Business Line, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 2, Size: 31.91cm × 19.68cm

# Capex by 59 CPSEs, 4 govt entities tops 33% of FY27 target in April-July

**AHEAD OF THE CURVE.** Railway Board topped in value terms by spending over ₹1.19-lakh crore

**Shishir Sinha**
New Delhi

Capital expenditure by 59 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) and four government organisations, such as the Railway Board, topped 33 per cent of the FY27 target in the first four months (April-July), data from the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) showed.

It was 28 per cent in the corresponding period of the last fiscal.

According to DPE data, the 63 entities spent over ₹2.82 lakh crore in the April-July period, which is over 33 per cent of the annual target of ₹8.43 lakh crore.

During the period, the Railway Board topped in actual money spent at over ₹1.19 lakh crore, while GAIL led in terms of percentage of the target achieved at over 60 per cent.

### PROFITABLE GROWTH

CPSEs are encouraged to take up capex to achieve profitable growth. A large capex creates growth and employment opportunities.

Several key performance indicators (KPIs) have been included in the annual MoU framework for CPSE evaluation.

This includes capex, return on net worth or return on capital employed, export and import as a percentage of revenue, EBIDTA as a percentage of revenue and asset turnover ratio.

This data comes at a time when the Centre's capex surged by around 24 per cent in the April-June period, compared to the corresponding period of FY26, as reported by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA).

Key contributions came from the Railways (35 per cent of the Budget Estimate) and Roads (22 per cent of the BE).

The government has set the capital expenditure for the current fiscal at ₹12.21 lakh crore, of which over ₹3.4 lakh crore was spent in April-June.

Higher spending by infrastructure ministries is expected to have a positive impact on the overall growth numbers.

### PRIVATE SECTOR LAGS

Higher spending by CPSEs and government organisations is critical as not much improvement is seen in private sector capex.

It may be noted that a forward-looking survey on private capex investment by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation showed moderation in FY27, with aggregate intentions falling 16.5 per cent to ₹9.55 lakh crore from the provisional ₹11.44 lakh crore estimated for FY26.

**Capital expenditure** (April-July, 2026-27/Amount in ₹ crore)

| CPSE/Organisation | Target | Achievement | % |
|---|---|---|---|
| Railway Board | 2,92,001 | 1,19,898 | 41.06 |
| NHAI | 1,87,293 | 60,304 | 32.20 |
| NTPC | 31,000 | 15,700 | 50.64 |
| Powergrid | 37,000 | 10,155 | 27.45 |
| ONGC | 30,000 | 9,926 | 33.09 |
| Indian Oil | 32,700 | 9,078 | 27.76 |
| GAIL India | 11,518 | 7,178 | 62.32 |
| Coal India | 16,500 | 5,197 | 31.49 |
| NPCL | 18,287 | 4,937 | 27.00 |
| SAIL | 15,000 | 3,454 | 23.03 |

Source: DPE

Millennium Post, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 11, Size: 22.81cm × 24.77cm

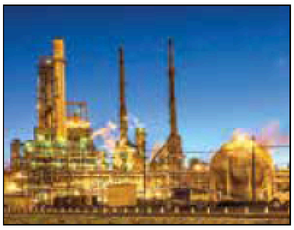
# Parl panel pushes for greater accountability in petroleum sector amid declining crude output

**SIMONTINI BHATTACHARJEE**

**NEW DELHI:** The Committee on Public Undertakings (COPU) has sought enhanced coordination between major public investments in the petroleum sector and progress in domestic energy generation, and has urged the government to fast-track the country's shift to more environmentally friendly energy sources.

The Thirty-Sixth Report of the committee placed before Parliament on Thursday assessed the measures taken by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoPNG) regarding the action taken on its previous recommendations relating to the working and performance of central public sector undertakings (CPSUs) in the petroleum and natural gas sector.

Headed by BJP Member of Parliament Baijayant Panda, the committee evaluated the performance of major public sector enterprises, including Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), Oil India Limited (OIL), GAIL, Engineers India Limited (EIL) and Balmer Lawrie. It was pointed out that the government at the centre accepted 27 out of 28 recommendations made by the committee, while one of the recommendations was still pending for final approval.



**'It was pointed out that the Centre accepted 27 out of 28 recommendations made by the committee'**

The main focus of the committee's concerns is the apparent disconnect between increasing capital expenditure and falling domestic crude oil output.

According to the report, capital expenditure in the sector rose steadily from Rs 1.33 lakh crore in 2020-21 to a projected Rs 1.70 lakh crore in 2024-25. However, crude oil production declined from 34.20 million metric tonnes (MMT) in 2018-19 to an estimated 28.70 MMT in 2024-25.

The committee further attributed the trend to several factors, including ageing oil fields, lengthy exploration cycles, the natural depletion of reserves and disruptions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, members stressed that measurable performance benchmarks, stronger accountability mechanisms and a greater emphasis on enhanced oil recovery technologies and accelerated field development must accompany substantial investments.

It was further stressed that these enterprises continue to play a crucial role in India's effort to secure its energy requirements while fulfilling its international commitments on the environment front. The report highlighted many of the geopolitical risks faced by the energy sector. It was pointed out that India imports about 89 per cent of its crude oil requirements and thus is exposed to disturbances due to any conflict, sanctions and political instability of major oil producers.

The Russia-Ukraine War, instability in West Asia, and disturbances in the maritime route are considered threats to the Indian energy security framework.

The ministry also referred to various reforms which have taken place in recent times like the Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP), Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP), almost one million square kilometres of offshore "No-Go" area releases and more seismic surveys for attracting new investments in the exploration sector. Besides, the committee examined the progress of large-scale infrastructure projects and emphasised the need to enhance monitoring systems so as to avoid any kind of delay and increase in the cost of the project.

The ministry informed the committee that an inter-ministerial committee has been set up to monitor these projects and that these monitoring mechanisms have been incorporated into Pragati, PM Gati Shakti and Pariyojana digital platforms.

In addition, the expansion of the National Gas Grid was an issue of focus in the report. The committee pointed out that over 3,851 kilometres of gas pipelines had already been completed whereas another 3,189 kilometres were being developed. Though it recognised the measures taken to solve land acquisition and regulatory issues, the panel focused on the necessity of better coordination between the centre, states, and local authorities to ensure timely completion of important energy projects.

Nonetheless, the committee praised the government for its decision to diversify its sources of imports and highlighted how India now sources its crude oil from over 41 nations worldwide. In addition to this, the committee welcomed the creation of strategic petroleum reserves with an oil storage capacity of 5.33 million metric tonnes in Visakhapatnam, Mangaluru, and Padur. Besides this, the Indian public sector companies have acquired interests in 45 foreign oil and gas assets in 21 countries.

Asian Age, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 4, Size: 14.45cm × 18.10cm

## Scheme aims to boost clean fuel production

# Govt clear Assam eway, ₹23,731-cr biofuel push

SHASHI BHUSHAN
NEW DELHI, AUG 6

Aiming to boost energy resilience and reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels, the Centre on Thursday approved a unified circular bioenergy (GOBARdhan) scheme with an outlay of ₹23,731 crore which seeks to ramp up biogas production in the country.

The Union Cabinet also approved the development of 135.871 km, four-lane access-controlled Guwahati-Tezpur Corridor of NH-15 in Assam with an allocation of ₹8970.20 crore. As India's demand for natural gas is expanding across transport, households, industry and commercial sectors, the circular bioenergy scheme (CBG) can meet a growing share of this demand through domestic renewable production.

CBG is chemically equivalent to natural gas and can be seamlessly integrated into the existing gas ecosystem. It combines the benefits of a renewable fuel with the reach and utility of India's expanding gas infrastructure.

**THE GOVERNMENT noted that India's demand for natural gas is expanding across transport, households, industry and commercial sectors**

Each CBG plant also creates a local circular economy around agricultural residue, cattle dung and other organic resources. It generates opportunities in feedstock supply, transportation, plant operations and organic manure production, while supporting cleaner waste management and lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that the GOBARdhan scheme will be implemented from 2026-27 to 2035-36 and will establish compressed biogas as a major pillar of India's future energy mix.

In a statement, the government said, "GOBARdhan marks a defining moment in India's clean energy journey. It will transform the country's abundant agricultural residue, cattle dung, press mud, municipal organic waste and other biomass resources into clean fuel, organic manure, rural income and national economic value."

Through assured demand, remunerative and stable pricing, capital assistance, pipeline infrastructure, credit support and technology development, GOBARdhan will provide the strong and predictable framework required to take India's CBG sector to national scale.

"The scheme aims to increase domestic CBG production nearly ten-fold, mobilise large-scale private investment and create a vibrant circular bioeconomy across the country," it said. The government noted that India's demand for natural gas is expanding across transport, households, industry and commercial sectors.

CBG can meet a growing share of this demand through domestic renewable production, strengthening energy resilience and reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels.

Business Line, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 5, Size: 14.50cm × 43.55cm

# Offshore oil plans

## Samudra Manthan scheme has significant promise

Rajnish Gupta

The timing of the Union Cabinet's approval of 'Samudra Manthan' — the National Offshore Exploration Scheme is notable. It comes close on the heels of the conflict in West Asia, which has once again reinforced the importance of finding and developing domestic resources.

What makes this announcement more striking is that it has been nearly a quarter century since India's last major new basins — the Krishna-Godavari basin and the Barmer fields — were discovered.

India has progressively liberalised its regime and the current fiscal terms are attractive. Royalty rates have been cut sharply, deepwater developments get a seven-year royalty holiday, and ultra-deepwater royalties can be as low as 2 per cent against a 12.5 per cent onshore rate. There is no oil cess, full marketing and pricing freedom. Further, the recent amendment in PNG rules recognises the principal of fiscal stability and have combined exploration licence with a mining lease.

Fiscal terms are not a constraint, the question is what lies beneath the seabed, and how confidently anyone can say so.

Fundamentally, petroleum exploration is a high-risk business. Management has to commit substantial time and money upfront, with an uncertain outcome. Returns accrue over a very long period of time. This is where the current policy comes in.

**HYDROCARBON SEARCH**

There are three parts to the scheme specifically with regard to finding and producing hydrocarbons.

First, is the government-funded seismic data acquisition. Non-exclusive, multi-client seismic surveys are typically the very first source of information on a new or underexplored area. They are shot ahead of licensing rounds, before any company has committed to acreage and allows a basin to be evaluated from the outside, by explorers without requiring them to first win a block first.

Basin wide, non-commercial data acquisition is something that individual operators may not be willing to fund. Depending on the results that such data throws up, it is possible that the view of the Indian basins undergoes a change and much more capital is

**OIL.** Under the sea

committed to petroleum exploration in India.

Second is the direct financial support for up to 40 deepwater and ultra-deepwater exploratory drilling, of up to ₹650 crore per well subject to a cap of 50 per cent of well cost. Given that ultra-deepwater wells can cost much more, this support covers only part of the cost in most cases. However, it can shift the risk calculus for an operator deciding whether to drill or not.

Third is the common infrastructure for evacuation and production. Its real value is in unlocking discoveries that are commercially marginal on a standalone basis. Mahanadi basin is the clearest example, where several discoveries exist but may not justify dedicated infrastructure. Shared infrastructure changes that arithmetic entirely.

Taken together, this is a strongly positive move for the exploration and production sector.

Whatever data is acquired should be made available at the lowest possible cost, and as widely as possible, through the National Data Repository. Multi-client-style data is disproportionately valuable to mid-sized and independent operators, and it is often those smaller nimbler players who take the early risk that eventually draws in larger capital.

This spending may be a more prudent capital allocation vis-à-vis using the capital to buy an oil and gas block overseas. For the data acquired can result in a multiplier impact through potentially higher interest in India and monetising some of the discoveries made.

The announcement represents a bold move to reshape India's energy landscape. Effective and timely implementation will now be critical to unlocking investments, accelerate exploration and realising the full value of the reform.

The writer is Partner, Tax and Economic Policy Group, EY India

Millennium Post, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 10, Size: 22.86cm × 15.21cm

# Cabinet clears ₹23,731 crore national biogas scheme to boost clean fuel production

NEW DELHI: The Union cabinet on Thursday approved a Rs 23,731-crore national scheme to accelerate production of compressed biogas (CBG), betting on agricultural and municipal waste to reduce dependence on imported fossil fuels and strengthen the country's clean energy transition.

The GOBARdhan (Galvanising Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan) scheme, to be implemented between fiscal years 2027 and 2036, seeks to increase domestic compressed biogas production nearly tenfold through assured offtake, administered pricing, capital subsidies, pipeline infrastructure and easier access to finance, the government said.

The programme, with a total outlay of Rs 23,731 crore, will involve the use of agricultural residue, cattle dung, sugar industry waste such as press mud, municipal organic waste and other biomass to produce compressed biogas, which can be blended into CNG used in automobiles.

The scheme builds on existing initiatives, including the Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) programme, under which more than 200 compressed biogas plants have already been commissioned, according to the government.

As part of the new framework, city gas distribution companies will procure compressed biogas to meet mandatory blending obligations of 3 per cent in fiscal 2027, 4 per cent in fiscal 2028 and 5 per cent from fiscal 2029 onwards for compressed natural gas used in transport and piped natural gas supplied to households.

The government has also introduced an administered price of Rs 2,110 per million British thermal units (MMBTU) for compressed biogas under a framework designed to provide producers with long-term revenue certainty while keeping consumer prices affordable.

Eligible greenfield projects will receive capital assistance of up to Rs 2 crore per tonne per day of installed compressed biogas capacity, while brownfield expansion projects will also qualify for support.

The scheme also provides funding for pipeline infrastructure linking compressed biogas plants with trunk pipelines and city gas distribution networks, a credit guarantee mechanism for eligible micro, small and medium enterprises, and a dedicated challenge fund to support feedstock aggregation, technology adoption and district-level project development.

The government said the programme is expected to spur private investment, create additional income opportunities for farmers and rural entrepreneurs, improve management of agricultural and municipal waste, expand production of organic manure and lower greenhouse gas emissions.

India has been expanding the use of natural gas as part of its energy transition strategy while seeking to reduce its reliance on imported liquefied natural gas through greater domestic production of renewable gaseous fuels such as compressed biogas. PTI

# India rules out concessions to US on ethanol import for fuel blending

**Amiti Sen**
New Delhi

India has not offered any concessions or commitments to the US on imports of ethanol for fuel blending in the ongoing bilateral trade negotiations, the Commerce Department said on Thursday. Further, no ethanol is being imported from the US for use blending with fuel, it added.

"India's fuel blending programme and ethanol procurement continues to be governed solely by India's domestic policy requirements," the statement asserted.

**FUEL EFFICIENCY**

The clarification comes amid controversy over the government's push to make E20 — the petrol blended with 20 per cent ethanol — the default fuel at retail outlets. Opponents have raised concerns about reduced fuel efficiency, possible compatibility issues for older vehicles and the lack of consumer choice, while the government argues the transition is necessary to improve energy security and reduce emissions.

In its statement, the Commerce Department maintained that any suggestion of a policy change to permit large-scale imports of fuel ethanol from the US was misleading. It refuted news reports that alleged that India was importing, or planned to import, large quantities of ethanol from the US for blending with petrol.

"As per the domestic policy framework, ethanol used for fuel blending under the Ethanol Blended with Petrol Programme is sourced entirely from domestic producers. There is no import of ethanol for fuel blending from the US," it said.

The India-US joint statement on the framework for the interim trade agreement, announced on February 7, 2026, did not include ethanol among the products on which India agreed to work towards tariff reduction or elimination.

"India will eliminate or reduce tariffs on all US industrial goods and a wide range of US food and agricultural products, including dried distillers' grains (DDGs), red sorghum for animal feed, tree nuts, fresh and processed fruit, soybean oil, wine and spirits, and additional products," the joint statement had said.

Business Standard, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 4, Size: 25.82cm × 33.63cm

# India needs to boost strategic storage capacity: BP India head

**SHUBHANGI MATHUR**
New Delhi, 6 August

India needs to strengthen strategic storage capacity, diversify energy sources, and boost domestic oil and gas production to navigate challenges arising from geopolitical tensions, said BP India Head and Chairman Kartikeya Dube at an industry event.

"Other countries' (storage) is about two months plus on crude, and maybe between four and six months on gas. This (West Asia crisis) has shown that India needs to do a lot more. The recent announcement of the government with ONGC (building crude reserve) is the right step in that direction, but more needs to be done," said Dube at an event hosted by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

The government has asked state-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) to develop a new 1.75 million tonnes (mt) underground strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru as India is moving ahead with a major expansion of its strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) network.

Dube emphasised that India has diversified sourcing of crude oil, liquefied natural gas (LNG), and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), which helped the country in securing energy supplies amid the ongoing West Asia crisis.

Millennium Post, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 10, Size: 17.07cm × 14.10cm

# GOBARdhan package can unlock CBG sector growth, says IFGE DG

**NEW DELHI:** Sanjay Ganjoo, Director General of the Indian Federation of Green Energy (IFGE), on Thursday said the government's Rs 23,731 crore GOBARdhan package has the potential to do for India's biogas sector what the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme did for solar manufacturing by transforming policy intent into bankable projects.

Ganjoo said India's challenge has never been feedstock availability, noting that the country generates nearly 500 million tonnes of agricultural residue annually, much of which is still burned in fields, contributing to severe air pollution. He said the real bottlenecks have been assured offtake, stable pricing, evacuation infrastructure and efficient feedstock aggregation.

He pointed out that only about 216 Compressed Biogas (CBG) plants have been commissioned against the country's ambitious CBG blending targets, with project viability constrained by inadequate synchronization between CBG production and City Gas Distribution (CGD) networks.

According to him, by supporting both production and distribution infrastructure, the government has addressed the sector's most critical challenges.

Ganjoo said assured offtake and pipeline connectivity would improve project bankability, enhance investor confidence and provide lenders with the long-term revenue visibility required to finance projects. He added that organized procurement of paddy straw, press mud and other biomass would strengthen farmer participation and create reliable rural value chains. He further said beyond clean energy, every CBG plant would stimulate local economic activity through feedstock collection, transportation, plant operations and organic manure management, generating sustainable employment and additional income for rural communities.

Combined with reduced dependence on imported natural gas and enhanced energy security, the GOBARdhan Scheme represents the long-awaited inflection point for India's Compressed Biogas sector, he added. MPOST

Business Line, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 11, Size: 25.43cm × 26.59cm

# Cabinet approves ₹23,731-crore GOBARdhan bioenergy scheme

**GROWTH CATALYST.** Scheme aims to boost rural bioeconomy by fixing key bottlenecks

**Our Bureau**
New Delhi

**ENERGY DRIVE.** The scheme intends to increase domestic compressed biogas production nearly ten-fold and mobilise largescale private investment

The Cabinet on Thursday approved GOBARdhan, or the National Circular Bioenergy Scheme, with a total outlay of ₹23,731 crore, or roughly $2.5 billion. The scheme aims to address long-standing bottlenecks such as assured offtake, stable pricing, evacuation infrastructure and efficient feedstock aggregation.

The scheme intends to increase domestic Compressed Biogas (CBG) production nearly ten-fold, mobilise large-scale private investment and create a vibrant circular bio-economy across the country.

"GOBARdhan marks a defining moment in India's clean energy journey. It will transform the country's abundant agricultural residue, cattle dung, press mud, municipal organic waste and other biomass resources into clean fuel, organic manure, rural income and national economic value," the government said.

## FUTURE FUEL

The scheme, which will be implemented from FY27 to FY36, will establish CBG as a major pillar of India's future energy mix through assured demand, remunerative and stable pricing, capital assistance, pipeline infrastructure, credit support and technology development, it added.

The government is focusing on six growth engines under the GOBARdhan scheme — assured off-take, stable pricing, capital assistance, developing pipeline infrastructure, credit guarantee and ecosystem challenge fund.

## CRITICAL GAPS

Welcoming the initiative, Sanjay Ganjoo, Director General, Indian Federation of Green Energy, told *businessline:* "India generates nearly 500 million tonnes of agricultural residue annually, much of which is still burned in the fields, contributing to severe air pollution. With only about 216 CBG plants commissioned against the ambitious CBG blending targets, project viability has been constrained by inadequate synchronisation between CBG production and city gas distribution networks."

By supporting both production and distribution infrastructure, the government has addressed the sector's most critical challenges. Assured offtake and pipeline connectivity will improve project bankability, enhance investor confidence and provide lenders with the long-term revenue visibility required to finance projects, he noted.

"Beyond clean energy, every CBG plant will stimulate local economic activity through feedstock collection, transportation, plant operations and organic manure management, generating sustainable employment and additional income for rural communities," Ganjoo emphasised.

Indian Biogas Association President AR Shukla also welcomed the latest policy push, adding that the sector has long argued that biogas needed three things — a remunerative price, assured offtake and capital support, which this scheme delivers.

Moving from roughly 300 operating plants towards 5,000 will create lakhs of rural jobs, he added.

Varun Karad, CEO of Renergy Dynamics, pointed out that the proposed credit guarantee and capital support mechanisms under the scheme should significantly improve project bankability and attract greater participation from developers, lenders, infrastructure investors and climate-focused funds.

**Business Standard, Delhi, 07/08/2026**
Page No: 7, Size: 38.60cm × 36.20cm

# Cabinet approves ₹23,731 cr scheme to boost biogas sector

**SUDHEER PAL SINGH**
New Delhi, 6 August

A ₹23,731 crore scheme to convert India's farm refuse and municipal waste into clean fuel and organic manure was approved on Thursday by the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Titled "GOBARdhan", the circular bioenergy scheme will be in effect from 2026-27 to 2035-36 to establish compressed biogas (CBG) as a major pillar of India's future energy mix. The scheme will make use of the country's agricultural residue, cattle dung, press mud, organic waste in cities, and other biomass resources, according to an official statement.

"Through assured demand, remunerative and stable pricing, capital assistance, pipeline infrastructure, credit support and technology development, GOBARdhan will provide the strong and predictable framework required to take India's CBG sector to national scale," the Cabinet said, adding the scheme aims to increase CBG production 10-fold and mobilise private investment in circular bioeconomy.

The government is implementing the Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation initiative, the Market Development Assistance Scheme for organic manure, the Biomass Aggregation Machinery Scheme, the Development of Pipeline Infrastructure Scheme and Central Financial Assistance for CBG plants under the National Bioenergy Programme. Together, these initiatives have enabled the commissioning of over 200 CBG plants, established production and offtake systems, strengthened the organic manure value chain and demonstrated the potential of CBG.

Mint, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 13, Size: 27.46cm × 63.50cm


ONGC Videsh Ltd. recently secured a license to operate in Venezuela. REUTERS

# ONGC eyes two Venezuela oil blocks

Oil and Natural Gas Corp.'s (ONGC's) overseas investment arm is seeking to take over operatorship of two shallow onshore oil blocks in Venezuela from state-run Petroleos de Venezuela SA, as the South American nation becomes a key focus after receiving a US licence to operate there, the company's chief financial officer said.

ONGC Videsh Ltd. recently secured a licence from the US office of foreign assets control, giving it "full freedom" to operate in Venezuela, ONGC chief financial officer (CFO) Anupam Agarwal told analysts on an earnings call.

ONGC Videsh currently holds a 40% stake in the San Cristobal field as well as an 11% stake in the Carabobo-1 block.

The two projects are comparable to ONGC's onshore acreage in India's western state of Gujarat, providing the company with the technical expertise to operate them, Agarwal said.

India, the world's third-largest oil consumer, has been seeking to diversify crude supplies beyond the Middle East while expanding overseas upstream investments to improve energy security and reduce exposure to price shocks. RWIT GHOSH

**Economic Times, Delhi, 07/08/2026**

**Page No: 17, Size: 32.12cm × 10.00cm**

# Cabinet Nod to ₹24K Cr Biogas Scheme for Clean Fuel Production

**PTI**

**New Delhi:** The Union Cabinet on Thursday approved a ₹23,731-crore national scheme to accelerate production of compressed biogas (CBG), betting on agricultural and municipal waste to reduce dependence on imported fossil fuels and strengthen the country's clean energy transition.

The GOBARdhan (Galvanising Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan) scheme, to be implemented between fiscal years 2027 and 2036, seeks to increase domestic compressed biogas production nearly ten-fold through assured offtake, administered pricing, capital subsidies, pipeline infrastructure and easier access to finance, the government said.

The programme, with a total outlay of ₹23,731 crore, will involve the use of agricultural residue, cattle dung, sugar industry waste such as press mud, municipal organic waste and other biomass to produce compressed biogas, which can be blended into CNG used in automobiles.

-The scheme builds on existing initiatives, including the Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) programme, under which more than 200 compressed biogas plants have already been commissioned, according to the government.

As part of the new framework, city gas distribution companies will procure compressed biogas to meet mandatory blending obligations of 3% in fiscal 2027, 4% in fiscal 2028 and 5% from fiscal 2029 onwards for compressed natural gas used in transport and piped natural gas supplied to households.

Free Press Journal, Mumbai, 07/08/2026
Page No: 13, Size: 8.63cm × 29.16cm

# Crude oil futures extend gains further

Crude oil futures extended their upward momentum on Thursday, with prices rising 1.4% as traders increased positions amid firm demand in the physical market.

On the MCX, August crude oil futures gained ₹81, or 1.4%, to settle at ₹7,190 per barrel, with a business turnover of 8,168 lots. Market participants said fresh buying interest and stronger spot demand supported the advance, encouraging traders to build additional long positions.

Global crude benchmarks also traded higher. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude rose 0.51% to $79.60 per barrel, while

Brent crude gained 0.45% to $79.90 per barrel in New York, providing further support to domestic futures during the session.

Market participants will monitor global crude prices, geopolitical developments and physical demand, which are expected to determine the near-term direction of oil futures.

—PTI

Hindustan Times @100

# India's ethanol capacity outstrips current demand

**Rajeev Jayaswal**
letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** India's current ethanol distillation capacity is 2,019 crore litre per annum, almost double the approximately 1,040 crore litres of ethanol supplied to state-run oil marketing companies (OMCs) in the ethanol supply year (ESY) of 2024-25 (November 1, 2024 to October 31, 2025), according to government data.

According to the latest official data submitted by minister of state for petroleum Suresh Gopi in Parliament on August 3, the country currently has 478 ethanol manufacturing units across 22 states.

"Till year 2014, ethanol distillation capacity of molasses-based distilleries was less than 200 crore litres. Supply of ethanol to OMCs was only 38 crore litres with blending levels of only 1.53% in ESY 2013-14," a December 20, 2024 statement of the consumer affairs, food and public distribution ministry said.

"However, in past 10 years due to the policy changes made by the Government, the capacity of molasses-based distilleries and grain-based distilleries have increased to 941 crore litres and 744 crore litres respectively (by November 30, 2024)," it added.

According to the August 3 parliamentary submission, Maharashtra leads in the number of ethanol-producing distilleries with 145 units, followed by Uttar Pradesh (79), Karnataka (50), Madhya Pradesh (27), Punjab (25), Bihar (22), Haryana (19), Gujarat (17), Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu (16 each), and Chhattisgarh and Telangana (10 each).

States with fewer than 10 distilleries include Odisha and West Bengal (eight each), Uttarakhand and Jharkhand (six each), Assam and Rajasthan (four each), Himachal Pradesh (three), and Jammu and Kashmir, Meghalaya and Sikkim (one distillery each).

In terms of annual distillation capacity, Maharashtra tops the list at 389 crore litres, followed by Uttar Pradesh (344 crore litres), Karnataka (321 crore litres), Madhya Pradesh (131 crore litres), Punjab (127 crore litres), Haryana (99 crore litres) and Bihar (97 crore litres).

States with an annual capacity of less than 90 crore litres include Andhra Pradesh (64 crore litres), West Bengal (61 crore litres), Telangana (57 crore litres), Chhattisgarh (46 crore litres), Gujarat (44 crore litres), Odisha (42 crore litres) and Uttarakhand (42 crore litres).

The states reporting a capacity of less than 40 crore litres include Jharkhand (36 crore litres), Tamil Nadu (34 crore litres), Assam (29 crore litres), Himachal Pradesh (22 crore litres), Rajasthan (21 crore litres), Jammu and Kashmir (8 crore litres), Meghalaya (3 crore litres) and Sikkim (2 crore litres).

In a background note on July 5, 2026, the Press Information Bureau (PIB) said the rapidly expanding ethanol blended petrol (EBP) programme has reduced crude oil imports, saved valuable foreign exchange, lowered greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and strengthened farmers' incomes through new market opportunities.

Mint, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 12, Size: 14.42cm × 61.75cm

It's not just oil the UAE has managed to ferry out, it has also been getting vital supplies of LNG to global customers. REUTERS

# UAE continues to keep crude flowing to global markets

Bloomberg
feedback@livemint.com

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has moved more oil through the Strait of Hormuz than any other producer over the past two months, providing a much-needed buffer for global markets reeling from a historic energy crisis.

Supertanker Romania Prosperity appeared in the Gulf of Oman on Tuesday after switching off its transponder in late July, laden with crude from the UAE's Abu Dhabi National Oil Co., according to Kpler. It's one of dozens of such exits from the Persian Gulf as the state-run producer embarks on a novel marketing drive.

Individual ships spotted on ship-tracking databases give clues about the trade, but the real number is likely larger due to these dark crossings. Since the start of June, Adnoc has sold over 130 million barrels in an unprecedented seven tenders, according to traders familiar with the matter, asking not to be identified as they're not authorized to speak publicly.

**The UAE snapped up tankers at exorbitant rates to embark on daring shuttle runs through Hormuz**

That's equivalent to more than a month of crude demand from Japan, Asia's third-largest consumer.

Workarounds like Adnoc's have been vital to limiting losses from the conflict and have helped keep oil markets in check, countering expectations of far more acute shortages and price spikes.

The UAE has been so successful in getting its crude out of the Persian Gulf that Vortexa estimates it was the only Middle Eastern producer to reach pre-war levels of seaborne exports in June and July. Most of those barrels have been picked up by Asian refiners, including in Japan and China.

That milestone was achieved even after the US ramped up a bombing campaign against Iran last month, and the Islamic Republic attacked more ships around the strait. The practice of shuttling barrels out of the gulf—

after those strikes, people familiar with the matter said last week.

A comprehensive deal to reopen the strait—should one be reached—would likely boost the volume of oil leaving the Persian Gulf, but the stop-start nature of negotiations over recent months means analysts and traders expect shuttling to continue in some form.

An Adnoc spokesperson said the company doesn't comment on positions, movements or routing of its vessels as a matter of policy.

"Adnoc's barrels have helped stabilize supply into Asia," said June Goh, senior oil market analyst for Sparta Commodities SA. Refineries in the region can't easily replace the medium-sour crude that's typically produced in the Middle East, making any oil exiting the gulf so essential, she added.

It's not just oil the UAE has managed to ferry out successfully, the producer has also been getting vital supplies of liquefied natural gas to global customers. An Adnoc tanker called the Mubaraz loaded with LNG recently appeared near India after turning off its transponder inside the gulf last month.

The UAE splurged on logistics to make its workaround possible. The nation snapped up tankers at exorbitant rates to embark on daring shuttle runs through Hormuz. Iraq and Kuwait have also been able to ferry out some supplies, but volumes have been smaller.

Once tankers carrying UAE crude exit Hormuz, the cargo is typically transferred to another vessel in the Gulf of Oman before being exported to buyers around the world. At times, this process has been delayed by escalating hostilities in the region.

The UAE has also been able to make use of a pipeline stretching across the country to get extra barrels out, bypassing Hormuz. Saudi Arabia has also kept large volumes of its crude flowing during the

Indian Express, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 9, Size: 5.85cm × 23.02cm

# No plan to blend ethanol with ATF: Aviation Minister

**Sukalp Sharma**
*New Delhi, August 6*

CIVIL AVIATION Minister Ram Mohan Naidu has dismissed AAP Convener Arvind Kejriwal's claim that the government plans to blend ethanol with aviation turbine fuel (ATF). Without naming Kejriwal, Naidu posted on X that the ethanol-ATF claim was "completely false" and "irresponsible", and there was no such proposal. Naidu also said that ethanol and sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) are entirely different and should not be conflated.

"The claim that the Government plans to blend ethanol with Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) is completely false and irresponsible. There is no such proposal. Ethanol and Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) are entirely different and should not be conflated. SAF is an internationally certified aviation fuel recognised by International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and adopted globally. It undergoes rigorous testing and meets stringent global safety standards," Naidu said. "Spreading misinformation on aviation safety only creates needless anxiety among air travellers. Passenger safety remains the Government's highest priority," the minister added.

Indian Express, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 9, Size: 29.95cm × 22.99cm

# To cut gas imports, Cabinet gives nod to Rs 24K-cr biogas scheme 'GOBARdhan'

**Sukalp Sharma**
*New Delhi, August 6*

FOCUSED ON boosting compressed biogas (CBG) production in the country, the Union Cabinet on Thursday approved 'GOBARdhan', the National Circular Bioenergy Scheme, with an outlay of Rs 23,731 crore for implementation between 2026-27 and 2035-36, or 10 years.

The scheme aims to increase domestic CBG production by nearly 10-fold and mobilise large-scale private investment in this segment through assured offtake by city gas operators, stable administered pricing, capital subsidies, credit support and pipeline infrastructure.

CBG is an eco-friendly and purified form of biogas that is compressed to high pressures for use as a vehicle and industrial fuel. It has properties and energy content very similar to compressed natural gas (CNG), which means it can be blended with CNG or be used as a replacement fuel in automotive, industrial, and commercial sectors. Unorganised feedstock supply chains, high initial capital expenditure, inadequate local distribution infrastructure and weak offtake have been among the major challenges and roadblocks in the CBG segment, and the scheme aims to overcome them.

Given India's dependence on imports to meet about half of its natural gas requirement, boosting CBG production and use could help reduce imports and strengthen the country's clean energy transition. It would also help insulate the domestic market against major supply and price shocks in the international market, like the prevailing Strait of Hormuz crisis.

According to the government, the GOBARdhan (Galvanising Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan) scheme — to be implemented by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas — has the potential to transform the country's abundant agricultural residue, cattle dung, press mud, municipal organic waste and other biomass resources into clean fuel, organic manure, rural income and national economic value.

"Over the past several years, the Government of India has systematically built the foundations of the CBG sector through the Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiative, the Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme for organic manure, the Biomass Aggregation Machinery (BAM) Scheme, the Development of Pipeline Infrastructure (DPI) Scheme and Central Financial Assistance (CFA) for CBG plants under the National Bioenergy Programme.

> *The scheme aims to increase domestic CBG production by nearly 10-fold between 2026-2036*

Together, these initiatives have enabled the commissioning of over 200 CBG plants, established production and offtake systems, strengthened the organic manure value chain and demonstrated the potential of CBG across feedstocks and geographies," the government said.

The GOBARdhan scheme is expected to further build and strengthen the CBG ecosystem by creating an integrated platform across the entire CBG value chain. This is likely to enable faster implementation, stronger project economics and greater certainty for investors, lenders and developers. "India's demand for natural gas is expanding across transport, households, industry and commercial sectors. CBG can meet a growing share of this demand through domestic renewable production, strengthening energy resilience and reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels. CBG is chemically equivalent to natural gas and can be seamlessly integrated into the existing gas ecosystem. It therefore combines the benefits of a renewable fuel with the reach and utility of India's expanding gas infrastructure," the government said.

GOBARdhan will have a dedicated CBG offtake assurance framework to provide a reliable and predictable market for producers. The procurement will be done by city gas distribution (CGD) entities to support their CBG blending obligations — 3% in 2026-27, 4% in 2027-28 and 5% from 2028-29 onwards — in CNG and household piped natural gas (PNG) segments. According to the government, the framework converts the blending obligation into a "clear, long-term demand signal for the industry", and consistent implementation across CGD networks will improve project bankability and support capacity utilisation, which would in turn encourage long-term private investment.

"GOBARdhan introduces a stable administered CBG price of Rs 2,110 per Metric Million British Thermal Unit (MMBTU), supported through a government-backed pricing framework. The framework provides long-term revenue visibility while protecting consumer affordability through a combination of government support and a market-based cost-sharing mechanism. With a minimum 10-year horizon, the pricing framework will provide producers with durable revenue certainty, commercially attractive returns and a stronger business case for investment and capacity expansion," it said.

Under the scheme, eligible greenfield CBG projects will receive capital assistance of up to Rs 2 crore per tonne per day of installed capacity. The support extends beyond core plant machinery to critical value-chain assets for feedstock aggregation, organic manure processing and value addition. Brownfield projects expanding their production capacity will also be eligible.

As per the government, this support will lower the initial capital burden, accelerate financial closure and expand participation by private developers, small and medium enterprises, cooperatives, and rural entrepreneurs.

Business Standard, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 21, Size: 52.63cm × 157.35cm

# India's troubled E20 journey

The ethanol blending policy is no longer about clean fuel alone. Multiple stakeholders — from farmers to car owners — have different expectations

DEEPAK PATEL
New Delhi, 6 August

On July 28, the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (Siam) wrote to Petroleum Secretary Neeraj Mittal with what appeared to be an urgent request. The industry body said its members were seeing a "huge increase" in failures of vehicle components such as fuel injectors, fuel pumps, exhaust gas recirculation (EGR) valves, and other parts coming in direct contact with fuel or engine emissions.

Investigations into failed parts, it said, pointed to corrosion and wear caused by high chloride contamination in E20 fuel – 20 per cent ethanol mixed with petrol. Fuel samples collected from vehicles had shown chloride levels of up to 500 parts per million (ppm), while samples collected from retail outlets showed contamination of up to 350 ppm, according to the letter. It also flagged unusually high moisture levels in some fuel samples, warning that excess water could cause phase separation — a condition in which ethanol and petrol separate — leaving vehicles unable to run immediately after refuelling.

The industry's request to the government was straightforward. Siam urged the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) to introduce mandatory chloride limits in fuel specifications through the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), direct oil marketing companies (OMCs) to identify the source of contamination, and strengthen fuel quality controls.

**Change in stance**

Less than a week later, Siam's public position took a dramatic u-turn. On August 4 night — after the letter had entered the public domain and MoPNG had issued a clarification defending the E20 programme — Siam said the figures cited in its communication required "authentication through collection of elaborate data from various regions across the country followed by a comprehensive consultation with our member OEMs."

The correspondence, it said, was part of "routine and ongoing technical deliberations" between industry, oil companies and government agencies, and reassured consumers that there was "no cause for concern" — before formally withdrawing its earlier communication.

The contrast between the two documents is difficult to miss. In one, Siam cited specific contamination levels, linked them to field failures and sought immediate regulatory intervention. In the other, it said those figures required further validation before any conclusions could be drawn. Why the industry's public position changed is difficult to say. What the developments did establish, though, is that ethanol-blended petrol has become one of the country's most politically and commercially sensitive policy issues. That sensitivity is understandable given what is at stake.

For the Union government, ethanol blending is a key pillar of India's energy security strategy, aimed at reducing crude oil imports, saving foreign exchange and creating an additional market for agricultural produce. For automobile manufacturers, the priority is ensuring vehicle durability after spending years redesigning engines and components to make them compatible with E20 fuel.

For vehicle owners, however, the concerns are more immediate. Several consumers have taken to social media and other public forums complaining of lower mileage after shifting to E20 petrol, while some have also reported maintenance-related issues. The complaints have become an important part of the debate, although the government and automobile industry have maintained that E20 does not cause widespread engine damage. Road transport and highways minister Nitin Gadkari told Parliament recently that fuel efficiency could decline by 2-6 per cent depending on the age and type of vehicle, while stating that testing had failed to link engine failures with E20 use.

## Policy path

- **2001:** Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme launched as a pilot
- **2004:** EBP Programme formally launched with a 5% ethanol-blending target
- **2014:** Centre expands approved feedstocks, introduces assured ethanol procurement prices

**2021:**
- NITI Aayog panel proposes road map for nationwide E20 transition
- E20 target advanced from 2030 to ESY 2025-26
- **2021-22:** Ethanol blending reaches 10%
- **2025-26:** India achieves 20% ethanol-blending target
- **July 28, 2026:** Siam writes to MoPNG, flags E20 contamination and seeks stricter fuel-quality norms
- **July 30, 2026:** Gadkari tells Parliament E20 may reduce mileage by 2-6% but does not damage engines

**August 4, 2026:**
- MoPNG defends E20 after Siam's July 28 letter becomes public
- Siam withdraws letter, says contamination data requires further validation
- Punjab Assembly urges Centre to suspend mandatory E20 rollout
- Farmer groups back ethanol programme during meeting with Agriculture Minister

This explains why what began as an engineering discussion quickly morphed into a broader political debate.

Aam Aadmi Party national convenor and former Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal has emerged as the most vocal political opponent of the E20 rollout. Over the past week, he has demanded that consumers be given a choice between E20 and pure petrol, stating that motorists should not be compelled to use a fuel blend if they have concerns about vehicle compatibility or fuel efficiency. His party has also held protests on the issue.

The debate soon acquired an institutional dimension when the Punjab Assembly on August 4 passed a resolution urging the Centre to suspend mandatory E20 rollout for vehicles that are not certified to run on the blend. Yet the geography of the controversy is as revealing as the politics. The loudest political opposition has come from Punjab, while states that account for much of India's ethanol production — such as Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Bihar and Gujarat — have largely stayed away from the debate.

These states are home to a large share of the country's distilleries, which produce ethanol from sugarcane-based feedstocks such as molasses, sugar syrup and sugarcane juice, as well as grain-based feedstocks including maize and surplus or damaged foodgrains. For them, ethanol has become an important rural industry, providing an additional source of revenue for sugar mills, grain processors and farmers.

The contrasting positions were evident even on Tuesday. While Punjab opposed the E20 rollout, Union agriculture minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan met farmer organisations that backed the ethanol blending programme. According to a statement issued by the agriculture ministry, farmer representatives said that they are in favour of ethanol and that their only demand is for the real benefit of this programme to reach farmers and not only companies or middlemen. Chouhan said that the thought process of the Central government is clear — the benefit of the ethanol programme should reach the entire chain, from the field to the fuel tank, but the largest share, he agreed, should go to the farmer.

**Technical to political**

To understand how a technical letter sparked a national political debate, one must look at how rapidly the policy has moved from a modest pilot to a nationwide programme.

The ethanol blended petrol (EBP) programme began as a pilot in 2001 before being formally launched in 2004 with the objective of blending 5 per cent ethanol with petrol. Progress remained slow for several years because ethanol production was limited, pricing policies were uncertain and OMCs struggled to secure supplies.

The programme gathered momentum after 2014, when the Centre introduced assured procurement prices for ethanol and expanded the list of approved feedstocks beyond molasses to include sugar syrup, sugarcane juice, maize, and surplus or damaged foodgrains.

The turning point came in 2021, when an inter-ministerial committee chaired by the NITI Aayog prepared a roadmap for the transition to E20. The committee included representatives from the ministries of petroleum, road transport, agriculture and food, along with Siam, OMCs, testing agencies and automobile manufacturers. The original target of achieving 20 per cent ethanol blending by 2030 was subsequently brought forward to the ethanol supply year (ESY) 2025-26.

That decision followed the NITI Aayog roadmap, which concluded that ethanol production capacity and vehicle readiness were progressing faster than originally envisaged. The rollout then accelerated. Average ethanol blending increased from 8.1 per cent in ESY 2020-21 to 10 per cent in 2021-22, 12.1 per cent in 2022-23, 14.6 per cent in 2023-24 and 19.2 per cent in 2024-25 before reaching the 20 per cent target in ESY 2025-26, five years ahead of the original schedule. During the same period, ethanol procurement by OMCs increased from about 380 million litres in ESY 2013-14 to more than 12 billion litres in ESY 2025-26, while installed production capacity expanded to around 20 billion litres annually.

Just after the E20 target was achieved in 2026, government officials began discussing the technical feasibility of higher ethanol blends such as E25 and E30. However, the Centre recently clarified in Parliament that no decision has been taken to mandate blending beyond E20, and any future move will follow technical studies and consultations with stakeholders.

**Not just about fuel**

The July 28 Siam letter cited above did not question the ethanol blending programme itself. In fact, it reiterated the automobile industry's support for the government's biofuel policy and referred to ongoing discussions on future programmes involving higher ethanol blends.

Its main argument was that fuel quality controls must keep pace with higher blending levels. The letter said contamination in fuel could create "a wrong impression about the E20 fuel in customers' minds" and urged the government to address the issue immediately. It also noted that Siam members had been raising the chloride issue before the BIS committee for more than two years, but mandatory limits were yet to be incorporated into fuel specifications.

India's ethanol journey has reached a point where it is no longer just a fuel policy. It is now tied to farm incomes, sugar industry economics, energy security, automobile technology and vehicle owners' experience.

The events of the past week underline the challenge before policymakers. Managing a transition that involves multiple stakeholders, each with a different stake in the outcome.

Financial Express, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 11, Size: 42.33cm × 23.97cm

OFFSHORE OIL & GAS EXPLORATION

# How Samudra Manthan project aims to deliver energy security

India's next major oil hunt will not begin on land, but far beneath the sea. The Samudra Manthan project aims to map, drill and unlock offshore reserves that could ease import dependence. Yet the promise comes with high costs and long timelines, writes ***Saurav Anand***

**₹84,084 cr**

**PHASE 1 OUTLAY UPTO FY 2030-31**

**THE FOCUS WILL BE ON DEEPWATER AND ULTRA-DEEPWATER PROSPECTS IN THE KRISHNA-GODAVARI, CAUVERY, MAHANADI AND ANDAMAN BASINS**

## What exactly is the Samudra Manthan scheme?

**SAMUDRA MANTHAN, THE** National Offshore Exploration Scheme, is the government's biggest offshore oil and gas exploration programme. Approved as a Central Sector Scheme of the ministry of petroleum and natural gas, it will run through FY 2030-31. The total outlay for the project is ₹84,084 crore.

Its purpose is to reduce the risk of searching for hydrocarbons beneath India's seas. Companies must map rock formations, identify promising locations and drill wells that may still turn out dry. The scheme combines better geological data, government support for drilling, common production infrastructure and domestic manufacturing.

It follows reforms that opened more than 99% of previously restricted offshore "No-Go" areas. Over one million square kilometres of India's Exclusive Economic Zone is now available for exploration. The focus will be on deepwater and ultra-deepwater prospects in the Krishna-Godavari, Cauvery, Mahanadi and Andaman regions.

## How will the money be spent?

**THE LARGEST ALLOCATION,** ₹43,200 crore, is for drilling 60 deepwater exploration wells. The government can support up to 50% of the eligible cost, capped at ₹675 crore per well. This matters because one deepwater exploratory well can cost $125-150 million.

Another ₹28,534 crore is for modern offshore data. It includes ₹12,000 crore for basin-wide 2D seismic surveys, ₹12,534 crore for 3D surveys and other techniques, and ₹4,000 crore for reprocessing existing data and using artificial-intelligence tools.

The scheme provides ₹10,000 crore for common offshore infrastructure hubs. These could allow discoveries to share pipelines, platforms and evacuation systems instead of each operator building everything separately. Another ₹2,000 crore will create oil and gas manufacturing and services zones, while ₹350 crore is for monitoring, digital systems, skills and outreach.

## Why does India need such a large offshore push now?

**INDIA IMPORTS CLOSE** to nine-tenths of its crude oil requirement and about half of the natural gas it consumes. The government puts the annual crude import bill at nearly $144 billion, or around ₹13 lakh crore. This exposes the economy to wars elsewhere in the world, shipping disruptions, price spikes and pressure on the rupee.

Domestic output has also struggled. Crude production was 28.71 million tonne in FY 2025-26 and fell 2.8% during the year. Existing oil and gas fields naturally decline by about 6-7% annually, so fresh discoveries are needed even to stop production from slipping further.

The push follows gas discoveries in the Andaman region, which improved interest in a frontier basin with limited exploration. However, promising geology does not guarantee commercial reserves. The scheme aims to improve the odds through better data and shared drilling risk.

## What difference could it make to energy security?

**THE GOVERNMENT AIMS** to raise annual domestic oil and gas production from about 62 million tonne of oil equivalent (MMTOE) to 80 MMTOE. It also aims to expand India's hydrocarbon resource base from 1.6 billion tonne of oil equivalent (TOE) to 2.2 billion TOE, an increase of more than 600 MMTOE.

Additional production could eventually reduce crude imports by nearly ₹1 lakh crore a year. It would also lower exposure to freight disruptions, foreign-exchange volatility and geopolitical shocks. Better seismic information could attract private and global explorers, while shared infrastructure may make smaller discoveries commercially viable. Manufacturing and services zones could also build Indian capacity in specialised equipment, engineering and offshore services. A resource estimate, however, is not the same as recoverable production. The scheme does not give a confirmed oil-gas split or a year-wise output profile.

## What are the biggest risks?

**GEOLOGICAL UNCERTAINTY IS** the biggest risk. A costly well may find nothing, while a discovery may be too small or difficult to produce economically. Offshore work also demands strict environmental and safety oversight, advanced technology, skilled workers and disciplined execution. The real tests will be commercially recoverable discoveries, private investment, speed to production and environmental compliance. The technical service provider route can improve mature producing assets such as Mumbai High, where BP has been engaged to identify reservoir, well and facility improvements. Frontier exploration, however, will also require risk-sharing, multi-client data, farm-outs, joint ventures, stable fiscal terms and firm drilling commitments. Samudra Manthan can improve long-term resilience, but only if better data leads to drilling, drilling produces commercial discoveries and those discoveries are converted into producing fields.

Hindustan Times, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 14, Size: 31.17cm × 66.97cm

Hindustan Times

# Trust in E20 fuel needs transparency

Complaints about E20 petrol, mandatory at Indian fuel pumps since April, have run for months. The disquiet has been largely on social media, but in recent weeks, two industry letters have given it technical weight. On July 24, petrol pump dealers wrote to the Centre saying they can test dispensed fuel only for density and water paste — alluding to an inability to test for humidity that has become a unique Achilles heel for fuel stocks that can spoil. Days later, the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) flagged chloride and moisture contamination as damaging vehicle components, then withdrew the letter within hours of it becoming public, citing a need to authenticate the readings. The government has answered by pointing to monitoring already in place — monitoring both letters describe as inadequate.

Criticism of ethanol-blended fuel has long centred on ethanol itself — that it drops mileage, saps power, and corrodes internals. The new letters make a different case. Ethanol is not the problem; the supply chain from distillation to storage may be introducing contaminants the specification does not screen for and the retail chain cannot detect.

Ethanol blending has a real case on energy security and forex savings. The gaps deserve engagement, not deflection. The signals in the two industry communications — even in withdrawal — are serious enough to warrant a closer look at the programme's specification and its retail chain. Some of the political framing around E20 is opportunistic. That does not answer the questions the disclosures now raise: whether the E20 specification is adequate to what millions of vehicles are now being asked to run on; whether the retail chain, limited to density and water-paste testing, can catch what the specification does not; and why an industry body wrote a technical letter one day and walked it back the next.

**Hindu, Mumbai, 07/08/2026**
Page No: 13, Size: 14.23cm × 18.60cm

# Govt. okays ₹23,371 cr. GOBARdhan scheme

## The National Circular Bioenergy Scheme aspires to raise local production of CBG by tenfold, mobilise private investments on a large scale

**Saptaparno Ghosh**
NEW DELHI

The Union cabinet approved the National Circular Bioenergy Scheme - GOBARdhan, provisioning ₹23,731-crore to catalyse the growth of compressed biogas (CBG).

The GOBARdhan (Galvanising Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan) outlay, to be in place until FY2035-36 seeks to raise local compressed biogas production almost tenfold via assured offtake, administered pricing, capital subsidies, boosting pipeline infrastructure and easier access to finance, the Centre said.

The government emphasised the scheme would seek to impart a "strong and predictable framework" to fuel the uptick of the CBG ecosystem.

**Energy security:** The compressed biogas plant at Brahmapuram currently processes about 50 tonne of biodegradable waste a day.

The programme would involve the use of agricultural residue, cattle dung, sugar industry waste such as press mud, municipal organic waste and other biomass to produce compressed biogas, which can be blended into CNG used in automobiles and also piped natural gas (PNG).

### Three imperatives

Welcoming the government initiative, A.R. Shukla, President of the Indian Biogas Association said the scheme addresses three imperatives – remunerative price, assured offtake and capital support – sought by the industry.

"This scheme delivers all three," he said, adding, "moving from 300 operating plants towards 5,000 [plants] will create lakhs of rural jobs. Industry must respond with speed, quality and discipline."

Financial Express, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 2, Size: 21.17cm × 22.41cm

CENTRE BETS BIG ON WASTE-TO-WEALTH ECONOMY

# Cabinet okays ₹23,731-cr scheme to boost biogas

SAURAV ANAND
New Delhi, August 6

**THE UNION CABINET** on Thursday approved a ₹23,731-crore national circular bioenergy scheme, offering compressed biogas producers assured purchases, an administered price of ₹2,110 per MMBTU for at least 10 years and capital assistance to scale domestic output nearly tenfold and reduce dependence on imported natural gas.

The GOBARdhan scheme, to be implemented from FY27 to FY36, seeks to address the viability and financing hurdles that have constrained compressed biogas projects despite India's large availability of agricultural residue, cattle dung, press mud and municipal organic waste.

City gas distribution companies will procure CBG in line with the mandatory blending obligation of 3% in FY27, 4% in FY28 and 5% from FY29 onwards in the compressed natural gas transport and domestic piped natural gas segments. The assured-demand framework is intended to improve capacity utilisation and give lenders and developers greater visibility over project revenues.

Eligible greenfield plants will receive capital assistance of up to ₹2 crore per tonne per day of installed CBG capacity. Brownfield projects adding capacity will also qualify. The support will cover core plant equipment, feedstock aggregation, organic manure processing and value-addition infrastructure.

"The ₹23,731-crore GOBARdhan package has the potential to do for India's biogas sector what the PLI scheme did for solar manufacturing, transforming policy intent into bankable projects," said Sanjay Ganjoo, director general of the Indian Federation of Green Energy.

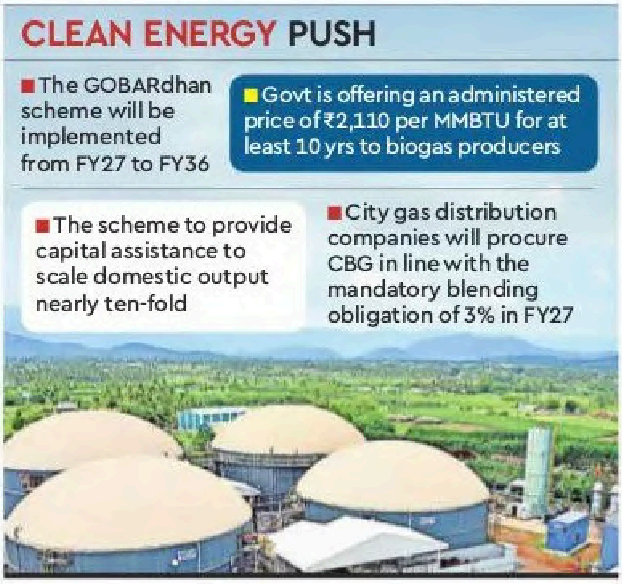
India generates nearly 500 million tonne of agricultural residue annually, much of which continues to be burnt in fields, contributing to air pollution. Ganjoo said feedstock availability was not the principal constraint for the sector.

"The real bottlenecks have been assured offtake, stable pricing, evacuation infrastructure and efficient feedstock aggregation," he said. With only about 216 CBG plants commissioned against ambitious blending targets, project viability has been affected by insufficient coordination between production facilities and city gas networks, he added.

The scheme will support cluster-based and standalone pipelines connecting CBG plants with trunk pipelines and city gas distribution systems. The infrastructure is expected to lower evacuation costs, expand market access and enable higher utilisation of domestically produced gas.

A dedicated credit-guarantee mechanism will share part of the lending risk for eligible MSME projects, improve access to institutional finance and reduce collateral requirements. The government expects this to widen participation by cooperatives, women entrepreneurs, first-time developers and rural businesses.

The scheme will also establish a CBG Ecosystem Challenge Fund to support district-level feedstock mapping, aggregation infrastructure, technology adoption, manure value addition, capacity building and local project planning.



**Morning Standard, Delhi, 07/08/2026**

Page No: 7, Size: 18.86cm × 15.21cm

# Nod to ₹24k cr for bioenergy push

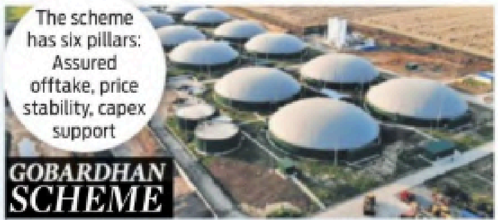
## Vaishnaw says allocation will increase compressed biogas production 10-fold in a decade

**MUKESH RANJAN** @ New Delhi

Total budgetary support: **₹23,731 cr**

Capital support: Up to **₹2 cr/TPD** (tons per day)

Duration of scheme: From Financial Year 2026-27 to 2035-36




pipeline infra development, credit guarantee and challenge fund for innovation

Credit guarantee: Up to **85%** cover on eligible loans for MSME-led projects

**BAIHATA CHARIALI - TEZPUR 4-LANE ASSAM HIGHWAY**

Total capital cost: **₹8,970 cr**

Length: 135.87 kilometre

Will be developed on Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) toll mode

THE government on Thursday approved the National Circular Bioenergy Scheme (GOBARdhan) with an outlay of ₹23,731 crore to significantly scale up domestic Compressed Biogas (CBG) production over the next decade and also cleared an ₹8,970.20 crore highway project for a four-lane access-controlled corridor between Guwahati and Tezpur in Assam.

Briefing reporters after the meeting of the Union Cabinet and the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the GOBARdhan scheme will be implemented from financial year 2026-27 to 2035-36 with the objective of increasing domestic CBG production nearly ten-fold.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the decision and said the projects will strengthen seamless connectivity, create a strong and predictable ecosystem for investment.

The scheme seeks to establish an integrated framework covering assured offtake, stable pricing, capital support, pipeline connectivity, credit assistance and technology development to strengthen India's clean energy ecosystem, Vaishnaw said.

Describing the initiative as a major step in India's energy transition, he said the scheme would convert agricultural residue, cattle dung, press mud, municipal organic waste and other biomass into clean fuel, organic manure and additional income for farmers.

"The new programme builds on existing initiatives, including the Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) scheme, the Market Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme, the Biomass Aggregation Machinery (BAM) Scheme, the Development of Pipeline Infrastructure (DPI) Scheme and financial support under the National Bioenergy Programme. These initiatives have already facilitated the commissioning of more than 200 CBG plants across the country," the government said.

According to the government, GOBARdhan will integrate the entire CBG value chain on a single platform.

A key feature is a guaranteed market for CBG. City Gas Distribution entities will procure the fuel to meet mandatory blending targets of 3% in 2026-27, 4% in 2027-28 and 5% from 2028-29 onwards for CNG (Transport) and PNG (Domestic). The government fixed an administered price of ₹2,110 per MMBTU under a minimum 10-year pricing framework. Capital assistance of up to ₹2 crore per tonne per day will be provided for greenfield projects, alongside credit guarantees for MSMEs, pipeline connectivity funding and a CBG Ecosystem Challenge Fund. The government said the scheme will reduce fossil fuel imports, expand renewable gas production, create livelihoods, improve waste management and lower greenhouse emissions.

Separately, the CCEA approved the 135.871-km Guwahati-Tezpur Corridor on NH-15 in Assam at ₹8,970.20 crore under BOT Toll mode. Vaishnaw said it will improve connectivity, reduce travel time and ease congestion on NH-27.

Free Press Journal, Mumbai, 07/08/2026
Page No: 22, Size: 6.77cm × 13.02cm

VARANASI

# CNG Leak Triggers Panic Near Airport

Panic gripped the area near Varanasi Airport after a vehicle carrying CNG cylinders developed a gas leak on Thursday. Police, fire brigade, and emergency response teams rushed to the spot, cordoned off the area, and safely evacuated nearby people as a precaution. The leak was brought under control without any injuries or explosion.


# Imports 90% of crude oil demand

India's overall dependence on imported primary energy has eased modestly to around 42 per cent in FY25 from 47 per cent in FY17, but crude oil imports continue to meet nearly 90 per cent of the country's domestic demand.

# Govt rejects claim of ethanol blending in aviation fuel

Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu on Thursday said there is no proposal to blend ethanol with Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) and that spreading misinformation on aviation safety creates needless anxiety among air travellers.

His comments come against the backdrop of former Delhi CM Arvind Kejriwal claiming that the central government was planning to blend ethanol in ATF.

Naidu said the claim that the government plans to blend ethanol with ATF is completely false and irresponsible, adding that there is no such proposal. Spreading misinformation on aviation safety only creates needless anxiety among air travellers, and passenger safety remains the Government's highest priority, the minister said in a post on X. **-PTI**

Free Press Journal, Mumbai, 07/08/2026

Page No: 13, Size: 14.45cm × 45.19cm

# Cabinet unveils ₹23,731 cr clean biogas mission


Gaurav Vivek Bhatnagar
NEW DELHI

India on Thursday unveiled an ambitious ₹23,731-crore national programme to transform agricultural and municipal waste into clean transport fuel, with the Union Cabinet approving a long-term strategy to sharply increase compressed biogas (CBG) production and strengthen the country's energy security.

The GOBARdhan Scheme will run from FY27 to FY36 and aims to increase domestic compressed biogas production almost ten-fold.

By combining assured market demand, financial incentives and infrastructure support, the programme seeks to accelerate investment in renewable gaseous fuels and reduce India's dependence on imported fossil fuels.

Agricultural residue, cattle dung, municipal organic waste, sugar industry by-products such as press mud and other biomass will be converted into compressed biogas for use in transport and household energy.

Alongside supporting the clean energy transition, the initiative is expected to improve waste management practices while creating additional income opportunities for farmers and rural entrepreneurs.

A key feature of the programme is a guaranteed market for producers.

City gas distribution companies will be required to blend compressed biogas with conventional natural gas, with mandatory blending targets set at 3% in FY27, 4% in FY28 and 5% from FY29 onwards for compressed natural gas used in vehicles and piped natural gas supplied to households.To improve the commercial viability of projects, the government has introduced an administered price of ₹2,110 per million British thermal units.

**The Cabinet approved a landmark biogas programme that strengthened clean energy ambitions, supported farmers and reduced reliance on imported fossil fuels**

The pricing mechanism is intended to provide producers with long-term revenue certainty while ensuring affordable fuel supplies for consumers.

The scheme also provides capital assistance of up to ₹2 crore per tonne per day of installed compressed biogas capacity for eligible greenfield projects, while existing facilities expanding production will also qualify for financial support.

It further includes funding for pipeline connectivity, a credit guarantee mechanism for eligible MSMEs, and a dedicated challenge fund to encourage technology adoption and efficient feedstock aggregation.

Building on the SATAT programme's 200-plus plants, the scheme aims to attract private investment, cut LNG imports, reduce emissions and strengthen India's clean energy transition.

Hindustan Times, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 11, Size: 67.31cm × 47.92cm

Hindustan Times

# ₹23k-cr plan to boost compressed biogas production gets cabinet nod

**HT Correspondent**
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**NEW DELHI:** The Union Cabinet on Thursday approved a ₹23,731 crore national scheme to accelerate domestic Compressed Biogas (CBG) production, strengthen energy security and promote rural livelihoods by converting organic waste into clean fuel.

The GOBARdhan (Galvanising Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan) scheme — the national circular bioenergy scheme — will be implemented from the financial year FY27 to FY36, the government said in a release. Administered by the ministry of petroleum and natural gas, it seeks to convert agricultural residue, cattle dung, sugar industry waste, municipal organic waste and other biomass into compressed biogas and organic manure to enhance rural income.

The Centre said the scheme is expected to increase domestic CBG production nearly ten-fold, attract large private investment and reduce India's dependence on imported fossil fuels.

Suresh NS, senior research scientist with Strategic Initiatives Group at CSTEP said, "The scheme will be a major boost for compressed biogas production and can help strengthen India's energy security. The scheme can turn rural and urban organic waste into useful resources and produce methane for cleaner transport and cooking, while also improving waste management."

Compressed biogas is purified biogas produced from organic waste. After purification, it is chemically similar to natural gas and can be supplied through existing gas pipelines or used as transport fuel in CNG vehicles.

### 135-km Guwahati-Tezpur corridor cleared

The Union Cabinet on Thursday approved the development of 135.871 km, 4-lane access-controlled Guwahati-Tezpur Corridor of NH-15 in Assam for ₹8,970.20 crore.

Free Press Journal, Mumbai, 07/08/2026
Page No: 11, Size: 7.06cm × 20.93cm

# India Inc's Q1 earnings beat expectations: MOFSL report

India Inc's June quarter (Q1 FY27) earnings have exceeded expectations despite losses in oil marketing companies (OMCs), with banking and financial services, metals, technology and automobiles driving corporate profitability, a report stated on Thursday.

The report from brokerage firm Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd indicated that earnings grew 17% year-on-year, excluding OMCs, highlighting the underlying strength in corporate earnings despite pressure from elevated crude oil prices.

After analysing companies that account for around 70% of the estimated profits in all major sectors, the report noted that overall earnings grew 2% year-on-year, significantly outperforming expectations of a 10% decline.-**IANS**

**Virat Vaibhav, Delhi, 07/08/2026**

Page No: 9, Size: 16.25cm × 20.85cm

# कैबिनेट ने गोबरधन योजना को मंजूरी दी

एजेंसी ■ नई दिल्ली

बायोगैस क्षेत्र को मजबूत बनाने और किसानों को सशक्त करने के उद्देश्य से प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने गुरुवार को 23,731 करोड़ रुपए के कुल परिव्यय वाली 'गोबरधन' (नेशनल सर्कुलर बायोएनर्जी स्कीम) को मंजूरी दे दी। यह योजना वित्त वर्ष 2027 से वित्त वर्ष 2036 तक लागू रहेगी और संपीड़ित बायोगैस (सीबीजी) को भारत के भविष्य के ऊर्जा मिश्रण का एक प्रमुख स्तंभ बनाएगी। इसका उद्देश्य घरेलू सीबीजी उत्पादन को लगभग 10 गुना बढ़ाना, बड़े पैमाने पर निजी निवेश आकर्षित करना और देशभर में एक सशक्त सर्कुलर जैव अर्थव्यवस्था का निर्माण करना है। कैबिनेट के अनुसार, 'गोबरधन' के तहत उत्पादकों के लिए विश्वसनीय और अनुमानित बाजार उपलब्ध कराने हेतु एक समर्पित 'सीबीजी ऑफटेक एश्योरेंस' ढांचा स्थापित किया जाएगा। सिटी गैस डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन (सीजीडी) कंपनियों द्वारा खरीद के माध्यम से वित्त वर्ष 2027 में 3 प्रतिशत, वित्त वर्ष 2028 में 4 प्रतिशत और वित्त वर्ष 2029 से आगे सीएनजी (परिवहन) तथा पीएनजी (घरेलू) श्रेणियों में 5 प्रतिशत सीबीजी मिश्रण दायित्व के लक्ष्य को पूरा करने में सहायता मिलेगी। आधिकारिक बयान के अनुसार, यह व्यवस्था मिश्रण दायित्व को उद्योग के लिए स्पष्ट और दीर्घकालिक मांग संकेत में बदल देगी। सीजीडी नेटवर्क में इसके निरंतर क्रियान्वयन से परियोजनाओं की वित्तीय व्यवहार्यता बेहतर होगी, क्षमता उपयोग बढ़ेगा और दीर्घकालिक निजी निवेश को प्रोत्साहन मिलेगा। इसके अलावा, योजना के तहत सरकार समर्थित मूल्य निर्धारण व्यवस्था के माध्यम से सीबीजी की प्रशासनिक कीमत 2,110 रुपए प्रति मेट्रिक मिलियन ब्रिटिश थर्मल यूनिट (एमएमबीटीयू) तय की गई है, जिससे उत्पादकों को दीर्घकालिक राजस्व का भरोसा मिलेगा और उपभोक्ताओं के लिए वहनीयता भी बनी रहेगी। बयान में कहा गया है कि न्यूनतम 10 वर्ष की अवधि वाले इस मूल्य निर्धारण ढांचे से उत्पादकों को स्थायी राजस्व सुनिश्चित होगा, व्यावसायिक रूप से आकर्षक प्रतिफल मिलेगा और निवेश व क्षमता विस्तार के लिए मजबूत आधार तैयार होगा। विशेष रूप से, पात्र ग्रीनफील्ड सीबीजी परियोजनाओं को स्थापित सीबीजी क्षमता के प्रति टन प्रतिदिन (टीपीडी) पर 2 करोड़ रुपए तक की पूंजीगत सहायता दी जाएगी। यह सहायता केवल संयंत्र मशीनरी तक सीमित नहीं होगी, बल्कि फीडस्टॉक संग्रहण, जैविक खाद प्रसंस्करण और मूल्य संवर्धन जैसी महत्वपूर्ण मूल्य श्रृंखला परिसंपत्तियों को भी शामिल करेगी। उत्पादन क्षमता बढ़ाने वाली ब्राउनफील्ड परियोजनाएं भी इस सहायता के लिए पात्र होंगी। यह योजना सीबीजी संयंत्रों को ट्रंक पाइपलाइनों और सिटी गैस डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन नेटवर्क से जोड़ने वाली क्लस्टर आधारित तथा स्वतंत्र पाइपलाइन अवसंरचना को भी समर्थन देगी। बेहतर पाइपलाइन संपर्क से परिवहन लागत कम होगी, आपूर्ति की विश्वसनीयता बढ़ेगी, बाजार का विस्तार होगा।

**Dainik Savera, Delhi, 07/08/2026**
Page No: 1, Size: 22.12cm × 14.47cm

**केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल के फैसले** 2026-27 से 2035-36 तक लागू की जाएगी योजना

# बायोगैस उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए 23,731 करोड़ रुपए की 'गोबरधन' योजना को मंजूरी

सवेरा न्यूज/शीतल विज

नई दिल्ली, 6 अगस्त : केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने देश में बायोगैस उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देने के उद्देश्य से वीरवार को 23,731 करोड़ रुपए के प्रावधान वाली राष्ट्रीय एकीकृत योजना 'गोबरधन' को मंजूरी दे दी। सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव ने मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक के बाद संवाददाताओं से कहा कि 'गोबरधन' योजना को 2026-27 से 2035-36 तक लागू किया जाएगा और इसका उद्देश्य कम्प्रेस्ड बायोगैस (सीबीजी) को देश के भविष्य के ऊर्जा मिश्रण का एक प्रमुख स्तंभ बनाना है। आधिकारिक बयान के

पत्रकारों को संबोधित करते अश्विनी वैष्णव।

मुताबिक, इस योजना के तहत कृषि अपशिष्ट, पशुओं का गोबर, गन्ने की खोई, शहरी जैविक कचरा और अन्य बायोमास संसाधनों ■ शेष पृष्ठ 4 पर

## बायोगैस उत्पादन...

को स्वच्छ ईंधन, जैविक खाद, ग्रामीण आय और राष्ट्रीय आर्थिक मूल्य में बदला जाएगा। सरकार ने कहा कि सुनिश्चित मांग, आकर्षक एवं स्थिर मूल्य निर्धारण, पूंजीगत सहायता, पाइपलाइन अवसंरचना, ऋण समर्थन और प्रौद्योगिकी विकास जैसे उपायों के जरिए यह योजना कम्प्रेस्ड बायोगैस क्षेत्र को राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर विस्तार देने के लिए मजबूत एवं स्पष्ट ढांचा मुहैया कराएगी।

**Amar Ujala, Delhi, 07/08/2026**

Page No: 13, Size: 9.68cm × 8.28cm

# ई-20 पेट्रोल की तरह पीएनजी और सीएनजी में मिलाई जाएगी बायोगैस

## कैबिनेट : उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए 23,731 करोड़ की योजना मंजूर

**नई दिल्ली।** केंद्र सरकार ने अर्थव्यवस्था में योगदान के लिए गोबर और फसलों के अवशेषों को भी कंप्रेस्ड बायोगैस (सीबीजी) बनाकर वितरण करने की योजना को मंजूरी दी है।

आर्थिक मामलों की समिति ने देश में बायोगैस उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए 23,731 करोड़ रुपये की लागत वाली गोबरधन राष्ट्रीय योजना को 2026-27 से 2035 -36 तक के लिए जारी रखने का एलान किया है। इसका मकसद शहरों को जैविक कचरे से निजात दिलाना और बायोमास का उपयोग कर सीबीजी बनाना है। किसानों को केंद्रित कर बनाई गई योजना में गोबर और कृषि अवशेषों का भी सदुपयोग होगा। किसान इन्हें सीधे प्लांट को बेच सकेंगे। सरकार की योजना का मकसद पराली जैसे संकट का समाधान देना और इनके जलने से होने वाले वायु प्रदूषण को कम करना है। इस योजना को दस अगस्त को विश्व बायोफ्यूल दिवस के मौके पर लांच किया जा सकता है। सरकार की योजना पीएनजी और सीएनजी में कंप्रेस्ड बायोगैस का मिश्रण करने की है, जिससे आयात पर निर्भरता को कम किया जा सके।

गुवाहाटी-तेजपुर के बीच राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-15 पर चार लेन एक्सेस कंट्रोल्ड हाईवे के रूप में विकसित की जाएगी। इसे बिल्ड ऑपरेट ट्रांसफर टोल मोड पर तैयार किया जाएगा। इसके निर्माण पर 8,970.20 करोड़ रुपये खर्च होंगे। ब्यूरो

**Navbharat, Mumbai, 07/08/2026**

Page No: 2, Size: 11.40cm × 35.43cm

# ई-20 पेट्रोल को लेकर घुमड़ रही हैं शंकाएं

यद्यपि ऑटोमोबाइल कंपनियों के सबसे बड़े संगठन सियाम ने इथेनॉल के संबंध में पेट्रोलियम व प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय को लिखा अपना पत्र वापस ले लिया, लेकिन फिर भी सियाम ने जिन मुद्दों पर चिंता जताई थी, वह कायम है. ये मुद्दे हैं वाहनों के माइलेज में गिरावट, पुराने वाहनधारकों को परेशानी तथा सरकार के इथेनॉल संबंधी दावे और लोगों की शंका. सियाम ने विभिन्न मामलों की जांच की थी, जिनमें इथेनॉल मिश्रित पेट्रोल की वजह से गाड़ियों के इंजन व एग्जॉस्ट सिस्टम के महत्वपूर्ण पार्ट तेजी से खराब होने की बात कही गई थी. क्लोराइड प्रदूषित इथेनॉल की नमी की वजह से वाहनों में खराबी आ रही है. नमी से पेट्रोल और इथेनॉल अलग-अलग हो जाते हैं. यदि इथेनॉल प्रदूषित है तो ई-20 के अनुकूल कही जाने वाली 2023 के बाद निर्मित कारों में भी बिगाड़ आ सकता है. सियाम (सोसाइटी ऑफ इंडियन ऑटोमोबाईल मैन्युफैक्चरर्स) के पत्र में बताया गया था कि ई-20 पेट्रोल में ज्यादा क्लोराइड व नमी मिलने की वजह से फ्यूल इंजेक्टर, फ्यूल पंप, एग्जॉस्ट गैस रिसर्कुलेशन वॉल्व तथा इंजन से जुड़े कई पार्ट तेजी से खराब हो रहे हैं. फील्ड टेस्ट में क्लोराइड के कारण जंग लगना तथा बिना वजह क्षरण (घिसावट) के मामले सामने आए हैं. वाहन में इंधन भरवाने के तुरंत बाद भी इंजन बंद होने की समस्या आ जाती है. क्योंकि इथेनॉल की खासियत है कि वह वातावरण से मॉइश्चर या नमी को खींचता है. इस संबंध में सरकार का कहना है कि जरूरत से ज्यादा बढ़ाकर चिंता पेश की जा रही है. 30 जुलाई को सरकार ने संसद में आश्वासन दिया कि ईंधन प्रणाली, इंजन के टिकाऊपन, ड्राइविंग, सामग्री अनुकूलता की सफलतापूर्वक जांच-पड़ताल और वैधता के बाद ई-20 के उपयोग को स्वीकृति दी गई. ई-20 के समर्थन में चाहे कितनी दलील दी जाएं, लेकिन पुराने वाहनों को इससे क्षति हो रही है और उन्हें दुरुस्ती के लिए ले जाना पड़ रहा है. माइलेज के मुद्दे पर दलील दी जाती है कि ई-20 के इस्तेमाल से यह सिर्फ 2-3 प्रतिशत घटता है और बहुत कुछ ड्राइविंग के तरीके पर भी निर्भर है. केंद्रीय परिवहन मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने इथेनॉल का लंबे समय तक प्रचार किया था, लेकिन अब वह कहते हैं कि ई-20 लागू करने का फैसला उनका अकेले का नहीं पूरी कैबिनेट का था. पेट्रोलियम मंत्री वह नहीं, बल्कि हरदीपसिंह पुरी हैं. क्लोराइड के मुद्दे पर सफाई देते हुए सरकार ने कहा कि पूरे देश से 2,000 सैम्पल लिए गए, लेकिन सिर्फ 2 मामलों में क्लोराइड की मौजूदगी मिली. इसके विपरीत शिकायत यह है कि क्लोराइड से जुड़े मामलों में बढ़ोतरी हुई है. सियाम ने ई-20 व ई-85 फ्यूल में क्लोराइड की सीमा 1 एमजी से कम रखने की सिफारिश की है. सरकार का दावा है कि यदि इथेनॉल का इस्तेमाल नहीं करते, तो पेट्रोल का दाम 125 रुपये प्रति लीटर से ऊपर चला जाता. इन बातों के बावजूद, जो लोग बगैर इथेनॉल मिश्रित शुद्ध पेट्रोल खरीदना चाहते हैं, उनके लिए वैसी सुविधा होनी चाहिए. शंका है कि क्या ई-20 का प्रयोजन पुराने वाहनों को कबाड़ बना देने के लिए है? पारदर्शिता के अभाव में बहस का दायरा बढ़ता ही जा रहा है.


*सरकार का दावा है कि यदि इथेनॉल का इस्तेमाल नहीं करते, तो पेट्रोल का दाम 125 रुपये प्रति लीटर से ऊपर चला जाता. इन बातों के बावजूद, जो लोग बगैर इथेनॉल मिश्रित शुद्ध पेट्रोल खरीदना चाहते हैं, उनके लिए वैसी सुविधा होनी चाहिए. शंका है कि क्या ई-20 का प्रयोजन पुराने वाहनों को कबाड़ बना देने के लिए है?*

**Jansatta, Delhi, 07/08/2026**

Page No: 10, Size: 11.32cm × 12.91cm

# मंत्रिमंडल ने 23,731 करोड़ की 'गोबरधन' योजना को दी मंजूरी

नई दिल्ली, 6 अगस्त (भाषा)।

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने कम्प्रेस्ड बायोगैस (सीबीजी) के उत्पादन में तेजी लाने के लिए बृहस्पतिवार को 23,731 करोड़ रुपये की एक राष्ट्रीय एकीकृत योजना को मंजूरी दी। यह योजना आयातित जीवाश्म ईंधन पर निर्भरता घटाने और स्वच्छ ऊर्जा बदलाव को मजबूत करने के लिए कृषि एवं शहरी कचरे के उपयोग पर आधारित है। सरकार ने एक बयान में कहा कि 'गोबरधन' (जैविक संसाधनों से धन सृजन) योजना वित्त वर्ष 2026-27 से 2035-36 के बीच लागू की जाएगी। इसका लक्ष्य सुनिश्चित खरीद, विनियमित मूल्य, पूंजी सब्सिडी, पाइपलाइन अवसंरचना और वित्त तक आसान पहुंच के जरिये घरेलू सीबीजी उत्पादन को लगभग दस गुना बढ़ाना है।

कुल 23,731 करोड़ रुपये के परिव्यय वाली इस योजना के तहत कृषि अवशेष, गोबर, चीनी उद्योग का कचरा (गन्ने की खोई), शहरी जैविक कचरा एवं अन्य बायोमास का उपयोग कर कम्प्रेस्ड बायोगैस तैयार की जाएगी। इस गैस को वाहनों में इस्तेमाल होने वाली सीएनजी में मिलाया जा सकेगा। यह योजना मौजूदा पहल, जैसे 'सस्टेनेबल अल्टरनेटिव टुवर्ड्स अफोर्डेबल ट्रांसपोर्टेशन' (सतत) कार्यक्रम पर आधारित है, जिसके तहत 200 से अधिक सीबीजी संयंत्र पहले ही स्थापित किए जा चुके हैं। नए ढांचे के तहत शहरी गैस वितरण कंपनियां सीएनजी और घरों को आपूर्ति होने वाली पाइप वाली प्राकृतिक गैस (पीएनजी) में सीबीजी की अनिवार्य मिलावट के लक्ष्य को पूरा करने के लिए सीबीजी खरीदेंगी। वित्त वर्ष 2026-27 में तीन फीसद, 2027-28 में चार फीसद और 2028-29 से पांच फीसद मिलावट का लक्ष्य है।

## गुवाहाटी-तेजपुर गलियारे के लिए 8,970 करोड़ स्वीकृत

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने गुरुवार को असम में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-15 पर 135.871 किलोमीटर लंबे गुवाहाटी-तेजपुर गलियारे का 8,970.20 करोड़ रुपए की लागत से विकास करने के प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दी। चार लेन वाली इस राजमार्ग परियोजना को निर्माण-संचालन-हस्तांतरण (बीओटी) टोल माडल पर विकसित किया जाएगा। परियोजना के तहत तेजपुर बाइपास में 4.9 किलोमीटर लंबी आपातकालीन लैंडिंग सुविधा (ईएलएफ) का निर्माण किया जाएगा, जिसे भारतीय वायुसेना के साथ समन्वय कर अंतिम रूप दिया गया है।

**Navbharat, Mumbai, 07/08/2026**

Page No: 1, Size: 21.88cm × 12.94cm

# गोबरधन : नई सरकारी बायोगैस योजना

## दावा : 23,731 करोड़ रुपये से बनेगा 'कचरे से ऊर्जा' वाला नया भारत

■ **दिल्ली, ब्यूरो.** केंद्र सरकार ने देश के स्वच्छ ऊर्जा भविष्य के लिए एक ऐतिहासिक फैसला लिया है. प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने गोबरधन (घरेलू कंप्रेस्ड बायोगैस (सीबीजी) योजना को हरी झंडी दे दी है. इस योजना पर वर्ष 2026-27 से 2035-36 तक 23,731 करोड़ रुपये खर्च किए जाएंगे. इस बारे में जानकारी देते हुए केंद्रीय मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव ने बताया कि इस योजना के तहत खेतों का अवशेष, गोबर, गन्ने की खोई, शहरों का गीला कचरा और अन्य जैविक पदार्थों को साफ ईंधन यानी बायो गैस में बदला जाएगा. इसके साथ ही जैविक खाद भी तैयार होगी जिससे खेती और गांव दोनों समृद्ध होंगे.

**10% बढ़ेगा उत्पादन :** घरेलू स्तर पर जैव गैस का उत्पादन लगभग दस गुना बढ़ेगा. इससे विदेशी गैस पर निर्भरता कम होगी और ऊर्जा सुरक्षा बढ़ेगी. खेत का बचा हुआ भूसा और गोबर अब आय का स्रोत बनेगा.

**1. पक्की खरीद की गारंटी :** शहर गैस वितरण कंपनियों के लिए जैव गैस खरीद का लक्ष्य तय.

**2. स्थिर दाम :** बायो गैस का दाम 2,110 रुपये प्रति इकाई तय. दस साल तक दाम स्थिर रहेंगे.

**3. पूंजी सहायता :** नए जैव गैस संयंत्र लगाने पर प्रति दिन एक टन क्षमता पर 2 करोड़ रुपये तक की मदद. भूसा इकट्ठा करने और जैविक खाद बनाने की मशीनों पर भी सहायता. पुराने संयंत्रों के विस्तार पर भी मदद मिलेगी.

**4. पाइपलाइन सुविधा :** जैव गैस संयंत्रों को सीधे शहर गैस तंत्र और मुख्य पाइपलाइन से जोड़ने के लिए समूह और एकल पाइपलाइन को बढ़ावा दिया जाएगा.

**5. ऋण गारंटी सहायता :** एमएसएमई, महिला व नए उद्यमियों के लिए बैंकों से आसान ऋण.

**6. जैव गैस पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र चुनौती कोष :** जिले स्तर पर भूसा की उपलब्धता का आकलन, संग्रह केंद्र, योजना बनाना, नई तकनीक, खाद का मूल्यवर्धन और लोगों को जागरूक करने के लिए अलग कोष बनाया जाएगा.

DJ Rashtriya Sanskaran, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 3, Size: 34.16cm × 35.72cm

# 23,731 करोड़ की गोबरधन योजना को कैबिनेट की मंजूरी

## स्वच्छ ऊर्जा उत्पादन बढ़ाना उद्देश्य, गैस का आयात भी कम होगा

### इस योजना से ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में रोजगार के अवसरों में भी वृद्धि होगी

**जागरण ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली**

केंद्र सरकार की कैबिनेट ने गुरुवार को गोबरधन (गोबरधन-गैल्वेनाइजिंग आर्गेनिक बायो-एग्रो रिसोर्सेज धन) योजना को मंजूरी दे दी। 23,731 करोड़ रुपये की आर्थिक मदद वाली इस योजना का उद्देश्य कृषि और जैविक कचरे से बायोगैस (सीबीजी) और जैविक खाद में बदलकर स्वच्छ ऊर्जा उत्पादन बढ़ाना है। इससे देश में गैस का आयात भी कम होगा और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में रोजगार के अवसरों में भी वृद्धि होगी। योजना के तहत उद्यमियों को सुनिश्चित मूल्य पर खरीद, पूंजीगत मदद, गैस निकासी के लिए जरूरी इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर विकास, ऋण उपलब्ध कराने की गारंटी और इनोवेशन के लिए चैलेंज फंड दिया जाएगा। सरकार के इस फैसले के बारे में केंद्रीय सूचना व प्रसारण मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव ने बताया कि हर प्लांट को सिटी गैस डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन नेटवर्क या ट्रंक पाइपलाइन के जरिये खरीदार से जोड़ा जाएगा।

प्लांट, फीडस्टाक सिस्टम और जैविक खाद प्रसंस्करण मशीनरी के लिए प्रति टन प्रति दिन क्षमता पर अधिकतम दो करोड़ रुपये तक की सहायता केंद्र से ली जा सकेगी। प्लांट को सिटी गैस नेटवर्क से जोड़ने के लिए सहायता दी जाएगी। यह बताया गया है कि इस योजना की मदद से अगले दस वर्षों में भारत में बायो गैस का उत्पादन 10 गुणा तक बढ़ाया जाएगा। इससे आयात निर्भरता घटेगी और विदेशी मुद्रा में 40,000 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक की बचत होगी। उत्पादित गैस से एक करोड़ मैट्रिक टन जीवाश्म ईंधन की खपत कम होगी और राष्ट्रीय जीडीपी में कुल 75,000 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक का योगदान मिलेगा। जबकि 1.5 लाख से अधिक रोजगार पैदा होंगे।

केंद्रीय मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव गुरुवार को नई दिल्ली में कैबिनेट के फैसलों की जानकारी देते हुए। एएनआइ

### गुवाहाटी-तेजपुर कारिडोर के लिए 8,970 करोड़ रुपये मंजूर

प्रेट्र के अनुसार, केंद्रीय कैबिनेट ने असम में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-15 पर 135 किलोमीटर लंबे गुवाहाटी-तेजपुर कारिडोर का 8,970 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से विकास करने के प्रसतव को मंजूरी दी है। चार लेन वाली इस राजमार्ग परियोजना को निर्माण-संचालन-हस्तांतरण (बीओटी) टोल माडल पर विकसित किया जाएगा।

Hindustan, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 1, Size: 15.00cm × 8.47cm

# पीएनजी में बायोगैस मिलाने को मंजूरी

**कैबिनेट फैसला**

**23 हजार 731 करोड़ रुपये की यह 'गोबरधन' योजना अगले दस वर्षों में पूरी की जाएगी**

- **सीएनजी और पीएनजी में क्रमिक तरीके से पांच फीसदी तक बायोगैस मिलाया जाएगा**

**नई दिल्ली, विशेष संवाददाता।** केंद्र सरकार ने बायोगैस उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए राष्ट्रीय एकीकृत योजना 'गोबरधन' को मंजूरी दी है। 23,731 करोड़ रुपये की यह योजना दस वर्षों में पूरी की जाएगी। इसके तहत सीएनजी-पीएनजी में पांच फीसदी तक बायोगैस मिलाने की तैयारी है।

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में हुई मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक के बाद सूचना एवं प्रसारण मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव ने इसकी जानकारी दी। योजना के तहत कृषि अपशिष्ट, गोबर, जैविक कचरा, अन्य बायोमास संसाधनों को स्वच्छ ईंधन, जैविक खाद में बदला जाएगा। इससे शहरी गैस वितरण कंपनियां बायोगैस खरीदना शुरू करेंगी। इसके बाद वित्त वर्ष 2026-27 में तीन प्रतिशत, 2027-28 में चार प्रतिशत और 2028-29 से आगे पांच प्रतिशत बायोगैस सीएनजी और पीएनजी में मिलाई जाने लगेगी। केंद्रीय मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव ने कहा कि गोबरधन योजना का मकसद घरेलू संपीड़ित बायोगैस (सीबीजी) उत्पादन को दस गुना से अधिक कर ऊर्जा सुरक्षा को मजबूत करना है।

**Navbharat Times, Delhi, 07/08/2026**
Page No: 9, Size: 19.53cm × 20.00cm

# बायोगैस उत्पादन 10 गुना बढ़ेगा, CNG-PNG में होगा इस्तेमाल

## कैबिनेट का फैसला: नैचरल गैस के आयात पर निर्भरता कम होगी

■ **NBT रिपोर्ट, नई दिल्ली**

**केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल** ने जिस गोबरधन (GOBARdhan) योजना को मंजूरी दी है, उसका उद्देश्य देश में कंप्रेस्ड बायोगैस (CBG) का उत्पादन बढ़ाना है। इससे नैचरल गैस के आयात पर देश की निर्भरता कम होगी। पीएम नरेंद्र मोदी ने कहा कि यह स्कीम 'स्वच्छ ऊर्जा, ग्रामीण समृद्धि और आत्मनिर्भर भारत के हमारे साझा स्वप्न को पूरा करने की दिशा में अहम कदम है।

गोबरधन स्कीम से किसानों, सहकारी समितियों, MSME, महिला उद्यमियों और ग्रामीण उद्यमों को फायदा होगा। इससे ऊर्जा सुरक्षा मजबूत होगी, आयातित ईंधन पर निर्भरता घटेगी और अपशिष्ट के वैज्ञानिक प्रबंधन को बढ़ावा मिलेगा।

सूचना प्रसारण मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव ने बताया कि GOBARdhan यानी गैल्वेनाइजिंग ऑर्गेनिक बायो-एग्रो रिसोर्सेज धन स्कीम के तहत हर प्लांट को सिटी गैस डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन नेटवर्क या ट्रंक पाइपलाइन के जरिए एक खरीदार से जोड़ा जाएगा। इसमें कीमतों में स्थिरता पर

**वैष्णव ने कहा- गोबरधन स्कीम में हर प्लांट को सिटी गैस डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन नेटवर्क या ट्रंक पाइपलाइन के जरिए एक खरीदार से जोड़ा जाएगा।**

जोर रहेगा। सरकार की ओर से CBG की कीमत तय किए जाने से वैश्विक भाव में जब भी उतार-चढ़ाव होगा तो उसका यहां असर नहीं पड़ेगा। कृषि अपशिष्ट, गोबर, चीनी उद्योग के अपशिष्ट, नगरीय क्षेत्र के ऑर्गेनिक कचरे और दूसरे बायोमास से CBG बनाई जाएगी और इसे गाड़ियों में इस्तेमाल होने वाली CNG में मिलाया जा सकेगा। पहले ही 200 से ज्यादा CBG प्लांट्स शुरू किए जा चुके हैं।

सिटी गैस डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन कंपनियों को इस वित्त वर्ष के अंत तक गाड़ियों में इस्तेमाल होने वाली CNG और घरों में सप्लाई की जाने वाली PNG में 3% CBG, वित्त वर्ष 2026 तक 4% और वित्त वर्ष 2029 तक 5% मिलाने का लक्ष्य पूरा करना है और इसके लिए वे CBG की खरीदारी करेंगी।

### मंत्रिमंडल ने असम में हाइवे प्रोजेक्ट को मंजूरी दी

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने असम में नैशनल हाइवे 15 के 4 लेन गुवाहाटी-तेजपुर कॉरिडोर के निर्माण को भी मंजूरी दी है। 135.87 किलोमीटर के एक्सेस कंट्रोल्ड कॉरिडोर पर 8970.20 करोड़ रुपये खर्च होंगे। यह प्रोजेक्ट बिल्ड ऑपरेट ट्रांसफर टोल मोड में डिवेलप किया जाएगा। इसके तहत तेजपुर बाइपास में 4.9 किलोमीटर की इमर्जेंसी लैंडिंग फैसिलिटी भी तैयार की जाएगी। इसे वायुसेना के सहयोग से तैयार किया जाएगा।

**Business Standard Hindi, Delhi, 07/08/2026**
Page No: 1, Size: 85.04cm × 37.60cm

# ई20 की चिंता से वैकल्पिक ईंधन वाली गाड़ियों की बढ़ी मांग

**शाइन जेकब**
चेन्नई, 6 अगस्त

**ई20** (20 फीसदी एथनॉल मिश्रित पेट्रोल) ईंधन को लेकर बढ़ती चिंता के बीच जुलाई में वाहनों की कुल बिक्री में पेट्रोल से चलने वाली कारों की हिस्सेदारी 41.68 फीसदी के रिकॉर्ड निचले स्तर पर आ गई और वैकल्पिक ईंधन वाले वाहनों की मांग बढ़ी है। वाहन डीलरों के संगठन फाडा के आंकड़ों के अनुसार जुलाई में पेट्रोल और वैकल्पिक ईंधन वाले वाहनों की बिक्री का अंतर महज 1.09 फीसदी रह गया। कुल बिक्री में वैकल्पिक ईंधन से चलने वाले वाहनों की हिस्सेदारी 40.59 फीसदी रही। वैकल्पिक ईंधन खंड में सीएनजी की हिस्सेदारी 24.67 फीसदी, हाइब्रिड 8.02की फीसदी और इलेक्ट्रिक वाहन (ईवी) की 7.90 फीसदी रही।

दिलचस्प है कि पिछले साल जुलाई में कुल वाहनों की बिक्री में पेट्रोल वाहनों की हिस्सेदारी 48.11 फीसदी और जुलाई 2024 में 51.75 फीसदी थी, जो दर्शाता है कि यह गिरावट मुख्य रूप से ई20 ईंधन को लेकर विवाद के कारण हुई है। जुलाई 2025 में वैकल्पिक ईंधन वाले वाहनों की हिस्सेदारी 34.14 फीसदी और जुलाई 2024 में 29.89 फीसदी थी। गुजरात, हरियाणा, महाराष्ट्र, राजस्थान और उत्तर प्रदेश जैसे राज्यों में अकेले सीएनजी वाहनों की बिक्री पेट्रोल से चलने वाली यात्री वाहनों से अधिक हो गई। इस बीच, नई कार बिक्री में डीजल की हिस्सेदारी जून के 16.32 फीसदी से मामूली बढ़कर जुलाई में 17.73 फीसदी हो गई। जुलाई 2025 में कुल बिक्री में डीजल वाहनों की हिस्सेदारी 17.75 फीसदी थी।

फाडा के उपाध्यक्ष साई गिरिधर ने कहा, 'ई20 ईंधन को लेकर ग्राहकों की झिझक ने खरीदारों को सीएनजी, हाइब्रिड और ईवी का रुख करने के लिए मजबूर किया। पिछले साल की समान अवधि की तुलना में इस साल जुलाई में पेट्रोल वाहनों की बिक्री में 6 फीसदी की गिरावट आई है। लेकिन डीजल वाहनों की बिक्री लगभग स्थिर है। इससे संकेत मिलता है ई20 के प्रति धारणा ने ग्राहकों को वैकल्पिक ईंधनों की ओर रुख करने में बड़ी भूमिका निभाई है।'

## ईंधन प्रकार के आधार पर यात्री वाहनों की बिक्री का हिस्सा

| ईंधन प्रकार | जुलाई 2025 | जुलाई 2026 |
|---|---|---|
| पेट्रोल | 48.11 | 41.68 |
| डीजल | 17.75 | 17.73 |
| सीएनजी/ एलपीजी | 21.33 | 24.67 |
| हाइब्रिड | 8.08 | 8.02 |
| ईवी | 4.73 | 7.9 |

नोट : आंकड़े फीसदी में।
स्रोत : फाडा

जुलाई में दोपहिया, तिपहिया, वाणिज्यिक वाहन, यात्री वाहन तथा ट्रैक्टर आदि की बिक्री अपने सर्वकालिक उच्च स्तर पर थी। उद्योग की कुल बिक्री 25.9 लाख रही जो पिछले साल की इसी अवधि की तुलना में 26 फीसदी अधिक है।

ईवी की कुल खुदरा बिक्री भी 3,27,901 वाहन तक पहुंच गई जो किसी भी महीने में अभी तक का सर्वाधिक आंकड़ा है। इसमें दोपहिया और वाणिज्यिक ईवी की बिक्री सर्वकालिक रिकॉर्ड स्तर पर रही और कुल वाहन बिक्री में ईवी की हिस्सेदारी बढ़कर 12.7 फीसदी हो गई।

ई20 ईंधन मिश्रण कार्यक्रम वाहनों के लिए एथनॉल के उपयोग को बढ़ाने और आयातित कच्चे तेल पर निर्भरता कम करने की केंद्र सरकार की रणनीति का हिस्सा है। पिछले कुछ महीनों में कार खरीदारों, राजनीतिक दलों और उद्योग निकायों द्वारा ई20 ईंधन की गुणवत्ता और इसके संभावित प्रभाव पर चिंता जताई गई है।

बिज़नेस स्टैंडर्ड को मिले विशिष्ट आंकड़ों के अनुसार देश भर में यात्री वाहनों में वैकल्पिक ईंधन का इस्तेमाल बढ़ा है और कई राज्यों में सीएनजी ने पारंपरिक ईंधन को पीछे छोड़ दिया है। हरियाणा में जुलाई 2025 में वाहनों की कुल बिक्री में सीएनजी वाहनों की हिस्सेदारी 36.2 फीसदी थी जो जुलाई 2026 में बढ़कर 43.17 फीसदी हो गई। इसी अवधि के दौरान उत्तर प्रदेश में सीएनजी वाहनों की हिस्सेदारी 31.63 फीसदी से बढ़कर 38.46 फीसदी, राजस्थान में 29.35 फीसदी से बढ़कर 34.86 फीसदी, महाराष्ट्र में 34.75 फीसदी से 37.72 फीसदी और गुजरात में 38.9 फीसदी से बढ़कर 40.58 फीसदी हो गई। दिल्ली में पिछले साल जुलाई में वाहनों की कुल बिक्री में सीएनजी की हिस्सेदारी 27.27 फीसदी थी जो इस साल जुलाई में बढ़कर 31.20 फीसदी हो गई।

गिरिधर ने कहा, 'आंकड़े से पता चलता है कि वैकल्पिक ईंधन वाले वाहनों की बिक्री इस साल कभी भी पेट्रोल को पीछे छोड़ सकती है। यात्री वाहन इन्वेंट्री जून के अंत से एक और दिन बढ़कर 33 से 35 दिनों तक पहुंच गई जो फाडा द्वारा अनुशंसित 21 दिन के बेंचमार्क से काफी ज्यादा है।'

जुलाई में दोपहिया वाहनों की बिक्री 28.25 फीसदी, ट्रैक्टर की 28.1 फीसदी, वाणिज्यिक वाहन की 24.04 फीसदी, यात्री वाहन की 19.13 फीसदी बढ़ी है

Deshbandhu, Delhi, 07/08/2026
Page No: 1, Size: 30.82cm × 13.36cm

**घोषणा** *किसानों के सशक्तिकरण के साथ बायोगैस क्षेत्र को मिलेगा बढ़ावा*

# सरकार ने 'गोबरधन योजना' को दी मंजूरी

**नई दिल्ली, 6 अगस्त (देशबन्धु)। सरकार देश में संपीड़ित बायोगैस को बढावा देने और इसे भविष्य के ऊर्जा स्त्रोतों का प्रमुख स्तंभ बनाने के लिए 23 हजार 731 करोड़ रूपये के कुल खर्च के साथ दस वर्ष के लिए गोबरधन योजना शुरू करने जा रही है। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में बुधवार को हुई केन्द्रीय मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक में इस आशय के प्रस्ताव को मंजूरी दी गयी।**

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री अश्चिनी वैष्णव ने गुरुवार को यहां संवाददाता सम्मेलन में बताया कि मंत्रिमंडल ने 23,731 करोड़ रुपए की राष्ट्रीय पुर्नचक्रण जैव ऊर्जा , गोबरधन योजना को मंजूरी दे दी है।

यह योजना कृषि अवशेष, पशु गोबर, चीनी मिलों के अपशिष्ट, नगर निकायों के जैविक कचरे और अन्य बायोमास संसाधनों को स्वच्छ ईंधन, जैविक खाद, ग्रामीण आय में बदलने के लिए शुरू की गई है। यह योजना मौजूदा वित्त वर्ष

**23,731 करोड़ रुपए खर्च किए जाएंगे**

से वित्त वर्ष 2035-36 तक लागू की जाएगी और इसका उद्देश्य संपीड़ित बायोगैस को भारत के भविष्य के ऊर्जा मिश्रण का एक प्रमुख स्तंभ बनाना है। पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय द्वारा संचालित गोबरधन योजना, सुनिश्चित मांग, स्थिर मूल्य निर्धारण, पूंजी सहायता, पाइपलाइन अवसंरचना, ऋण सहायता और प्रौद्योगिकी विकास के माध्यम से संपीड़ित बायोगैस मूल्य शृंखला के लिए एकीकृत ढांचा उपलब्ध कराएगी। यह योजना सतत वैकल्पिक परिवहन के लिए किफायती पहल , जैविक खाद के लिए बाजार विकास सहायता योजना, बायोमास मशीनरी योजना, पाइपलाइन अवसंरचना विकास योजना और राष्ट्रीय जैव ऊर्जा कार्यक्रम के तहत संपीड़ित बायोगैस संयंत्रों के लिए केंद्रीय वित्तीय सहायता जैसी पहले की पहलों पर आधारित है।

**बायोगैस उत्पादन में दस गुना वृद्धि लक्ष्य**

इसका लक्ष्य घरेलू संपीड़ित बायोगैस उत्पादन में लगभग दस गुना वृद्धि, बड़े पैमाने पर निजी निवेश और देशभर में पुर्नचक्रण जैव अर्थव्यवस्था का निर्माण करना है।

# ऊर्जा सुरक्षा के लिए रणनीतिक भंडार और घरेलू उत्पादन जरूरी : दुबे

शुभांगी माथुर
नई दिल्ली, 6 अगस्त

**भारत** को भूराजनीतिक दबावों के कारण पैदा होने वाली चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए अपने रणनीतिक भंडार क्षमता को मजबूत करने, ऊर्जा के स्रोतों में विविधता लाने और घरेलू तेल व गैस उत्पादन को बढ़ाने की ज़रूरत है।

बीपी इंडिया के चेयरमैन कार्तिकेय दुबे ने भारतीय उद्योग परिसंघ (सीआईआई) के कार्यक्रम में कहा, 'दूसरे देशों में कच्चे तेल (भंडार) दो महीने से ज्यादा है और गैस का शायद चार से छह महीने के बीच है। इस (पश्चिम एशिया संकट) ने दिखाया कि भारत को और बहुत कुछ करने की जरूरत है। हालिया ऐलान (कच्चे तेल का भंडार) इस दिशा में सही कदम है, लेकिन और भी बहुत कुछ करने की ज़रूरत है।' सरकार ने सरकारी कंपनी ऑयल ऐंड नैचुरल गैस कॉरपोरेशन (ओएनजीसी) से मंगलूरु में 17.5 लाख टन का नया भूमिगत रणनीतिक भंडार बनाने को कहा है। दरअसल, भारत अपने रणनीतिक पेट्रोलियम भंडार (एसपीआर) नेटवर्क का बड़े पैमाने पर विस्तार कर रहा है।

## बदलती चुनौतियां

- दूसरे देशों में दो महीने से ज्यादा की जरूरत के लिए पर्याप्त कच्चा तेल और चार से छह महीने के लिए पर्याप्त गैस है
- पश्चिम एशिया संकट ने दिखाया कि भारत को और बहुत कुछ करने की जरूरत है
- भारत कच्चे तेल, एलएनजी और एलपीजी के सोर्सिंग में विविधता लाया है

सरकार का ओएनजीसी के साथ

दुबे ने जोर दिया कि भारत ने कच्चे तेल, एलएनजी और एलपीजी के सोर्सिंग में विविधता लाई है। इससे पश्चिम एशिया में चल रहे संकट के बीच देश को ऊर्जा आपूर्ति सुरक्षित करने में मदद मिली है। उन्होंने भारत के वायु प्रदूषण से निपटने में कचरे से ऊर्जा बनाने वाले समाधानों की भूमिका पर भी बात की। इस क्षेत्र की तरक्की 'आपूर्ति श्रृंखला' में आने वाली रुकावटों को दूर करने पर निर्भर करती है।