had malfunctioned. US Navy Captain Tim Hawkins, a Central Command spokesperson, said the underwater drone malfunctioned over a day



ago while surveying regional waters. It was an older model that neither collected sensitive data nor carried classified sonar or radar equipment. IRGC identified the vessel as Dive-LD and said it had been delivered to the US military in 2025.

Dive-LD is a large autonomous underwater vehicle designed to carry different sensor and mission packages. Manufacturer Anduril Industries puts its maximum operating depth at 6,000 metres and endurance at up to 10 days. US media reports estimate its cost at nearly \$2.5 million. Washington maintained the vessel had malfunctioned and said US operations in regional waters were continuing.

water ingress after an attack by an unknown projectile. A tanker with 2mn barrels of Iraqi fuel oil was also hit by a drone in Iraqi territorial waters near Basra, officials said.

Meanwhile, dozens of protesters rallied in Seoul, South Korea's capital, urging the govt to reject any US demand to deploy military assets to the strait. The protesters held

signs reading "Oppose the deployment" and "Do not join a war of aggression", accusing the Trump admin of pressuring Seoul to give military aid.

Meanwhile, the IAEA board reported Iran to UNSC for the first time in 20 years for failure to cooperate in a probe into uranium traces detected by inspectors at undeclared sites in Iran. —Agencies

OIL MARKETING COMPANIES' FUEL LOSSES WIDEN

No imminent hike in pump prices despite crude spike

● Price revision only if Indian basket sustains well above \$110 per barrel

SAURAV ANAND
New Delhi, September 9

AS BRENT CRUDE breached the \$100-a-barrel mark on Wednesday for the first time since July 24, while the Indian crude basket climbed to \$108.91/bbl on September 8, intensifying pressure on oil marketing companies (OMCs) and India's crude import bill as the US-Iran conflict continues to disrupt West Asian supplies.

However, official sources indicated that another retail petrol and diesel price revision may depend on crude sustaining above current levels.

"Historically, retail fuel price revisions have occurred when the Indian crude basket averaged around \$106/bbl. Therefore, unless crude prices sustain levels well above \$110/bbl, a further increase in retail fuel prices appears unlikely," Pankaj Srivastava of Rystad Energy told FE.

The last retail fuel price revision was on May 25, when state-run OMCs raised petrol and diesel prices, taking cumulative increases since May 15 to around ₹7.5/litre. Since then, prices have remained

OIL PRESSURE

■ Brent tops **\$100 a barrel** as the US-Iran conflict disrupts West Asian supplies

■ Indian crude basket hits **\$108.91 a barrel**, up 13.2% from August

■ Petrol marketing margins turn negative **₹5/litre**, while diesel losses widen to **₹23**

■ Every **\$10 rise** in crude adds about **\$42 mn** a day to India's import costs

■ India's crude import bill surged **56%** to **\$63.37 bn** in the first four months of FY27

■ IndianOil, BPCL and HPCL debt climbed 37% sequentially to **₹2.3 lakh cr**



unchanged, with petrol at ₹102.12/litre and diesel at ₹95.20/litre in Delhi.

The Indian crude basket has averaged \$102.11/bbl so far in September, up 13.2% from \$90.19/bbl in August. Brent futures rose as high as \$100.19/bbl and were trading at \$99.93, up \$2.01, or 2.05%, while WTI gained \$1.49, or 1.6%, to \$94.52. Brent has risen about 25% since early August.

"With escalation in hostilities between Iran and the US, Brent prices have crossed the \$100/barrel mark today and the Indian crude basket is at around \$109/barrel. At the average price for the month of September till date, marketing margins on petrol are negative ₹5/litre and diesel at negative ₹23/litre and under-recoveries

on domestic LPG are at ₹200/cylinder," said Prashant Vasisht, senior vice president and co-group head, Corporate Ratings, Icra.

Srivastava said every \$10/bbl increase in crude prices adds roughly \$42 million a day to India's import costs, or around \$12-15 billion annually. India's crude import bill has already risen sharply. The country spent \$63.37 billion in the first four months of FY27, up about 56% from \$40.55 billion in the corresponding period of FY26.

The latest crude spike also compounds pressure on state-run OMCs.

Equirus data for the week ended September 4 showed petrol marketing margins worsening to negative ₹4.2/litre

from negative ₹2/litre a week earlier. Diesel marketing margins remained at negative ₹24.9/litre, against negative ₹24.8/litre. Integrated margins, including refining, stood at ₹12/litre for petrol and ₹18.2/litre for diesel.

IOC, BPCL and HPCL entered the current quarter with stretched finances. Their aggregate standalone debt rose 37% quarter-on-quarter to ₹2.3 lakh crore in Q1FY27, while combined Ebitda swung to negative ₹25,800 crore from positive ₹32,300 crore in Q4FY26, a deterioration of ₹58,100 crore.

PPAC data show the Indian crude basket averaged \$114.48/bbl in April, \$106.23 in May, \$83.22 in June, \$82.04 in July and \$90.19 in August.



Paras, KIS Group plan 10 BioCNG plants with ₹1K-cr

Bengaluru-based KIS Group and Paras Dairy will form a joint venture to set up 10 BioCNG plants with an investment of ₹1,000 crore.

According to a joint statement, KIS Group and Paras Dairy have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to set up 10 BioCNG (CBG) plants across Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and other states, with an estimated investment of ₹1,000 crore.



Oil Hits \$100 Again Amid Escalation, Up 65% in 2026

Brent oil topped \$100 a barrel for the first time since July, as fresh tensions between the US and Iran heightened concerns about energy flows through the Strait of Hormuz.

The global crude benchmark rose about 3% in London after the latest escalation in the West Asia conflict.

"The key indicator to watch is whether this will put an end to the heavy shuttling of oil through the Strait of Hormuz," said Arne Lohmann Rasmussen, chief analyst at Global Risk Management in Copenhagen. "It may not come to a complete halt, but combined with the more aggressive Houthis in the Red Sea and higher Chinese crude oil imports, the global oil market balance appears to be deteriorating again."



Almost 10 mbd of oil has been crossing the Strait of Hormuz, roughly half of pre-war levels

Brent is up around 65% this year. Apart from a brief spike in July, however, futures had traded below the three-digit mark for more than three months as Persian Gulf producers managed to increase exports.

About 10 mbd have been crossing the waterway, roughly half of pre-war levels. Analytics firm Vortexa sees the amount of oil on ships at sea down by over 150 mb since the middle of July. **Bloomberg**

CNG vehicles won't get fuel if they don't have hydro-test certificate: IGL

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Owners of CNG-run vehicles will be denied fuel if they don't have a valid hydro-test certificate, Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) said Wednesday.

IGL said it was conducting a special safety drive across all its CNG stations, with staff at fuel pumps verifying the validity of hydro-test certificates before dispensing fuel to ensure compliance with safety requirements.

"CNG will not be dispensed if a valid hydro-test certificate is not available. Customers are requested to get their CNG cylinders tested on time and always carry the valid certificate in the vehicle," the company stated.

The move comes days after Petroleum and

Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO) issued directions in this regard. Under Rule 35(1) of Gas Cylinder Rules, 2025, every CNG cylinder must undergo a hydrotest once every three years at a PESO-approved cylinder testing centre.

PESO directed stringent safety enforcement across Delhi-NCR following a recent cylinder blast that killed three people and injured two at a retail outlet in the city last month. The advisory is aimed at preventing untoward incidents by tightening on-ground checks.

PESO has also instructed all city gas distribution companies to prominently display safety signage at CNG outlets and ensure that fuel is dispensed only to cylinders that meet approved standards and have a valid hydro-test certificate.

OMCs may be losing ₹5/litre on petrol, ₹23 on diesel as Brent crosses \$100

SHUBHANGI MATHUR
New Delhi, 9 September

India's oil marketing companies (OMCs) are losing ₹5 per litre on petrol and ₹23 per litre on diesel as the benchmark Brent crude crossed the \$100 per barrel mark on Wednesday amid rising tensions between the United States (US) and Iran, reaching its highest level in more than six weeks. Brent crude prices hovered around the \$70-75

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per barrel mark prior to the start of the conflict at the end of February.

The spike in crude oil prices is expected to negatively impact the financial health of OMCs as fuel prices at the pump remain frozen despite soaring international crude

prices. The government cumulatively raised petrol prices by ₹7.35 per litre and diesel rates by ₹7.53/l in May, across four instalments.

"With the escalation in hostilities between Iran and the US, Brent prices have crossed the \$100 per barrel-mark today and the Indian crude basket is at approximately \$109 per barrel," said Prashant Vasishth, senior vice president and co-group head, corporate ratings, Icria.

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OMCs may be losing ₹5/litre on petrol, ₹23 on diesel as Brent crosses \$100

"At the average price for the month of September till date, marketing margins on petrol are [at a] negative ₹5 per litre and diesel at [a] negative ₹23 per litre... under recoveries on domestic LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) are at ₹200 per cylinder," he added.

Crude oil prices are expected to rise further if the current geopolitical situation persists, as certain countries, including China, ramp up oil purchases amid declining inventory levels, he added.

Elevated energy prices have particularly hit India, which is among the world's largest crude oil importers.

India imports almost 90 per cent of its total crude oil and 50 per cent of its natural gas requirements.

India's crude oil import bill rose 56.5 per cent to \$63.4 billion in the first four months (April-July) of the current financial year (2026-27), according to the oil ministry's Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC). The spike in the



import bill comes despite unchanged import volumes at 81.9 million tonnes (mt) during the April to July period of FY27, from 81.5 mt in the same period in the year-ago period.

Meanwhile, the net oil and gas bill has increased 40.3 percent to \$57.8 billion during the period.

India also faces supply challenges with intensifying tensions in West Asia. Indian refiners plan to deepen diversification efforts with a heavy reliance on Russia, Brazil and certain African countries for energy procurement to meet domestic demand, a senior refinery executive told *Business Standard*.

Petronas Lubricants, TaMo collaborate for pilot used lubricant recycling model

Petronas Lubricants India announced on Wednesday that it has signed an initial pact with Tata Motors for a pilot project to establish a structured and scalable used automotive lubricant recycling model simultaneously across Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. The collaboration brings together the complementary strengths of two industry leaders to address a critical sustainability chal-

lenge, a statement said.

The project also supports compliance with India's evolving Extended Producer Responsibility framework and advances the country's circular economy ambitions, it added.

"Our collaboration with Tata Motors marks an important step toward building a scalable model for used oil circularity and reflects the strength of our channel network as we work to

significantly reduce our carbon footprint across operations," stated Binu Chandy, MD of Petronas Lubricants India.

The initiative will establish an organised and traceable system for managing used lubricants classified as hazardous waste, ranging from collection and storage through to recycling, where the used oil can be converted into high-quality re-refined base oil. **-PTI**

Govt working to allow ethanol blending beyond E20 via flexi-fuel vehicles: Official

The government is working to permit ethanol blending beyond the current E20 level, enabled by flexi-fuel vehicles, Tarun Kapoor, Advisor to the Prime Minister, said on Wednesday.

Addressing virtually the fourth edition of The India Sugar & Bio-Energy Conference 2026, Kapoor stated that the E20 pro-

gramme has been very successful so far and several automobile companies have announced plans to roll out flexi-fuel vehicles soon.

"Now our focus is on going into flexi-fuel vehicles and allowing blending at a percentage which will be higher than E20," he said, adding that availability of pure ethanol at fuel outlets will need to be

expanded alongside the roll-out of such vehicles.

Kapoor stated that the push for biofuels has become more critical amid the West Asia crisis, which has disrupted supplies and pushed crude oil prices to nearly \$100 a barrel, with fears of a further increase.

"It is important that we try to have whatever is available in the country," he said. **-PTI**

Middle East Crisis: Will there be a rise in crude prices this week?

The instability in the Middle East has triggered speculation over a possible rise in global crude oil prices this week. In India, prices are likely to cross ₹100 this week. Observers are closely watching the situation.



Dangerous phase

The Iran war is plunging the region into an economic and security abyss

The crisis in West Asia is escalating on two fronts. On Tuesday, the U.S. said that its forces had struck five Iranian oil tankers in the Gulf waters after what it claimed were Tehran's attacks on U.S. warships in the region. Iran retaliated with a massive ballistic missile attack on the Muwaffaq Salti U.S. air base in Jordan and vowed to respond with greater force to every U.S. attack from now on. It has also announced a new restricted zone in the Strait of Hormuz, warning commercial ships against crossing it under American naval escort. Separately, Yemen's Houthis, who are closely aligned with Tehran, launched an attack on Saudi Arabia, wounding dozens. Riyadh has vowed a response. The Houthis, who control northern Yemen and parts of its Red Sea coast, have already enforced a naval blockade of Saudi Arabia's western ports and launched an offensive against the forces of Yemen's Saudi-backed government in Taiz and Mocha. With both the Strait of Hormuz, which connects the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman, and the Red Sea, a critical trade channel between Europe and Asia, remaining flashpoints, a horizontally escalating conflict from Tehran to Jordan and Riyadh to Bab-el Mandeb threatens to plunge the entire region into an economic and security abyss.

The current phase of the conflict could prove to be deadlier for several reasons. The U.S., which in the recent past has used intense military strikes and economic strangulation as separate policy tools in an attempt to force Iran to surrender, is now using both simultaneously to exert maximum pressure on Tehran. The U.S. naval blockade has largely prevented Iran from exporting its oil, while the American naval escort to a limited number of ships out of the Strait of Hormuz has helped Washington blunt the impact of Iran's chokehold on the waterway on global energy prices. But President Donald Trump was wrong if he thought his maximum economic and military pressure would force Iran to make concessions. Iran, instead, decided to escalate the conflict by attacking American warships outside the Persian Gulf, fully aware that this would invite a stronger U.S. military response. Iran appears to believe that it has a window of opportunity with the U.S. heading into its midterm elections within weeks and Mr. Trump remaining politically weak at home. If Iran's strikes on U.S. military vessels signal a clear decision at the top to escalate the conflict, its missile attack on U.S. bases in Jordan suggests that Tehran has been rebuilding its strike capabilities – capabilities that Mr. Trump had claimed were destroyed. As neither Washington nor Iran seems ready to step back from the precipice, the war is set to enter a more dangerous phase with global economic implications.

Business Standard

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Mounting cost of a stalemate

India must again prepare for higher oil prices

The benchmark Brent crude-oil prices have been hovering around \$100 per barrel for the past few days owing to renewed tensions in West Asia and the continued exchange of fire between the United States (US) and Iranian allies. The US reported destroying five Iranian tankers on Tuesday, saying it was a response to Iranian attacks on US assets in the region. Meanwhile, Iran-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen have carried out attacks in Saudi Arabia. The Houthis intend to target Saudi oil exports. They are also fighting their government, which is backed by Saudi Arabia. An escalation could further destabilise the region, impacting global energy markets.

Oil prices have been extremely volatile since the conflict between Iran and the US began at the end of February. The blockades imposed by both sides in the Strait of Hormuz, a critical route for crude-oil supply, have roiled global energy markets. Brent crude-oil prices were \$70-75 per barrel in the second half of February. The war pushed prices above \$100 in March, and they remained elevated till the June ceasefire. But the ceasefire quickly unravelled, pushing oil prices higher. The flow of oil from the Strait of Hormuz, which facilitated about one-fifth of the global crude-oil movement before the war, has again been reported to have declined substantially over the past few days. The US is aiming to increase the economic cost of war for Iran by preventing it from selling oil, which went mainly to China. It is uncertain whether a higher economic cost will force Iran to agree to US terms.

Notably, the cost of war is not limited to Iran. Higher energy prices are affecting the whole world, including US consumers and businesses. The inflation rate in the US has been running above the central bank's target for years and higher energy prices will further complicate things. A section of the market expects the US central bank to raise interest rates, which will have its own set of implications. Sustained higher oil prices complicate macroeconomic management for a country like India, which depends on imports for most of its requirements. Although the situation has been managed well so far, and the first-quarter national accounts data showed that the Indian economy expanded by 7.8 per cent, pressure was on the external accounts despite robust export performance. Expecting the pressure to continue, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced a concessional swap scheme in June to attract foreign capital flows, including deposits from non-resident Indians. The response has been encouraging and will help the RBI manage the external account in the near term. However, the underlying problem of a potentially wider current-account deficit and pressure on capital flows will remain, given elevated oil prices and uncertain global economic conditions.

The inflation rate in India is expected to increase in the coming quarters, and even a partial pass-through of higher energy prices will push it further, requiring monetary tightening. Gas prices, for instance, were increased recently. As this newspaper reported this week, oil-marketing companies (OMCs) are incurring underrecoveries on the sale of both petrol and diesel, and it's not clear how they will be compensated. Indian Oil Corporation, for instance, posted losses worth over ₹1,100 crore in the June quarter. OMCs may not be able to absorb losses for an extended period. The Budget outgo on subsidies has also shown a sharp increase in the first four months this financial year and poses challenges to fiscal management. Thus, with no clarity on how long the renewed conflict will last, India will again need to prepare to deal with the fallout.

‘Blends beyond E20 only through flex-fuel vehicles’

SANJEEB MUKHERJEE
New Delhi, 9 September

The government is looking at ethanol blends higher than E20 only through flex-fuel vehicles as alternative sources of energy, particularly bio-fuels, have become increasingly important for India to reduce its dependence on imported crude oil, Tarun Kapoor, advisor to the Prime Minister said on Wednesday.

Delivering the keynote address at a conference organised by India Sugar and Bio-Energy Manufacturers Association (Isma), Kapoor said that the achievement of E20 blending has been a success, despite criticism from some quarters over the programme. He said several studies and experiments have established that E20 fuel works well, with any marginal decline in fuel efficiency being compensated for by the higher octane value.

“If we tried to find out whether there were actual problems, it came out very clearly that the issues being faced were generally due to other reasons and not because of ethanol blending,” Kapoor said. He said the government has been strongly promoting biofuels, while the industry has also responded positively by creating substantial ethanol production capacity across the country.

“Ethanol production has gone beyond our imagination. It is now more than what we had planned for and, rather, more than what we actually need for blending,” he said. According to Kapoor, the next challenge is to identify additional uses for ethanol and other biofuels, so that the capacity created in the country can be fully utilised.

The availability of higher ethanol blends, including relatively pure ethanol with suitable additives, would also need to expand at petrol stations, he said. However, this would have to happen in tandem with the availability of flex-fuel vehicles.

“If we can also get some product which can be used in diesel, then it will be great,” Kapoor said, noting that diesel accounts for a large share of refinery output. India needs to find ways to balance petrol and diesel demand rather than allow petrol demand to decline while diesel demand continues to rise, he added.



“ETHANOL PRODUCTION HAS GONE BEYOND OUR IMAGINATION. IT IS NOW MORE THAN WHAT WE HAD PLANNED FOR AND, RATHER, MORE THAN WHAT WE ACTUALLY NEED FOR BLENDING”

Tarun Kapoor, Advisor to the Prime Minister

Kapoor said ongoing experiments with isobutanol could open another avenue for deploying biofuels on a large scale if the technology proves successful. He also emphasised exploring biofuel applications beyond transportation, such as cooking and industrial uses. Products derived from sugarcane residues/byproducts, and surplus food grains should find wider markets, he said.

Kapoor said the government is also working to promote compressed biogas (CBG), although progress in the sector so far has been slower than expected. The recently announced Gobardhan scheme aims to bring together benefits available through different ministries and it could help accelerate the development of the CBG sector. “We want the biofuel market to grow so that the created capacity and investments are not put at risk,” Kapoor said.

Earlier, talking to reporters, Isma President Niraj Shirgaonkar said that the industry has apprised the government of the extent of losses that they would bear if sugarcane crushing is advanced to the middle of October from the usual date of November. He was responding to queries on the Centre’s proposal to advance sugarcane crushing to augment the supplies of the sweetener ahead of festivals.

Govt bonds end lower as Brent hits \$100/bbl

Informist

MUMBAI

Prices of government bonds ended lower on Wednesday as near-month Brent crude oil futures topped \$100 per barrel for the first time since July as the US and Iran continued their strikes in the Persian Gulf region. Systemic liquidity hovered near a record high, limiting a fall in bond prices as banks, especially private-sector banks, pumped cash into government bonds, dealers said.

Considering geopolitical factors alone, traders had expected the yield on the 10-year benchmark 6.94%, 2036 bond to hit the psychologically crucial level of 7.00% if Brent hit \$100 per barrel. However, touching 7% is currently unlikely if systemic liquidity remains flush, dealers said. The 10-year benchmark 6.94%, 2036 bond ended at ₹99.87 on Wednesday, down from ₹99.97 on Tuesday. The yield on the bond rose to 6.9568% from 6.9431% at the end of the previous session.

Paras Dairy, KIS Group plan to set up 10 BioCNG plants with ₹1K cr investment

Bengaluru-based KIS Group and Paras Dairy will form a joint venture to set up 10 BioCNG plants with an investment of ₹1,000 crore.

According to a joint statement, KIS Group and Paras Dairy have signed a memorandum of understanding to set up 10 BioCNG plants across Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and other states, with an esti-

mated investment of ₹1,000 crore.

They will form a joint venture for the proposed BioCNG plants.

Under the partnership, KIS Group will be responsible for technology, construction and operation of the plants, while Paras Dairy will be responsible for feedstock arrangement, land and approvals.

The memorandum of



understanding was signed at the IBET Expo. Founded in 2006, KIS Group is a clean technology player specialising in biogas, BioCNG and BioLNG solutions. **-PTI**

Fresh hostilities in West Asia push up international oil prices above \$100 per barrel

Indian oil companies losing Rs 5 a litre on petrol, Rs 23 on diesel

NEW DELHI, Sept 9: State-owned fuel retailers are losing Rs 5 per litre on petrol and Rs 23 a litre on diesel as fresh hostilities in West Asia pushed international oil prices above USD 100 per barrel – the highest since last July – analysts said on Wednesday.

Brent crude, the international benchmark for oil prices, rose 2.5 per cent to over USD 100 a barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate crude gained almost 2 per cent to about USD 95. This after tensions rose in the Middle East amid the latest tit-for-tat exchange of fire between the US and Iran.

Brent last touched the USD 100-mark on July 23.

India, the world's third-largest oil importing and consuming country, is particularly exposed to swings in international crude prices. It imports over 88 per cent of its crude – raw material for making fuels like petrol and diesel – requirements.

A sustained increase in prices raises the country's dollar-denominated import bill and can put pressure on the trade balance and the rupee, analysts said. Also, with retail pump rates remaining unchanged, it leads to fuel retailers incurring losses on sale of petrol, diesel and

cooking gas LPG.

Prashant Vasisht, Senior Vice President and Co-Group Head, Corporate Ratings, ICRA Ltd, said that with escalation in hostilities between Iran and the US, Brent prices have crossed the USD 100 per barrel-mark on Wednesday and the Indian crude basket is at about USD 109 per barrel.

"At the average price for the month of September till date, marketing margins on petrol are negative Rs 5 per litre and diesel at negative Rs 23 a litre and under recoveries on domestic LPG are at Rs 200 per cylinder," he said.

"If the current geopolitical situation persists, crude oil prices could rise further given that several countries, including China, were tapping their strategic reserves for a significant proportion of their consumption and their return to the market could increase demand in a period of restricted supplies."

Higher crude prices can also feed into domestic inflation through fuel, transport and other energy-related costs. But the impact on consumers and the wider economy would depend in part on how much of the increase is passed through to domestic fuel prices and how long in-

ternational prices remain elevated.

For now, retail petrol and diesel prices remain on freeze for over three months. Rates were last revised on May 25 when they were hiked Rs 2.61 a litre for petrol and Rs 2.71 per litre for diesel.

India's crude oil import bill surged over 56 per cent during April-July to USD 63.4 billion compared to USD 40.5 billion in the same period last year, according to the Oil Ministry's Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC).

The volumes bought remained almost the same –

81.9 million tonnes in the first five months of the current fiscal year and 81.5 million tonnes last year.

The basket of crude oil India imports averaged USD 108.91 per barrel on September 8, according to PPAC.

The basket is made up of sweet or low-sulphur (Brent) and sour grades containing more than 0.5 per cent sulphur (Oman-Dubai average) in the ratio 77.81:22.19.

The Indian basket of crude oil breached the USD 100 mark earlier this month, and the September average is USD 102.11 per barrel against USD 90.19 in August and USD 82.04 in July. – PTI

Oil cos losing 5 on petrol, 23/litre on diesel as oil prices cross \$100-mark

State-owned fuel retailers are losing ₹5 per litre on petrol and ₹23 a litre on diesel as fresh hostilities in West Asia pushed international oil prices above \$100 per barrel—the highest since last July—analysts said on Wednesday.

Brent crude, the international benchmark for oil prices, rose 2.5% to over \$100 a

barrel, while US West Texas Intermediate crude gained almost 2% to about \$95. This came after tensions rose in the Middle East amid the latest tit-for-tat exchange of fire between the US and Iran.

Brent last touched the \$100 mark on July 23. India, the world's third-largest oil importing and consuming country, is

particularly exposed to swings in international crude prices. It imports over 88% of its crude—the raw material for making fuels like petrol and diesel—requirements. A sustained increase in prices raises the country's dollar-denominated import bill and can put pressure on the trade balance and the rupee, analysts said. **-PTI**

Brent tops \$100, Indian economy faces heat

Rituraj Baruah

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NEW DELHI

Brent crude crossed \$100 a barrel for the first time in six weeks as the escalating war in West Asia raised the prospect of tighter supplies, threatening to widen India's oil import bill and add to inflationary and fiscal pressures.

Brent rose as much as 2.8% to \$100.70 a barrel on Wednesday, while West Texas Intermediate climbed 2.92% to \$95.75. Brent had last crossed the \$100 mark on 24 July.

The surge comes as the conflict between the US and Iran escalates. The US military said Wednesday that it had destroyed five Iranian tankers, while Iran responded with attacks on US ships and a US military base in Jordan. A spokesperson for Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps said that a restricted area extending from Chabahar in Iran into parts of the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea will be announced and any ship that passes through the area will be sanctioned.

India, which imports about 90% of its crude oil needs, is vulnerable to a prolonged rise in prices. A sustained \$1 increase in crude prices can add about ₹18,000 crore to the country's annual import bill, according to industry estimates by Bank of Baroda.

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IOC, BPCL and HPCL Likely to Post ₹14,470-Cr Profit in 2nd Qtr

Sanjeev Choudhary

New Delhi: IndianOil, BPCL and HPCL are estimated to report a combined profit of ₹14,470 crore in the July-September quarter, against a loss of ₹18,150 crore in April-June, if current trends hold, according to a brokerage. Strong refining margins and a sharp improvement in marketing margins are expected to drive the turnaround.

"Given the trends seen in the quarter so far, although recent weeks have seen a sharp decline in integrated margins, Q2 (till date) averages are still sharply higher than Q1 levels," ICICI Securities said in a report on Wednesday. "Even assuming similar trends continue for the rest of September, our estimates suggest Q2 could still see the oil marketing companies (OMCs) reporting positive operating profits and profit after tax."

IndianOil is estimated to report a profit of ₹7,303 crore in the second quarter, against a loss of ₹2,661 crore in the first quarter, according to the brokerage. BPCL is estimated to report a profit of ₹4,520 crore against a loss of ₹3,962 crore, and HPCL a profit of ₹2,647 crore against a loss of ₹11,526 crore.

Strong refining and marketing margins expected to drive turnaround from ₹18,150cr loss in first qtr

The turnaround will be driven mainly by a recovery in marketing margins, estimated at ₹2.9 a litre on petrol and ₹1.3 on diesel for all three companies. In the first quarter, the companies had negative margins of ₹6.1 on petrol and ₹18.9 on diesel.

Refining margins for IndianOil are expected to remain broadly unchanged at \$15 per barrel in the second quarter, compared with \$15.6 in the first quarter. Margins are, however, estimated to shrink to \$18 per barrel from \$41.4 for BPCL and to \$16 per barrel from \$23.8 for HPCL.

A sharp change in oil prices or pump prices could result in quarterly earnings that differ significantly from the brokerage's estimates.

Intensifying conflict in the Gulf region and limited traffic through the Strait of Hormuz are pushing up oil prices. Brent, the international crude benchmark, topped \$100 per barrel on Wednesday after the US hit multiple Iranian oil tankers. Iran also attacked US assets in the region. The conflict between Iran's ally Yemen's Houthis and Saudi Arabia also appears to be widening, with more attacks on each other, including an attack on a Saudi refinery.

Brent crude crosses \$100



Agencies

WASHINGTON

Crude oil prices briefly crossed \$100 a barrel on Wednesday for the first time in nearly six weeks as escalating US-Iran hostilities and attacks on oil facilities and tankers threatened to further disrupt an already weakened global supply chain.

Brent crude, the international benchmark, settled at \$97.89 a barrel before briefly moving above the psychologically important \$100 mark early Wednesday. The sharp rise followed a fresh round of military strikes involving the US and Iran and attacks by Iran-backed Houthi forces that set oil facilities in Saudi Arabia on fire.

The latest escalation came after the US military said it had destroyed five Iranian oil tankers on Tuesday. Washing-

ton said the strikes were carried out after Iran's Revolutionary Guards attempted missile attacks on a US Navy warship. The US Central Command said the warship evaded the attacks and no US personnel were injured.

Iran responded with missile attacks aimed at US targets in Jordan, according to Iranian state media. Jordan's military said its air-defence systems intercepted 18 ballistic missiles headed towards its territory. No casualties were reported.

The confrontation is also threatening the Strait of Hormuz, through which about one-fifth of world's oil passed before the war began. Iran has indicated that it wants ships to follow a route of its choosing and has threatened measures against vessels using the strait.

CONTINUED ON NATION

Brent crude...

Iran's Revolutionary Guard Navy also warned oil tanker crews near Kuwait and Bahrain to leave their vessels, accusing the two US allies of supporting American military operations.

The Trump administration has combined military pressure with economic sanctions, targeting more than two dozen Iranian commercial and private airlines and foreign cargo operators as Washington seeks to further isolate Tehran.

Analysts cautioned that the escalating cycle could inflict broader damage on the global economy. Iran expert Danny Citrinowicz of Israel's Institute for National Security Studies warned that military action could push Washington and Tehran towards an escalation that becomes increasingly difficult to control.

For consumers, sustained oil prices above \$100 could mean higher petrol, diesel and aviation fuel costs, raising transportation expenses and putting upward pressure on prices of food, appliances, furniture and other goods transported over long distances.

कच्चा तेल 100 डॉलर पहुंचने पर

तेल कंपनियों को 5 से 23 रुपये का नुकसान

शुभांगी माथुर

अमेरिका और ईरान के बीच बढ़ते तनाव के कारण कच्चे तेल की कीमतें 100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल तक पहुंचने से भारत की तेल विपणन कंपनियों (ओएमसी) को पेट्रोल पर 5 रुपये प्रति लीटर और डीजल पर 23 रुपये प्रति लीटर का नुकसान हो रहा है। यह जानकारी क्रेडिट रेटिंग एजेंसी इक्रा ने बुधवार को दी।

9 सितंबर को ब्रेट क्रूड की कीमतें छह सप्ताह से अधिक के उच्चतम स्तर पर पहुंच गईं और 100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल के पार चली गईं। संघर्ष से पहले कीमतें 70-75 डॉलर प्रति बैरल के आसपास थीं। कच्चे तेल की कीमतों में अचानक आई इस वृद्धि से तेल और गैस कंपनियों (ओएमसी) की वित्तीय स्थिति पर नकारात्मक प्रभाव पड़ने की आशंका है, क्योंकि अंतरराष्ट्रीय कीमतों में भारी वृद्धि के बावजूद ईंधन की कीमतें स्थिर बनी हुई हैं। खुदरा ईंधन की कीमतों में आखिरी बार मई में संशोधन किया गया था, जब पेट्रोल की कीमतों में 7.35 रुपये प्रति लीटर और डीजल की कीमतों में 7.53 रुपये प्रति लीटर की वृद्धि चार किस्तों में की गई थी।

इक्रा के वरिष्ठ उपाध्यक्ष और सह-समूह प्रमुख, कॉर्पोरेट रेटिंग्स, प्रशांत वशिष्ठ ने कहा, 'ईरान और अमेरिका के बीच शत्रुता बढ़ने के साथ, ब्रेट क्रूड की कीमतें आज 100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल के पार पहुंच गई हैं और भारतीय कच्चे तेल का बास्केट लगभग 109 डॉलर प्रति बैरल पर है। सितंबर महीने की अब तक की औसत कीमत पर, पेट्रोल पर मार्केटिंग मार्जिन (-) 5 रुपये प्रति लीटर और डीजल पर (-) 23 रुपये प्रति लीटर है, जबकि घरेलू एलपीजी पर अंडर रिकवरी 200 रुपये प्रति सिलिंडर है।' वशिष्ठ का अनुमान है कि यदि मौजूदा भू-राजनीतिक स्थिति बनी रहती है तो कच्चे तेल की कीमतों में और वृद्धि होगी और चीन सहित कुछ देश अपने-अपने देशों में भंडार घटने के कारण तेल की खरीद



बढ़ा सकते हैं। ऊर्जा की बढ़ी हुई कीमतों ने विशेष रूप से भारत को प्रभावित किया है, जो विश्व के सबसे बड़े कच्चे तेल आयातकों में से एक है। भारत अपनी कुल कच्चे तेल की जरूरतों का लगभग 90 प्रतिशत और प्राकृतिक गैस की जरूरतों का 50 प्रतिशत आयात करता है।

तेल मंत्रालय के पेट्रोलियम योजना एवं विश्लेषण प्रकोष्ठ (पीपीएसी) के अनुसार, चालू वित्त वर्ष (2026-27) के पहले चार महीनों (अप्रैल-जुलाई) में भारत का कच्चे तेल का आयात बिल 56.5 प्रतिशत बढ़कर 63.4 अरब डॉलर हो गया। आयात बिल में यह तीव्र वृद्धि अप्रैल से जुलाई 2026-27 की अवधि के दौरान आयात की मात्रा में कोई बदलाव न होने के बावजूद हुई है, जो पिछले वर्ष की इसी अवधि के 8.15 करोड़ टन के मुकाबले 8.19 करोड़ टन रही। वहीं, इस अवधि के दौरान शुद्ध तेल और गैस बिल 40.3 प्रतिशत बढ़कर 57.8 अरब डॉलर हो गया है। पश्चिम एशिया में बढ़ते तनाव के कारण भारत को आपूर्ति संबंधी चुनौतियों का भी सामना करना पड़ रहा है। एक वरिष्ठ रिफाइनरी अधिकारी ने बिजनेस स्टैंडर्ड को बताया कि भारतीय रिफाइनरी घरेलू मांग को पूरा करने के वास्ते ऊर्जा खरीद के लिए रूस, ब्राजील और कुछ अफ्रीकी देशों पर भारी निर्भरता के साथ विविधीकरण के प्रयासों को और गहरा करने की योजना बना रहे हैं।

जुलाई के बाद कच्चा तेल फिर 100 डालर पार

पश्चिम एशिया में तनाव बढ़ा, भुगतान संतुलन और रुपये की कीमत व महंगाई पर पड़ेगा दबाव

जागरण ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली : पश्चिम एशिया में तेल संयंत्रों और टैंकर पर हमलों के बाद कच्चे तेल की कीमत जुलाई के बाद फिर 100 डालर प्रति बैरल के पार पहुंच गई है। तेल कंपनियों की मौजूदा प्राथमिकता वैश्विक अस्थिरता के बीच कूड की आपूर्ति बनाए रखना है। अंतरराष्ट्रीय जानकारी का अनुमान है कि कीमतें फिलहाल 100 डालर या इससे ऊपर बनी रह सकती हैं। इससे भारत के भुगतान संतुलन, रुपये की कीमत और महंगाई पर दबाव बढ़ने की आशंका है। अंतरराष्ट्रीय तेल मानक ब्रेंट कूड का सबसे अधिक कारोबार वाला वायदा अनुबंध मंगलवार को 97.89 डालर प्रति बैरल पर था।

भारत दुनिया का तीसरा सबसे बड़ा कच्चा तेल आयातक है और अपनी जरूरत का करीब 88 प्रतिशत हिस्सा आयात करता है। कच्चे तेल के 100 डालर प्रति बैरल से ऊपर रहने का सीधा मतलब आयात बिल में इजाफा, चालू खाता

- कूड में 10 डालर प्रति बैरल की वृद्धि से वार्षिक आयात बिल में होती है 13-14 अरब डालर की बढ़ोतरी
- इस साल रुपये की कीमत में भारी गिरावट के लिए कूड की कीमतों को ही बताया जा रहा है असली वजह



घाटा (सीएडी) का बढ़ना और रुपये पर दबाव है। वित्त मंत्रालय का एक पुराना आकलन है कि हर 10 डालर प्रति बैरल की बढ़ोतरी से भारत का वार्षिक आयात बिल करीब 13-14 अरब डालर बढ़ जाता है। इसका सीधा असर भुगतान संतुलन (अंतरराष्ट्रीय कारोबार में डालर के देश में आने और देश से बाहर जाने का अंतर) पर होता है और इससे विदेशी मुद्रा भंडार पर अतिरिक्त

बोझ पड़ सकता है। इस साल रुपये की कीमत में भारी गिरावट के लिए कच्चे तेल की कीमतों को ही कारण बताया जाता है।

भारत ने सितंबर में 102 डालर प्रति बैरल पर खरीदा कच्चा तेल : सरकार की पेट्रोलियम प्लानिंग एंड एनालिसिस सेल (पीपीएसी) के आंकड़ों के मुताबिक सितंबर में भारत ने औसतन 102.11 डालर प्रति बैरल की दर से कच्चा तेल

पेट्रोल पर पांच तो डीजल पर 23 रुपये प्रति लीटर का नुकसान

कच्चे तेल के महंगा होने का असर सबसे ज्यादा सरकारी तेल कंपनियों पर हो रहा है। सितंबर महीने की अब तक की औसत कीमत पर सरकारी तेल कंपनियों को पेट्रोल पर पांच रुपये प्रति लीटर और डीजल पर 23 रुपये प्रति लीटर की नुकसान हो रही है। जबकि घरेलू एलपीजी पर अंडर-रिकवरी 200 रुपये प्रति सिलेंडर चल रही है। वैसे यह अप्रैल, 2026 के मुकाबले काफी कम है।

रुपया 34 पैसे टूटकर 95.08 पर पहुंचा

मुंबई, प्रेड : रुपया बुधवार को डालर के मुकाबले 34 पैसे टूटकर 95.08 के स्तर पर रहा। विदेशी मुद्रा कारोबारियों ने कहा कि कमजोर शेयर बाजार और विदेशी संस्थागत निवेशकों (एफआईआई) की बिकवाली से भी रुपये पर दबाव बढ़ा। विदेशी मुद्रा विनिमय बाजार में डालर के मुकाबले रुपया 94.80 पर खुला, जो दिन का उच्चतम स्तर था। बाद में रुपया कमजोर होकर 95.22 के निचले स्तर तक आया। अंत में रुपया 95.08 प्रति डालर पर बंद हुआ।

खरीदा है। यह अगस्त 2026 के मुकाबले 10 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा है। अगस्त में औसत खरीद मूल्य 90.19 डालर प्रति बैरल था। जुलाई में यह 82.04 डालर, जून में 83.22 डालर, मई में 106.23 डालर और अप्रैल में 114.48 डालर प्रति बैरल रहा। साफ है कि चार महीने बाद भारत फिर 100 डालर से ज्यादा कीमत चुका रहा है। इस वजह से ही चालू वित्त वर्ष 2026-27 में

अप्रैल से जुलाई के दौरान आयात बिल 56 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा बढ़कर 63.4 अरब डालर पहुंच गया, जबकि आयात की मात्रा लगभग पिछले साल जितनी (8.19 करोड़ टन) ही रही है। अप्रैल-जून तिमाही में ही बिल 50 अरब डालर हो चुका था। 2025-26 में भारत का कच्चा तेल आयात बिल 121.8 अरब डालर रहा था, जो इसके पिछले वर्ष के 137.2 अरब डालर से कम था।

पेट्रोलियम कंपनियों को पेट्रोल पर पांच, डीजल पर 23 रुपये प्रति लीटर नुकसान

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी) : पश्चिम एशिया में तनाव बढ़ने के कारण अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में कच्चे तेल की कीमत 100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल के पार पहुंचने से सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की पेट्रोलियम कंपनियों को पेट्रोल की बिक्री पर करीब पांच रुपये और डीजल पर 23 रुपये प्रति लीटर का नुकसान हो रहा है। विश्लेषकों ने बुधवार को यह जानकारी दी। कच्चे तेल की कीमत जुलाई के बाद अपने सबसे ऊंचे स्तर पर पहुंच गई है। इससे पहले 23 जुलाई को इसकी कीमत 100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल के स्तर पर थी। अंतरराष्ट्रीय तेल मानक ब्रेट कूड की कीमत 2.5 प्रतिशत बढ़कर 100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल से अधिक हो गई है, जबकि अमेरिकी वेस्ट टेक्सास इंटरमीडिएट (डब्ल्यूटीआई) कच्चा तेल करीब दो प्रतिशत बढ़कर 95 डॉलर प्रति बैरल के आसपास आ गया। यह तेजी अमेरिका और ईरान के बीच हालिया तनाव तथा एक-दूसरे के खिलाफ की गई सैन्य कार्रवाई के बाद आई है।

जंग तेज़, कच्चा तेल 100 डॉलर पार



AFP

■ अमेरिका ने ईरान से जुड़े 5 टैंकरो पर हमला किया। कुछ घंटे बाद ईरान ने जॉर्डन में US सैन्य ठिकाने की ओर मिसाइलें दागी।

■ IRGC ने कहा कि दो अमेरिकी जहाजों और 8 तेल टैंकरो पर भी हमले किए हैं। ये बिना मंजूरी के होर्मुज से गुजरने की कोशिश में थे। ► खबर पेज 14

■ अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में कच्चा तेल 100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल के पार हो गया। इससे पहले 23 जुलाई को यह रेट था।

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

कच्चा तेल \$100 के पार, सेंसेक्स 1% गिरा

पश्चिम एशिया में तनाव, तेल की कीमतों में तेजी से 3 महीने के निचले स्तर पर बाजार

■ NBT रिपोर्ट, मुंबई: पश्चिम एशिया में बढ़ते तनाव और कच्चे तेल की कीमत 100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल के पार जाने का असर शेयर बाजार पर साफ दिखता। बुधवार को Sensex लगातार तीसरे दिन गिरकर 813 अंक टूट गया और करीब तीन महीने के निचले स्तर पर पहुंच गया। Nifty भी 23,450 के नीचे बंद हुआ। दुनिया में कच्चे तेल की कीमत तय करने वाला Brent crude 2.67% उछलकर 100.5 अमेरिकी डॉलर प्रति बैरल पर पहुंच गया।

सेंसेक्स 813.35 अंक (1.08%) गिरकर दिन के सबसे निचले स्तर 74,764.23 पर बंद हुआ। यह करीब तीन महीने में सेंसेक्स का सबसे निचला क्लोजिंग स्तर भी है। Nifty 203.60 अंक (0.86%) गिरकर 23,431.50 पर बंद हुआ। यह भी करीब तीन महीने का सबसे निचला स्तर है। इससे पहले इंडेक्स 11 जून को इसी के आसपास बंद हुआ था।

Sensex की 30 कंपनियों में HCL Tech सबसे ज्यादा 4.55 फीसदी गिरा। Infosys में 4.43 फीसदी, Tech Mahindra में 3.87 फीसदी और TCS में 2.26 फीसदी की गिरावट आई। वहीं अदाणी पोर्ट के शेयर में सबसे ज्यादा 3.67 फीसदी की बढ़त हुई।



निवेशकों को नुकसान

- Sensex 813.35 अंक (1.08%) गिरा।
- Nifty 203.60 अंक (0.86%) गिरकर बंद।
- HCL Tech सबसे ज्यादा 4.55% गिरा।
- कच्चा तेल 2.67% उछलकर \$100.5/बैरल पर पहुंच गया।
- India VIX में 6 फीसदी से ज्यादा की बढ़ोतरी हुई।
- IT सेक्टर 3.21% गिरकर सबसे ज्यादा नुकसान में रहा।
- स्मॉलकैप 0.59%, मिडकैप में 0.52% की गिरावट।

सोने-चांदी की तेजी पर लग सकता है ब्रेक : एक्सपर्ट

■ पीटीआई, नई दिल्ली: दिल्ली में बुधवार को सोना 100 रुपये घटकर 1,58,000 रुपये प्रति 10 ग्राम पर आ गया। ऑल इंडिया जूलर्स असोसिएशन के मुताबिक, चांदी 2,300 रुपये बढ़कर 2,43,400 रुपये प्रति किलोग्राम हो गई। HDFC Securities के सीनियर एनालिस्ट-कमोडिटीज सौमिल गांधी ने कहा कि ऊर्जा की ऊंची कीमतों से महंगाई का दबाव और बढ़ सकता है। इससे ब्याज दरें ऊंची बने रहने की उम्मीद मजबूत हो सकती है, जिससे सोने-चांदी की कीमतों में तेजी की गुंजाइश सीमित हो सकती है।

बढ़ रही कीमतों से कंपनियों पर असर

तेल में उछाल बढ़ा सकता है महंगाई का दबाव ?

■ पीटीआई, नई दिल्ली: पश्चिम एशिया में तनाव बढ़ने के कारण अंतरराष्ट्रीय कच्चे तेल की कीमत 100 अमेरिकी डॉलर प्रति बैरल के पार पहुंच गई है। पिछले साल जुलाई के बाद यह इसका सबसे ऊंचा स्तर है। विश्लेषकों ने बुधवार को कहा कि इस वजह से सरकारी तेल कंपनियों को पेट्रोल की बिक्री पर 5 रुपये प्रति लीटर और डीजल पर 23 रुपये प्रति लीटर का घाटा हो रहा है। Brent crude इससे पहले 23 जुलाई को 100 डॉलर के स्तर पर पहुंचा था।

भारत पर अंतरराष्ट्रीय कच्चे तेल की कीमतों में उतार-चढ़ाव का खासा असर



पड़ता है। वजह ये है कि भारत अपनी कच्चे तेल की जरूरत का 88 फीसदी से ज्यादा हिस्सा आयात करता है। कच्चा तेल पेट्रोल और डीजल जैसे ईंधन बनाने के लिए कच्चा माल है।

विश्लेषकों ने कहा कि कच्चे तेल की कीमतों में लगातार बढ़ोतरी से देश का डॉलर में होने वाला आयात बिल बढ़ता है। इससे व्यापार संतुलन और रुपये पर भी दबाव पड़ सकता है। इसके अलावा, जब पेट्रोल पंप पर कीमतें नहीं बढ़ाई जाती, तो तेल कंपनियों को घाटा उठाना पड़ता है।

पश्चिम एशिया में सैन्य संकट और गहराने से निवेशकों ने जमकर बिकवाली की झटका : कच्चा तेल 100 डॉलर के पार, घबराकर फिसले बाजार

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। पश्चिम एशिया में बढ़ते तनाव का असर बुधवार को कच्चे तेल और भारतीय शेयर बाजार पर दिखाई दिया। ब्रेंट कच्चा तेल छह सप्ताह में पहली बार 100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल के पार पहुंच गया, जबकि महंगे तेल और बढ़ते भू-राजनीतिक जोखिम से भारतीय शेयर बाजार में लगातार तीसरे कारोबारी सत्र गिरावट रही। सेंसेक्स 813 अंक लुढ़क कर तीन महीने के निचले स्तर पर आ गया।

पश्चिम एशिया में तेल संयंत्रों और टैंकर पर हुए हमलों के बाद ब्रेंट कच्चे तेल का वायदा भाव बुधवार को करीब छह सप्ताह में पहली बार 100 डॉलर प्रति बैरल के पार पहुंच गया। मंगलवार को यह 97.89 डॉलर प्रति बैरल पर बंद हुआ था। कच्चे तेल के दाम उछलने से भारतीय बाजारों पर दिखा लगातार तीसरे दिन बिकवाली का दबाव बना रहा। इसके चलते सेंसेक्स 813.35 अंक लुढ़क कर करीब तीन महीने के निचले स्तर 74,764.23 अंक पर बंद हुआ। वहीं, निफ्टी 203.60 अंक का गिरावट के साथ 23,431.50 अंक पर बंद हुआ।

सीधा इन पर होगा असर

महंगाई बढ़ने का खतरा

1 कच्चे तेल उछलने से पेट्रोल, डीजल और विमान ईंधन के दाम भी बढ़ सकते हैं। इससे यात्रा की लागत बढ़ने के अन्य वस्तुओं की कीमतों पर असर पड़ सकता है।

रुपये पर भी दबाव

2 रुपया बुधवार को अमेरिकी डॉलर के मुकाबले 34 पैसे टूटकर 95.08 (अस्थायी) के स्तर पर रहा। मंगलवार को इसमें 33 पैसे की गिरावट आई थी।

5 कंपनियों के मुनाफे पर असर

महंगा कच्चा तेल विमानन, पेंट, टायर, रसायन, लॉजिस्टिक और उपभोक्ता सामान जैसे तेल पर निर्भर क्षेत्रों के मुनाफे पर दबाव डालेगा।

आईटी क्षेत्र अधिक टूटा

सेंसेक्स की कंपनियों में एचसीएल टेक्नोलॉजीज का शेयर साढ़े चार प्रतिशत नीचे बंद हुआ। सबसे अधिक नुकसान उठाने वाली अगली तीन कंपनियां भी आईटी सेक्टर से ही रहीं। इंफोसिस का शेयर भी साढ़े चार प्रतिशत के करीब टूटा।

निवेशकों की चिंता बढ़ी

3 महंगे तेल ने निवेशकों की चिंता इसलिए भी बढ़ाई है क्योंकि इससे कंपनियों की लागत और अर्थव्यवस्था पर दबाव बढ़ने की आशंका है।

सरकार पर दबाव बढ़ेगा

4 कच्चे तेल की कीमतों में लगातार बढ़ोतरी से देश का डॉलर में होने वाला आयात खर्च बढ़ता है, जिससे व्यापार घाटे और रुपये पर दबाव पड़ सकता है।



पेट्रोल बिक्री पर ₹5 और डीजल पर ₹23 का घाटा

कच्चे तेल की कीमत चढ़ने से सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की पेट्रोलियम कंपनियों को पेट्रोल की बिक्री पर करीब पांच रुपये और डीजल पर 23 रुपये प्रति लीटर का नुकसान हो रहा है। विश्लेषकों के अनुसार, अगर खुदरा स्तर पर पेट्रोल, डीजल और रसीद गैस की कीमतों में बदलाव नहीं किया जाता है, तो पेट्रोलियम विपणन कंपनियों को इनकी बिक्री पर नुकसान उठाना पड़ता है।

इन शेयरों में भारी गिरावट

हिंदुस्तान यूनीलिवर, बजाज फाइनेंस, अल्ट्रा टेक सीमेंट, भारती एयरटेल, बीईएल और रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज के शेयर एक से दो प्रतिशत के बीच फिसले। आईटीसी, इंडिगो, एलएंडटी, कोटक महिंद्रा बैंक, सन फार्मा, एसबीआई भी लाल निशान पर बंद हुए।