Millennium Post, Delhi, 17/08/2026
Page No: 11, Size: 8.02cm × 14.34cm

Deepak Gupta, CMD, GAIL, hoisted the National Flag at GAIL Corporate Office, New Delhi, on the occasion of Independence Day, in presence of Directors Ayush Gupta, Sanjay Kumar, Rajeev Kumar Singhal, SK Sinha & Rajnesh Singh, CVO.

Free Press Journal, Mumbai, 17/08/2026
Page No: 13, Size: 11.17cm × 14.13cm

GAIL

Deepak Gupta, Chairman & Managing Director, GAIL, hoisted the National Flag at GAIL Corporate Office, New Delhi, on the occasion of Independence Day. Ayush Gupta, Director (HR), Sanjay Kumar, Director (Marketing), Rajeev Kumar Singhal, Director (Business Development) S.K. Sinha, Director Finance, Rajnesh Singh, Chief Vigilance Officer and senior officials and employees, along with their families, were present on the occasion. In a deeply evocative moment, employees joined voices to sing Vande Mataram, commemorating 150 years of the timeless national song followed by National Anthem Addressing the gathering, Deepak Gupta highlighted GAIL's significant role in India's nation-building journey and emphasised the importance of energy as a foundation for economic growth and national development and added that with a diversified LNG portfolio, GAIL is reinforcing India's energy resilience amid shifting global dynamics and growing geopolitical challenges. Speaking on the occasion, Gupta said, "GAIL is not merely an energy company; it is an important partner in nation-building. Energy is not just a business—it is the foundation of a nation's progress. Wherever energy reaches, development happens."

गेल सीएमडी ने कारपोरेट कार्यालय में किया ध्वजारोहण

नई दिल्ली, वि.: स्वतंत्रता दिवस के अवसर पर गेल के चेयरमैन एवं प्रबंध निदेशक (सीएमडी) दीपक गुप्ता ने नई दिल्ली स्थित गेल के कारपोरेट कार्यालय में ध्वजारोहण किया। इस अवसर पर मानव संसाधन विभाग के निदेशक आयुष गुप्ता, विपणन विभाग के निदेशक संजय कुमार, व्यापार विकास विभाग के निदेशक राजीव कुमार सिंघल, वित्त निदेशक एस.के. सिन्हा, मुख्य सतर्कता अधिकारी रजनेश सिंह, वरिष्ठ अधिकारी एवं कर्मचारी अपने परिवारजनों के साथ उपस्थित रहे।

Business Standard, Delhi, 17/08/2026
Page No: 4, Size: 55.93cm × 50.27cm

In a first, govt sets daily LPG output target for refiners

RIL gets the largest share among 21 refineries and upstream companies

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, 16 August

The government has for the first time fixed maximum cooking gas LPG production targets for individual public- and private-sector refineries and upstream companies, as it seeks to build a domestic supply buffer after the West Asia conflict exposed the country's vulnerability to disruptions in imported cooking gas.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, in an order issued on August 13, has specified maximum LPG production levels for 21 refineries and upstream companies, with combined production potential set at 63,810 tonnes a day — more than double the domestic LPG output in FY26 and about 70 per cent of the country's daily consumption. The production limits will kick in whenever there is a supply constraint.

The lion's share of the planned output has been set from Reliance Industries Ltd's (RIL) older refinery, which would have to produce up to 18,000 tonnes a day of LPG.

India consumed 33.2 million tonnes of LPG in FY26 (about 91,000 tonnes per day). Of this, 13.1 million tonnes a year was produced locally (about 35,900 tonnes a day) while the remaining 21.3 million tonnes per annum (about 58,400 tonnes a day) was imported. This high import dependence of over 64 per cent left the country exposed when the start of the Iran war effectively shut the Strait of Hormuz.

Supply safeguard

- Combined production capacity set at 63,810 tonnes a day
- Reliance's Jamnagar refinery assigned a target of 18,000 tonnes a day
- Upstream processors like ONGC, GAIL given a target of 6,460 tonnes a day
- Orders follow supply disruptions caused by the Strait of Hormuz closure

Domestic production was ramped up to about 55,000 tonnes a day at the height of the crisis.

The new order goes further than the emergency one issued during the West Asia crisis by creating facility-wise production benchmarks and requiring refiners and upstream firms to maintain adequate infrastructure for LPG storage, evacuation and transportation. Firms must also pursue technically and economically feasible upgrades to maximise output.

The production schedule will be reviewed every six months, allowing the government to add output from new refineries and upstream fields and account for additional capacity created through technology and infrastructure upgrades.

The order also requires refiners to consider measures such as converting naphtha into LPG and upgrading fluid catalytic cracking units where technically and economically viable.

The new production framework is aimed at ensuring that a future disruption to overseas LPG supplies does not translate into the shortages and rationing seen during the recent crisis.

Eighteen refineries owned and operated by public sector oil companies have been ordered to produce a total of 31,470 tonnes a day.

In the private sector, Reliance's 33 million tonnes a year domestic-tariff area refinery at Jamnagar in Gujarat, products from which are sold locally, has been ordered to produce 18,000 tonnes. No target has been set for Reliance's 35.2 million tonnes a year only-for-exports refinery at the same site.

Russia's Rosneft-backed Nayara Energy's 20 million tonnes a year Vadinar refinery has been asked to produce 4,480 tonnes a day.

Upstream gas producers and processors like ONGC and GAIL, who make LPG from natural gas, have been given a target of 6,460 tonnes a day.

Free Press Journal, Mumbai, 17/08/2026
Page No: 12, Size: 16.38cm × 15.69cm

LPG production limits set, Reliance gets largest quota amid supply risks

The government has, for the first time, fixed maximum LPG production targets for individual public and private refineries and upstream companies, seeking to strengthen domestic supplies after the West Asia conflict exposed India's heavy dependence on imports, PTI reported on Sunday.

Under a Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry order, 21 refineries and upstream companies have been assigned combined production potential of 63,810 tonnes a day.

Reliance leads: Reliance Industries' 33-million-tonne-a-year domestic-tariff area refinery at Jamnagar has received the largest allocation, at up to 18,000 tonnes daily. No target has been assigned to its 35.2-million-tonne export-only refinery at the same site. Eighteen public-sector refineries have been assigned

a combined 31,470 tonnes a day, while Rosneft-backed Nayara Energy's Vadinar refinery has a 4,480-tonne target. Upstream producers and processors, including ONGC and GAIL, have collectively been assigned 6,460 tonnes daily.

Import exposure: India consumed 33.2 million tonnes of LPG in 2025-26, equivalent to roughly 91,000 tonnes daily. Domestic production stood at 13.1 million tonnes, or about 35,900 tonnes a day, while imports reached 21.3 million tonnes, or 58,400 tonnes daily. That left India more than 64% import-dependent. About 90% of imports came from countries including Saudi Arabia through the Strait of Hormuz, leaving supplies vulnerable when the Iran conflict disrupted the shipping route. During the crisis, domestic production was raised to about 55,000 tonnes daily, while household supplies were prioritised and industrial and commercial deliveries restricted.

Supply buffer: The new framework requires companies to maintain adequate LPG storage, evacuation and transport infrastructure and undertake economically viable upgrades, including naphtha-to-LPG conversion. The government can order producers to increase output when necessary to protect domestic availability and fair pricing. —**Business Desk**

Mint, Delhi, 17/08/2026
Page No: 9, Size: 26.88cm × 63.50cm

Govt sets targets for LPG cos, looks to ramp up output

Ministry directs all refiners and upstream oil firms to maintain adequate LPG infra

Rituraj Baruah
rituraj.baruah@livemint.com
NEW DELHI

The ministry of petroleum and natural gas has, for the first time, set cooking gas production targets for refineries in the country in the wake of the supply squeeze due to the war in West Asia.

The ministry has also directed all refiners and upstream oil companies, both public and private, to build and maintain adequate liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) storage, evacuation, and transport infrastructure, either on their own or via railways and road tankers, sufficient to meet their allocated quantities.

In a notification on 13 August, the ministry specified maximum LPG production levels for 21 refineries and upstream companies, with a combined production potential of 63,810 tonnes per day.

"Central Government shall update the Schedule on 1 January and 1 July of every year, including updates to Liquefied Petroleum Gas production from new refineries and upstream oil companies or additional Liquefied Petroleum Gas quantities from existing refineries and upstream companies due to changes to associated infrastructure and production technology, evacuation, supply, transport or distribution of Liquefied Petroleum Gas," said the gazette notification.

Refiners have already raised their production to 54,000 tonnes per day of LPG from the pre-war level of 36,000 tonnes, in a bid to fill the gap caused by the closure of the Strait of Hormuz.

Reliance Industries Ltd's domestic-market-focused unit has been allocated the highest target of 18,000 tonnes of LPG production per day.

Along with the refiners, state-run exploration and production majors Oil and Natural Gas Corp. and Oil India Ltd, and the public sector gas marketing and transportation company Gail (India) Ltd, have also been asked to contribute to the country's cooking gas production requirements.

LPG supplies were among the areas most affected by the war because India relied on West Asia for about 90% of its cooking gas imports before the conflict. Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Kuwait were the main suppliers. During the conflict, however, the US emerged as India's largest LPG supplier.

For an extended version of this story, go to livemint.com.

Amar Ujala, Delhi, 17/08/2026
Page No: 9, Size: 9.82cm × 8.31cm

गेल इंडिया के मुनाफे में 33 फीसदी की बढ़ोतरी, क्षमता उपयोग में आई कमी

नई दिल्ली। गेल इंडिया ने वित्त वर्ष 2026-27 की पहली तिमाही में बेहतर वित्तीय प्रदर्शन किया है। कंपनी का स्टैंडअलोन मुनाफा पिछले साल की समान तिमाही के मुकाबले 33 फीसदी बढ़कर 1,133 करोड़ रुपये पहुंच गया। पिछले साल की पहली तिमाही में यह 851 करोड़ रुपये था। कंपनी का कर पूर्व मुनाफा (पीबीटी) भी 33 फीसदी बढ़ा है। इस तिमाही में पीबीटी 1,514 करोड़ रुपये रहा, जबकि पिछले साल की समान तिमाही में यह 1,136 करोड़ रुपये था। कंपनी के मुताबिक, वित्तीय प्रदर्शन में यह सुधार बेहतर व्यावसायिक और परिचालन दक्षता की वजह से हुआ है। हालांकि, एलएनजी की प्रोसेसिंग और टर्मिनल की क्षमता उपयोग में पिछले साल की तुलना में कमी दर्ज की गई। 30 जून 2026 को समाप्त तिमाही में दहेज टर्मिनल ने 192 टीबीटीयू एलएनजी प्रोसेस की। पिछले साल की समान तिमाही में यह आंकड़ा 207 टीबीटीयू और पिछली तिमाही में 201 टीबीटीयू था। पूरी कंपनी की कुल एलएनजी प्रोसेसिंग इस तिमाही में 207 टीबीटीयू रही। पिछले साल की समान तिमाही में यह 220 टीबीटीयू और पिछली तिमाही में 219 टीबीटीयू थी।

Business Line, Delhi, 17/08/2026
Page No: 7, Size: 5.98cm × 17.57cm

ONGC gets US licence to resume Venezuela ops

New Delhi: State-owned oil and gas explorer ONGC has secured a licence from the US Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), allowing it to resume full operations in Venezuela after years of limiting activity because of sanctions-related risks, a senior company official said. The approval could pave the way for the state-run explorer to expand production, sign new agreements, and take over operatorship of some projects from Venezuela's state oil company PDVSA, Anupam Agarwal, Director - Finance at ONGC, said at an investor call post first quarter earnings announcement. PTI

THE GOVT SEEKS TO BUILD A DOMESTIC SUPPLY BUFFER

Govt sets LPG output targets for refiners, Reliance gets largest quota

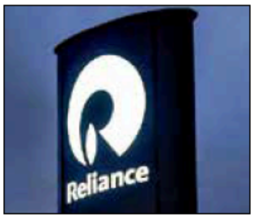
OUR CORRESPONDENT
New Delhi, August 16

The government has for the first time fixed maximum cooking gas LPG production targets for individual public- and private-sector refineries and upstream companies, as it seeks to build a domestic supply buffer after the West Asia conflict exposed the country's vulnerability to disruptions in imported cooking gas.

The Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry, in an order issued on August 13, has specified maximum LPG production levels for 21 refineries and upstream companies, with combined production potential set at 63,810 tonnes a day -- more than double the domestic LPG output in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2026 and about 70 per cent of the country's daily consumption.

The production limits will kick in whenever there is a supply constraint. The lion's share of the planned output has been set from Reliance Industries Ltd's older refinery, which would have to produce up to 18,000 tonnes a day of LPG, according to the order.

India consumed 33.2 million tonnes of LPG in the 2025-26 fiscal year (about 91,000 tonnes per day). Of this, 13.1 million tonnes a year was



produced locally (about 35,900 tonnes a day) while the remaining 21.3 million tonnes per annum (about 58,400 tonnes a day) was imported.

This high import dependence of over 64 per cent left the country exposed when the start of the Iran war effectively shut the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow sealane through which India got 90 per cent of its imports from nations like Saudi Arabia.

With supplies impacted, the government in March ordered refineries to divert streams used for petrochemicals production to maximise LPG output.

It also initially stopped sales to industrial and commercial users and thereafter gradually scaled it up. For domestic households, periodicity of booking a refill was increased, and they were encouraged to shift to piped natural gas, whose supplies were not so severely impacted due to the war.

Domestic production was ramped up to about 55,000 tonnes a day at the height of the crisis, but the emergency orders asking refiners to maximise output were gradually withdrawn after supplies eased from mid-June.

The new order goes further than the emergency one issued during the West Asia crisis by creating facility-wise production benchmarks and requiring refiners and upstream companies to maintain adequate infrastructure for LPG storage, evacuation and transportation. Companies must also pursue technically and economically feasible upgrades to maximise output.

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The government has empowered itself to order refiners, oil marketing companies and upstream producers to ramp up LPG production for specified quantities and periods whenever it considers such action necessary to ensure adequate domestic availability, equitable distribution and supply at fair prices.

The production schedule will be reviewed every six months, allowing the government to add output from new refineries and upstream fields and account for additional capacity created through technology and infrastructure upgrades. The order also requires refiners to consider measures such as converting naphtha into LPG and upgrading fluid catalytic cracking units where technically and economically viable, underscoring the government's push to extract more LPG from existing refining infrastructure. – PTI

ONGC gets US licence to start Venezuela operations

ONGC in talks with Venezuelan authorities

NEW DELHI, Aug 16: State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) has secured a licence from the US Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), allowing it to resume full operations in Venezuela after years of limiting activity because of sanctions-related risks, a senior company official said.

The US approval removes a key hurdle for ONGC's Venezuelan investments and could pave the way for the state-run explorer to expand production, sign new agreements and take over operatorship of some projects from Venezuela's state oil company PDVSA, Anupam Agarwal, director-finance at ONGC, said at an investor call post first quarter earnings announcement.

"Now we have full freedom to work on the Venezuela project because earlier we were restricting our operations there because of the sanction-related risks. Those risks are behind us," Agarwal said.

ONGC Videsh Ltd holds a 40 per cent interest in the San Cristobal oil project. It holds another 11 per cent stake in the Carabobo project

ONGC Videsh Ltd, the company's overseas investment arm, holds a 40 per cent interest in the San Cristobal oil project, while the remaining is with Venezuela's Petroleos de Venezuela SA (PDVSA). It holds another 11 per cent stake in the Carabobo project, which is under development.

An OFAC license would enable the company to manage the finances of its Venezuelan projects and help it recover a pending dividend of more than USD 500 million.

ONGC is already in talks with Venezuelan authorities and its joint-venture partners over its interests in two projects – San Cristobal and Carabobo – and expects positive developments soon, including new agreements and a possible transfer of operatorship from PDVSA, he said.

The licence is significant for ONGC because US sanctions on Venezuela's oil sector have for years complicated financial transactions, investment and operations involving Venezuelan crude and energy assets. The company had therefore curtailed activity despite its longstanding presence in the country.

The company can now invest in the projects to raise oil production. San Cristobal produced around 0.265 million tonnes of oil equivalent in FY26. This is a 10th of the production potential, and the OFAC license means it can invest in raising output.

Venezuela is strategically important for ONGC because it holds the world's largest proven crude oil reserves, estimated by OPEC at about 303 billion barrels, more than Saudi Arabia. Much of the country's production potential remains constrained by years of underinvestment, sanctions and operational difficulties, leaving substantial scope for additional development.

Agarwal said Venezuela's newly enacted petroleum law provides additional fiscal incentives for resource development, potentially improving the investment environment for foreign oil companies and their local partners.

ONGC's focus is on shallow, onshore fields in Venezuela, where it has relevant operating expertise from its domestic fields in Western India, including Mehsana and Ahmedabad, Agarwal said. – PTI

ONGC gets US sanctions waiver to resume full Venezuela operations, eyes higher oil output

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
New Delhi, 16 August

The state-owned oil and gas major ONGC is set to step up its operations in Venezuela after securing a licence from the US Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), removing a major hurdle that had restricted the company's activities in the country.

The approval will give ONGC greater flexibility to manage its Venezuelan investments, make fresh investments, enter into new agreements and potentially assume operatorship of some oil projects currently managed by Venezuela's state-run oil company, PDVSA.

Anupam Agarwal, Director (Finance) at ONGC, said during an investor call following the company's first-quarter earnings that the sanctions-related constraints that had previously limited its operations were no longer a major concern.

ONGC's overseas arm, ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL), owns a 40 per cent interest in the San Cristobal oil project, with the balance held by PDVSA. It also has an 11 per cent stake in the Carabobo project, which is currently under development.

The OFAC licence is particularly important for ONGC's finances. The company expects the approval to facilitate financial transactions linked to its Venezuelan assets and help unlock more than $500 million in pending dividends.

ONGC is already engaging with Venezuelan authorities and its joint-venture partners regarding the San Cristobal and Carabobo projects. The company expects these discussions to result in new agreements and could also see operatorship of some assets being transferred from PDVSA.

The company plans to invest in its Venezuelan assets to increase production. San Cristobal produced about 0.265 million tonnes of oil equivalent in FY26, but ONGC believes the field is operating at only around a tenth of its potential.

The easing of sanctions-related restrictions could, therefore, allow the company to accelerate investments and tap into a significantly larger production opportunity.

Venezuela remains strategically important for ONGC because of its enormous oil reserves. According to OPEC estimates, the country has around 303 billion barrels of proven crude oil reserves, the largest in the world.

Despite its vast resource base, Venezuela's oil industry has faced years of underinvestment, operational challenges and sanctions, leaving considerable scope to revive and expand production.

ONGC also sees an opportunity in recent changes to Venezuela's petroleum legislation, which Agarwal said provide additional fiscal incentives for developing hydrocarbon resources. This could improve the economics of future investments and make the country's oil sector more attractive to foreign investors. For ONGC, the company's existing experience with shallow, onshore oil fields in western India, including Mehsana and Ahmedabad, could be useful in developing similar assets in Venezuela.

With the US licence removing a key sanctions-related constraint, ONGC is now looking to accelerate its Venezuelan strategy. The company remains optimistic about the country's production potential and is pursuing discussions around fresh agreements, as well as possible operatorship of projects currently controlled by PDVSA.

The renewed push marks a significant shift for ONGC's Venezuelan business, which had remained constrained for years by restrictions on transactions and operations involving the country's oil sector.

Millennium Post, Delhi, 17/08/2026
Page No: 10, Size: 17.07cm × 17.97cm

ONGC gets US licence to resume full operations in Venezuela

OUR CORRESPONDENT
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Mint, Delhi, 17/08/2026
Page No: 13, Size: 63.50cm × 24.21cm

Risk sharing in oil and gas exploration needs a rethink

VIJAY KELKAR

is vice president, Pune International Centre, and former secretary, ministry of petroleum and natural gas.

India's dependence on imported crude oil remains a significant macroeconomic and strategic vulnerability. Hence, increasing domestic exploration and production is an important policy goal. The government's approval of the Samudra Manthan scheme is welcome in its intent. Its emphasis on modern seismic data, common offshore infrastructure and local oilfield capabilities addresses gaps that markets are unlikely to correct. Geological information and basin knowledge are public goods, and governments have a vital role in creating them.

The programme departs from this logic in its proposal to reimburse up to half the cost of selected exploration wells. This invites a basic question: what makes an upstream petroleum fiscal regime attractive?

Such regimes are not designed merely to collect revenue. Their greater function is to allocate uncertainty. Few industries require investors to commit billions of dollars before knowing whether the asset they seek actually exists. A successful regime allocates geological and commercial risk between the sovereign owner of the resource and the investor, while ensuring that the public receives an equitable share of economic rent from commercially viable discoveries.

It is against this standard that India's revenue-sharing regime deserves reconsideration. The shift from production-sharing contracts under the New Exploration and Licensing Policy (Nelp) to revenue sharing under the Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (Help) was meant to simplify administration and reduce disputes over cost recovery. Whether it improved the allocation of exploration risk is another question.

Revenue is easier to verify than costs. But administrative simplicity is not economic efficiency. Two offshore discoveries may generate similar revenues while requiring radically different investments. A shallow-water field near existing infrastructure bears little resemblance to a deepwater discovery requiring floating production systems, subsea facilities and new pipelines. Their economic value lies not in gross revenue but in the surplus after these investments.

A fiscal regime linked primarily to revenue is inherently insensitive to this distinction. It taxes turnover before establishing whether a meaningful economic rent exists. This matters most in frontier exploration, precisely where geological uncertainty and capital intensity are greatest.

The proposed reimbursement of exploration wells should be seen in this context. Rather than let the fiscal framework itself respond to uncertainty, the state proposes to socialize part of the exploration expenditure. The subsidy does not address the underlying weakness, but compensates for it.

India's policy on hydrocarbon drilling should focus on pricing rather than subsidizing explorer risks

A well-designed cost-recovery production-sharing contract would reflect upstream economics more naturally. The investor finances exploration and bears the full cost of failure. If it succeeds, legitimate costs are recovered from production and the profits are shared progressively between the investor and the state, whose share can thus rise when rents are high and fall when they are marginal.

The contractual label matters less than this principle. Norway achieves a similar outcome through profit-based petroleum taxation, while Brazil, Malaysia and Guyana use variants of production-sharing arrangements. Indonesia, after experimenting with gross-split contracts, now permits cost-recovery structures alongside them. Their systems differ, but the common principle is that the state's fiscal claim responds to project economics and not gross revenue.

Cost recovery, of course, requires discipline. Recoverable costs must be clearly defined, while procurement must be transparent and audits rigorous. These audits need not reside with a technical regulator like the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH). Determining whether an expense is deductible is an accounting function and could be entrusted to competent specialized entities within the finance establishment, leaving the DGH to concentrate on geology, reservoir management, production oversight and resource stewardship.

A drilling subsidy poses another difficulty. Operators select prospects, design wells and incur expenditure while possessing vastly more geological information than the government reimbursing them. This data imbalance cannot be eliminated through elaborate guidelines or appraisal panels; it is intrinsic to exploration. The government therefore confronts an uncomfortable question. Is it subsidizing wells that explorers would have drilled anyway, or wells they consider commercially unattractive without a subsidy? In the first case, public money achieves little, and in the second, taxpayers assume part of the risk associated with the less attractive portion of an exploration portfolio. Neither is particularly compelling.

India undoubtedly needs greater exploration. But government intervention is most valuable where it creates public goods: geological knowledge, common infrastructure, efficient regulation and stable fiscal institutions. These improve the attractiveness of an entire basin. Subsidizing an individual well does not.

Samudra Manthan has elements of both approaches. Its lasting contribution will depend less on how many wells it subsidizes than on whether it prompts a reconsideration of India's upstream fiscal architecture.

In the field of oil and gas exploration, uncertainty cannot be eliminated. It can only be shared. Good fiscal regimes price risk. Poor ones subsidize it.

Free Press Journal, Mumbai, 17/08/2026
Page No: 12, Size: 5.58cm × 18.31cm

Oil, Hormuz standoff cloud near-term mkt outlook

Indian equities enter a crucial week with crude oil, the US-Iran confrontation and the Strait of Hormuz deadlock emerging as the biggest market risks after corporate earnings season ended, analysts said.

Investors will closely assess President Trump's declaration that he would "pretty soon" designate the Strait as US territory. Iran dismissed the threat as "nonsense", deepening uncertainty around the strategic waterway carrying about one-fifth of global oil and gas. Vinod Nair of Geojit Investments flagged FOMC minutes and Chinese economic data as additional signals for global growth and US monetary policy.

Foreign institutional flows will also command attention after the Sensex lost 0.62% and Nifty 0.83% last week, ending a two-week winning streak. Escalating Hormuz tensions could keep crude volatile and Indian equities under pressure. —**FPJ News Service**

Business Line, Delhi, 17/08/2026

Page No: 3, Size: 25.43cm × 11.72cm

Govt in LPG output push as Hormuz uncertainty lingers

Bloomberg

India has directed its state companies and private refiners to prepare for a sharp increase in cooking gas production, seeking to bolster domestic supplies. This, as the Iran war prolongs uncertainty over the Strait of Hormuz, the key waterway for about 90 per cent of the country's liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) imports.

Refiners and crude oil explorers have been ordered to "implement all technically and economically feasible measures" to maximise LPG output beyond current minimum producible levels, according to an August 13 government notification. That includes exploring alternative uses of feedstocks, such as converting naphtha into LPG. India, which relies on imports for about two-thirds of its LPG consumption, has scrambled to secure enough cooking fuel since the US-Iran war disrupted traditional supply routes. Buyers have turned to the US and newer suppliers, including Algeria, following the closure of the vital sea route.

BAR SET HIGH

Domestic refiners, who produced about 36,000 tonnes of LPG a day before the war, have already lifted the daily output to as much as 54,000 tonnes to help meet demand.

The government now wants the industry to be capable of producing as much as 63,810 tonnes a day, according to the notification. It has set upper-limit production targets for individual refiners, with Reliance Industries Ltd's domestic-market-focused unit assigned the largest target at 18,000 tonnes a day. State-run explorers ONGC and Oil India Ltd, along with the national gas pipeline utility Gail India Ltd, have also been asked to contribute about a tenth of the nationwide target.

ONGC gets US licence to resume full Venezuela operations

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE
New Delhi

State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) has secured a licence from the US Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), allowing it to resume full operations in Venezuela after years of limited activity because of sanctions-related risks, a senior company official said.

The US approval removes a key hurdle for ONGC's Venezuelan investments and could pave the way for the State-run explorer to expand production, sign new agreements and take over operatorship of some projects from Venezuela's State oil company PDVSA, Anupam Agarwal, director-finance at ONGC, said at an investor call after the first-quarter earnings announcement.

"Now we have full freedom to work on the Venezuela project because earlier we were restricting our operations there because of the sanction-related risks. Those risks are behind us," Agarwal said.

ONGC Videsh Ltd, the company's overseas investment arm, holds a 40 per cent interest in the San Cristobal oil project, while the remaining is with Venezuela's Petroleos de Venezuela SA (PDVSA).

It holds another 11 per cent stake in the Carabobo project, which is under development.

An OFAC license would enable the company to manage the finances of its Venezuelan projects and help it recover a pending dividend of more than $500 million.

ONGC is already in talks with Venezuelan authorities and its joint-venture partners over its interests in two projects — San Cristobal and Carabobo — and expects positive developments soon, including new agreements and a possible transfer of operatorship from PDVSA, he said.

The licence is significant for ONGC because US sanctions on Venezuela's oil sector have for years complicated financial transactions, investment and operations involving Venezuelan crude and energy assets. The company had therefore curtailed activity despite its longstanding presence in the country.

The company can now invest in projects to raise oil production. San Cristobal produced around 0.265 million tonnes of oil equivalent in FY26. This is a 10th of the production potential, and the OFAC license means it can invest in raising output.

Venezuela is strategically important for ONGC because it holds the world's largest proven crude oil reserves, estimated by OPEC at about 303 billion barrels, more than Saudi Arabia. Much of the country's production potential remains constrained by years of underinvestment, sanctions and operational difficulties, leaving substantial scope for additional development.

Akhilesh questions border security, inflation, fuel prices

OUR CORRESPONDENT
Lucknow, August 16

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Sunday questioned the BJP government over the country's border security, rising inflation, fuel prices and the closure of government primary schools, saying the issues required greater attention than delimitation.

"Today, the country needs security of its borders more than delimitation," Yadav said while addressing the media after paying tribute to freedom fighter Rani Avantibai Lodhi on her birth anniversary in Hazratganj.

Yadav asked the BJP to state the geographical area of the country in 2014 and compare it with the present area.

He said questions were being raised over the security of the country's borders.

He also targeted the government over inflation and the blending of ethanol in petrol. "Inflation has increased in the country and E20 is being mixed in petrol. The government should answer this," he said.

Yadav alleged that farmers were facing shortages and irregularities in the supply of fertilisers, including DAP. He also criticised the civic conditions in Lucknow, saying garbage was lying across the city.

Taking a swipe at the BJP's tree plantation campaign, Yadav said, "BJP leaders say they have planted 300 crore trees. They should tell us where these trees have been planted."

Yadav also attacked the Yogi Adityanath government over education and infrastructure.

He alleged that 500 primary schools had been closed in Gorakhpur and said the chief minister's home district had itself witnessed the closure of the schools.

In a first, govt sets LPG production targets for firms

AGENCIES
New Delhi, August 16

THE GOVERNMENT HAS set enhanced cooking gas production targets for state-run as well as private companies for the first time, as it seeks to bolster domestic supplies to cushion against geopolitical shocks such as the conflict in West Asia.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry, in an order issued on August 13, has specified maximum LPG production levels for 21 refineries and upstream companies, with a combined production potential set at 63,810 tonne a day — more than double the average daily output in FY26 and about 70% of the country's daily consumption.

Refiners and crude oil explorers have been ordered to "implement all technically and economically feasible measures" to maximise LPG output. The production limits will kick in whenever there is a supply constraint.

According to the order, Reliance Industries' domestic-market-focused unit has been assigned the largest production target at 18,000 tonne a day. Russia's Rosneft-backed Nayara Energy has been asked to produce 4,480 tonne a day. Eighteen refineries owned and operated by public sector oil companies have been ordered to produce a total of 31,470 tonne a day.

Domestic production was ramped up to about 55,000 tonne a day at the height of the West Asia crisis, but the emergency orders asking refiners to maximise output were gradually withdrawn after supplies eased from mid-June. India, which relies on imports for about two-thirds of its LPG consumption, has scrambled to secure enough cooking gas since the US-Iran war disrupted traditional supply routes. Buyers have turned to the US and newer suppliers including Algeria following the closure of the Strait of Hormuz — the key waterway for about 90% of the country's liquefied petroleum gas imports.

Hindustan Times, Gurgaon, 17/08/2026
Page No: 3, Size: 4.29cm × 8.02cm

CNG car catches fire in Gurugram, driver escapes

GURUGRAM: A CNG-powered car caught fire near Atul Kataria Chowk in Gurugram around 7.30pm Saturday after its driver noticed smoke from the bonnet and pulled over. The driver escaped safely. Firefighters doused the flames, but the car was gutted. A CNG leak or short circuit may have caused the fire, officials said.

Business Line, Delhi, 17/08/2026
Page No: 2, Size: 18.94cm × 23.92cm

Russian crude imports hit record high in July

Rishi Ranjan Kala
New Delhi

Crude oil imports from Russia hit a record $6.4 billion, or ₹61,000 crore, last month, surpassing the June 2026 high of $5.14 billion.

Analysts and refiners emphasised that Moscow has transformed into New Delhi's strongest energy security hedge, particularly since the closure of the Strait of Hormuz (SoH) and growing disruptions in the Bab-el-Mandeb strait.

The Finland-based Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) pointed out that while Russia's oil product exports hit an all-time low, India recorded its highest level of imported Russian crude ever.

NEW PEAK

"India's imports of Russian crude oil reached a record high for the second consecutive month in July, rising by 2.1 per cent m-o-m and valued at €5.5 billion," it said.

"Imports rose by 58 per cent at HPCL Mittal Energy Mundra, 35 per cent at IndianOil Vadinar SMPL and 37 per cent at Mumbai, while volumes at Jamnagar were unchanged and those at Paradip fell by 22 per cent," CREA said. In July, Russian oil product export loadings fell 23 per cent to 4.7 million tonne, their lowest on record and less than half the 9.6 mt loaded in July 2025.

Tuapse, under sustained drone attack since May, loaded almost no oil products for a second consecutive month, said CREA.

Overall, India was the second-largest buyer of Russian fossil fuels in July, importing a total of €6.4 billion ($7.4 billion) of Russian hydrocarbons.

Crude oil constituted 87 per cent of India's purchases, totalling €5.5 billion. Coal (€512 million) and oil products (€341 million) constituted the rest.

BROADLY FLAT

Russia's crude oil export revenues were broadly flat, up 1 per cent m-o-m to €392 million per day.

However, this masks a 21 per cent fall in pipeline crude export earnings, offset by a 7 per cent rise in seaborne crude export revenues, it added.

In July, the average price of Russia's Urals-grade crude fell by 3 per cent m-o-m to $60.22 per barrel, still significantly higher than the EU and the UK price cap of $44.1 per barrel, which took effect on February 1, 2026, and has been capped at the same level under the EU's 21st sanctions package.

The price discount of Urals-grade crude oil relative to the global benchmark Brent remained flat at 26 per cent, or $21 per barrel last month, CREA said.

Despite the EU ban on oil products made from Russian crude, 18 shipments from refineries processing Russian crude were unloaded at EU ports in July — more than double the previous month's total.

Refineries in India, Turkiye, Brunei and Georgia that use Russian crude exported €633 million of oil products to sanctioning countries in July.

Free Press Journal, Mumbai, 17/08/2026

Page No: 12, Size: 10.82cm × 14.53cm

ONGC gets US licence, eyes Venezuela operatorship

State-owned ONGC has secured a licence from the US Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control, allowing it to resume full operations in Venezuela after years of sanctions-related restrictions.

ONGC Finance Director Anupam Agarwal said the approval removes key risks and allows the explorer to invest, expand production and pursue new agreements. It could also enable ONGC to take over operatorship of some projects from Venezuela's state-owned PDVSA. ONGC Videsh holds 40% in the San Cristobal oil project and 11% in the Carabobo project.

The licence could also help recover more than $500 million in pending dividends. San Cristobal produced about 0.265 million tonnes of oil equivalent in FY26, around a tenth of its potential, according to Agarwal.

ONGC is in talks with Venezuelan authorities and joint-venture partners over both projects. Agarwal said the company was "very bullish" on Venezuela, which holds about 303 billion barrels of proven crude reserves.

—**PTI**

Statesman, Delhi, 17/08/2026

Page No: 10, Size: 27.38cm × 17.73cm

PM sets Viksit Bharat targets: 50 Fortune 500 firms, 100 GW nuclear power

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
New Delhi, 16 August

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday laid out an ambitious economic and business roadmap for a developed India, setting aggressive targets for Indian companies, banks, pharmaceuticals, energy security and high-tech manufacturing.

Addressing the nation from the Red Fort on Independence Day, Modi urged India Inc and citizens to "dream big" and match those aspirations with stronger capabilities. His vision includes getting 50 Indian companies into the Fortune Global 500, having an Indian bank among the world's five largest, building 100 gigawatts (GW) of nuclear power capacity by 2047, and creating globally competitive pharmaceutical companies.

One of Modi's biggest pitches was for Indian companies to

significantly expand their global scale.

He said the appropriate yardstick for measuring Indian corporations against global businesses is the Fortune Global 500, which ranks companies by revenue. India currently has nine companies on the 2025 Fortune Global 500 list, including five public-sector and four private-sector companies.

Reliance Industries is the highest-ranked Indian company at 88, followed by Life Insurance Corporation of India at 95 and Indian Oil Corporation at 127. State Bank of India, ONGC, HDFC Bank, Tata Motors, Bharat Petroleum Corporation and ICICI Bank also feature on the list.

Modi's target of 50 companies would therefore require India to more than quintuple its current representation among the world's largest corporations.

The target also underscores the government's broader push for Indian businesses to expand beyond domestic markets and compete at global scale.

The Prime Minister also set an ambitious target for India's banking sector, calling for at least one Indian bank to enter the global top five.

"The banking sector in India is flourishing; one Indian bank should be among the top five globally," Modi said.

The scale of the challenge is significant. According to S&P Global Market Intelligence's April 2026 ranking, Industrial and Commercial Bank of China leads the global banking industry by assets with $7.65 trillion. Three other Chinese lenders ~ Agricultural Bank of China, China Construction Bank and Bank of China ~ occupy the next three positions.

State Bank of India, India's largest lender, had assets of around $877 billion and ranked 19th among Asia-Pacific banks in S&P Global's 2026 regional ranking.

Closing that gap would require Indian banks to dramatically increase their balance-sheet size while maintaining capital strength, asset quality and profitability.

Modi also called on Indian companies to aim for a place among the world's five largest pharmaceutical companies.

The push comes as India seeks to move up the value chain in pharmaceuticals, from being a major producer of generic medicines to becoming a stronger force in research, innovation and high-value drug manufacturing.

The PM's broader message was that Indian companies should not limit their ambitions to becoming domestic market leaders, but should build businesses capable of competing with the world's biggest corporations.

ONGC gets US licence to resume full Venezuela ops

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, 16 August

State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) has secured a licence from the US Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), allowing it to resume full operations in Venezuela after years of limiting activity because of sanctions-related risks, a company official said. The US approval removes a key hurdle for ONGC's Venezuelan investments and could pave the way for the state-run explorer to expand production, sign new agreements and take over operatorship of some projects from Venezuela's state oil company Petróleos de Venezuela, SA, Anupam Agarwal, director-finance at ONGC, said.

"Now we have full freedom to work on the Venezuela project because earlier we were restricting our operations there because of the sanction-related risks. Those risks are behind us," Agarwal said.

ONGC Videsh, the firm's overseas investment arm, holds a 40 per cent interest in the San Cristobal oil project, while the remaining is with PDVSA. It holds another 11 per cent stake in the Carabobo project, which is under development.

An OFAC license would help the firm recover a pending dividend of over $500 million.

The licence is significant for ONGC because US sanctions on Venezuela's oil sector have for years complicated financial transactions, investment and operations involving Venezuelan crude and energy assets. The company had therefore curtailed activity despite its longstanding presence in the country.

Indian Express, Delhi, 17/08/2026
Page No: 13, Size: 5.64cm × 11.83cm

Govt sets LPG output targets for refiners

New Delhi: The Centre has for the first time fixed maximum cooking gas LPG production targets for individual public- and private-sector refineries and upstream firms, as it seeks to build a domestic supply buffer after the West Asia conflict. The Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry, in an August 13 order, specified maximum LPG production levels for 21 refineries and upstream firms, with combined production potential set at 63,810 tonnes a day. PTI

ONGC gets US licence for ops in Venezuela

PTI
feedback@livemint.com
NEW DELHI

State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp. (ONGC) has secured a licence from the US treasury's office of foreign assets control (Ofac), allowing it to resume full operations in Venezuela after years of limiting activity because of sanctions-related risks, a senior company official said.

The US approval removes a key hurdle for ONGC's Venezuelan investments and could pave the way for the state-run explorer to expand production, sign new agreements and take over operatorship of some projects from Venezuela's state oil company PDVSA, Anupam Agarwal, director-finance at ONGC, said at an investor call post first quarter earnings announcement.

"Now we have full freedom to work on the Venezuela project because earlier we were restricting our operations there because of the sanction-related risks. Those risks are behind us," Agarwal said.

ONGC Videsh Ltd, the company's overseas investment arm, holds a 40% interest in the San Cristobal oil project, while the remaining is with Venezuela's Petroleos de Venezuela S.A. (PDVSA). It holds another 11% stake in the Carabobo project, under development.

An Ofac license would enable the company to manage the finances of its Venezuelan projects and help it recover a pending dividend of more than $500 million. ONGC is already in talks with Venezuelan authorities and its joint-venture partners over its interests in two projects—San Cristobal and Carabobo—and expects positive developments soon, including new agreements and a possible transfer of operatorship from PDVSA, he said.

Dainik Savera, Delhi, 17/08/2026
Page No: 11, Size: 12.96cm × 20.11cm

केंद्र ने रिफाइनरियों व उत्पादकों के लिए LPG उत्पादन लक्ष्य किए तय

सवेरा न्यूज/एजेंसी

नई दिल्ली, 16 अगस्त : भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा मजबूत करने और आयातित रसोई गैस की आपूर्ति में होने वाले व्यवधानों के प्रभाव को कम करने के उद्देश्य से सरकार ने पहली बार सार्वजनिक और निजी क्षेत्र की रिफाइनरियों के साथ-साथ तेल एवं गैस उत्पादकों के लिए रिफाइनरी-वार और कंपनी-वार एलपीजी उत्पादन लक्ष्य तय किए हैं। पैट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय ने एक आदेश के जरिए ऐसा ढांचा तैयार किया है, जिसके तहत आपूर्ति में कमी आने पर 21 रिफाइनरियों और अपस्ट्रीम कंपनियों को एलपीजी उत्पादन बढ़ाना होगा। नए ढांचे के तहत कुल संभावित उत्पादन क्षमता 63,810 टन प्रतिदिन तय की गई है। ये भारत की दैनिक एलपीजी खपत का लगभग 70 प्रतिशत है और देश के सामान्य घरेलू उत्पादन से काफी अधिक है। ये कदम हालिया पश्चिम एशिया संघर्ष के बाद उठाया गया है, जिसने आयातित एलपीजी आपूर्ति पर भारत की निर्भरता और उससे जुड़े जोखिमों को उजागर किया। भारत में हर साल लगभग 3.32 करोड़ टन (करीब 91,000 टन प्रतिदिन) एलपीजी की खपत होती है। इसमें से केवल 1.31 करोड़ टन एलपीजी का उत्पादन देश में होता है, जबकि जरूरत का 64 प्रतिशत से अधिक हिस्सा आयात से पूरा किया जाता है। इनमें से अधिकांश एलपीजी की आपूर्ति होर्मुज स्ट्रेट के रास्ते होती है। इस साल की शुरुआत में ईरान से जुड़े संकट के दौरान इस रणनीतिक समुद्री मार्ग से शिपमैंट में व्यवधान के कारण सरकार को आपातकालीन कदम उठाने पड़े थे। इनमें रिफाइनरियों को पैट्रोकैमिकल फीडस्टॉक की धाराओं को एलपीजी उत्पादन की ओर मोड़कर उत्पादन अधिकतम करने का निर्देश देना भी शामिल था। औद्योगिक और वाणिज्यिक उपभोक्ताओं को एलपीजी की आपूर्ति भी सीमित की गई थी, जबकि जहां सुविधा उपलब्ध थी, वहां घरेलू उपभोक्ताओं को पाइप्ड नेचुरल गैस (पीएनजी) की ओर जाने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया गया। नए आदेश के तहत अब एक स्थायी व्यवस्था बनाई गई है, जिसे सरकार तब सक्रिय कर सकती है जब वह यह तय करे कि पर्याप्त उपलब्धता और उचित वितरण सुनिश्चित करने के लिए अतिरिक्त एलपीजी उत्पादन जरूरी है।

Hindustan, Delhi, 17/08/2026
Page No: 13, Size: 16.30cm × 10.50cm

केंद्र ने एलपीजी उत्पादन कोटा तय किया

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। पश्चिम एशिया संघर्ष के दौरान आयातित रसोई गैस की आपूर्ति प्रभावित होने के बाद अब सरकार ने एलपीजी उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए पहली बार अलग-अलग रिफाइनरी इकाइयों और तेल-गैस कंपनियों के लिए अधिकतम उत्पादन लक्ष्य तय किए हैं।

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के 13 अगस्त के आदेश के तहत 21 रिफाइनरी और अपस्ट्रीम कंपनियों के लिए कुल 63,810 टन प्रतिदिन का तरलीकृत पेट्रोलियम गैस (एलपीजी) उत्पादन क्षमता निर्धारित की गई है। यह 31 मार्च, 2026 को समाप्त वित्त वर्ष के घरेलू एलपीजी उत्पादन का दोगुना से भी अधिक है। साथ ही यह आंकड़ा देश की 70 प्रतिशत दैनिक खपत के बराबर है। ये लक्ष्य आपूर्ति में कमी की स्थिति में लागू होंगे। भारत में वित्त वर्ष 2025-26 में करीब 3.32 करोड़ टन एलपीजी की खपत हुई, जबकि घरेलू उत्पादन लगभग 1.31 करोड़ टन रहा। करीब 2.13 करोड़ टन एलपीजी का आयात करना पड़ा। यानी देश अपनी एलपीजी जरूरत का 64 प्रतिशत से अधिक हिस्सा आयात करता है। सरकार का यह कदम उस संकट की पृष्ठभूमि में आया है, जब पश्चिम एशिया में संघर्ष के कारण होर्मुज जलडमरूमध्य से एलपीजी का आयात प्रभावित हुआ था।

रिलायंस की रिफाइनरी को सबसे बड़ी जिम्मेदारी

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के 13 अगस्त के आदेश के तहत रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज की जामनगर स्थित घरेलू बाजार के लिए संचालित रिफाइनरी को सबसे बड़ा लक्ष्य दिया गया है। उसे जरूरत पड़ने पर 18,000 टन प्रतिदिन एलपीजी उत्पादन करना होगा। वहीं, रूस की रोसनेफ्ट समर्थित नायरा एनर्जी की वाडिनार रिफाइनरी के लिए 4,480 टन प्रतिदिन का लक्ष्य तय किया गया है। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की 18 रिफाइनरी इकाइयों को मिलाकर 31,470 टन प्रतिदिन एलपीजी उत्पादन का लक्ष्य दिया गया है।

Navbharat Times, Mumbai, 17/08/2026
Page No: 10, Size: 6.30cm × 16.72cm

माइलेज कम होने का कारण E20 पेट्रोल नहीं: सरकार

ईटी, मुंबई: इथेनॉल मिश्रित पेट्रोल पर अब केंद्र सरकार की तरफ से फिर नया बयान सामने आया है। E20 पेट्रोल को लेकर अभी तक चर्चा जारी है। कई लोग यह दावा कर रहे हैं कि इस पेट्रोल के कारण उनकी गाड़ी का माइलेज कम हो गया है। इन्ही बहस के बीच सरकार की तरफ से कुछ तथ्य रखे गए हैं जिनमें कहा गया है कि किसी भी गाड़ी का माइलेज केवल पेट्रोल के आधार पर ही नहीं बल्कि अन्य कई कारकों पर भी निर्भर करता है। पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय की तरफ से दी गई जानकारी के अनुसार, गाड़ियों का माइलज वाहन के रखरखाव से लेकर ड्राइविंग स्टाइल, ट्रैफिक, टायर प्रेशर और गाड़ी में एसी के इस्तेमाल पर भी निर्भर करता है। मंत्रालय की तरफ से यह कहा गया है की माइलेज केवल पेट्रोल के इस्तेमाल पर ही नहीं निर्भर करता। सरकार की तरफ से लगातार यह दावे किए जा रहे हैं कि E20 पेट्रोल का इस्तेमाल वाहनों के लिए सुरक्षित है।

अधिकतम गैस उत्पादन लक्ष्य तय

भाषा, नई दिल्ली: पश्चिम एशिया संघर्ष के दौरान आयातित रसोई गैस की आपूर्ति प्रभावित होने के बाद अब सरकार ने घरेलू तरलीकृत पेट्रोलियम गैस (एलपीजी) उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए पहली बार अलग-अलग रिफाइनरी इकाइयों और तेल-गैस कंपनियों के लिए अधिकतम उत्पादन लक्ष्य तय किए हैं। पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के 13 अगस्त के आदेश के तहत 21 रिफाइनरी और अपस्ट्रीम कंपनियों के लिए कुल 63,810 टन प्रतिदिन का तरलीकृत पेट्रोलियम गैस (एलपीजी) उत्पादन क्षमता निर्धारित की गई है।

Hindustan, Delhi, 17/08/2026
Page No: 13, Size: 16.19cm × 10.03cm

ओएनजीसी को अमेरिकी लाइसेंस मिला

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की कंपनी ऑयल एंड नैचुरल गैस कॉरपोरेशन (ओएनजीसी) को अमेरिकी वित्त विभाग के विदेशी संपत्ति नियंत्रण कार्यालय (ओएफएसी) से वेनेजुएला में परिचालन फिर से पूरी तरह शुरू करने की मंजूरी मिल गई है। इससे कंपनी के वेनेजुएला स्थित तेल निवेश से जुड़े प्रतिबंधों का एक बड़ा अवरोध दूर हो गया है।

ओएनजीसी के निदेशक (वित्त) अनुपम अग्रवाल ने पहली तिमाही के नतीजों के बाद निवेशकों के साथ बातचीत में कहा कि अमेरिकी मंजूरी मिलने के बाद कंपनी को वेनेजुएला की परियोजनाओं में काम करने की पूरी आजादी मिल गई है। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रतिबंधों से जुड़े जोखिमों के कारण कंपनी पहले वहां अपनी गतिविधियों को सीमित कर रही थी, लेकिन अब स्थिति बदल गई है। ओएनजीसी की विदेशी निवेश इकाई ओएनजीसी विदेश लिमिटेड (ओवीएल) की सैन क्रिस्टोबल तेल परियोजना में 40 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी है, जबकि शेष हिस्सेदारी वेनेजुएला की सरकारी पेट्रोलियम कंपनी पेट्रोलियोज डी वेनेजुएला एस.ए. (पीडीवीएसए) के पास है। इसके अलावा ओवीएल की विकासाधीन काराबोबो परियोजना में 11 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी है।

वेनेजुएला ओएनजीसी के लिए रणनीतिक रूप से महत्वपूर्ण

वेनेजुएला ओएनजीसी के लिए रणनीतिक रूप से महत्वपूर्ण है। ओपेक के अनुसार, देश के पास करीब 303 अरब बैरल के प्रमाणित कच्चे तेल भंडार हैं, जो दुनिया में सबसे अधिक हैं। हालांकि, वर्षों से जारी कम निवेश, प्रतिबंधों और परिचालन संबंधी चुनौतियों के कारण वहां उत्पादन क्षमता का पूरा इस्तेमाल नहीं हो पाया है। अग्रवाल ने कहा कि वेनेजुएला में हाल में लागू पेट्रोलियम कानून से संसाधनों के विकास के लिए अतिरिक्त वित्तीय प्रोत्साहन मिले हैं, जिससे विदेशी तेल कंपनियों और उनके स्थानीय साझेदारों के लिए निवेश का माहौल बेहतर हो सकता है।

रसोई गैस उत्पादन का लक्ष्य तय

भाषा
नई दिल्ली, 16 अगस्त

पश्चिम एशिया संघर्ष के दौरान आयातित रसोई गैस की आपूर्ति प्रभावित होने के बाद अब सरकार ने घरेलू तरलीकृत पेट्रोलियम गैस (एलपीजी) उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए पहली बार अलग-अलग रिफाइनरी इकाइयों और तेल व गैस कंपनियों के लिए अधिकतम उत्पादन लक्ष्य तय किए हैं।

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के 13 अगस्त के आदेश के तहत 21 रिफाइनरी और अपस्ट्रीम कंपनियों के लिए कुल 63,810 टन प्रतिदिन की एलपीजी उत्पादन क्षमता निर्धारित की गई है। यह 31 मार्च, 2026 को समाप्त वित्त वर्ष के घरेलू एलपीजी उत्पादन के दोगुने से भी अधिक है। साथ ही यह आंकड़ा देश की 70 प्रतिशत दैनिक खपत के बराबर है। ये लक्ष्य आपूर्ति में कमी की स्थिति में लागू होंगे।

भारत में वित्त वर्ष 2025-26 में करीब 3.32 करोड़ टन एलपीजी की खपत हुई, जबकि घरेलू उत्पादन लगभग 1.31 करोड़ टन रहा। करीब 2.13 करोड़ टन एलपीजी का आयात करना पड़ा। यानी देश अपनी एलपीजी जरूरत का 64 प्रतिशत से अधिक हिस्सा आयात करता है।

सरकार का यह कदम उस संकट की पृष्ठभूमि में आया है, जब पश्चिम एशिया में संघर्ष के कारण होर्मुज स्ट्रेट से एलपीजी का आयात प्रभावित हुआ था। उस दौरान घरेलू एलपीजी की आपूर्ति बनाए रखने के लिए रिफाइनरी कंपनियों को उत्पादन बढ़ाने, वाणिज्यिक और औद्योगिक उपभोक्ताओं को आपूर्ति सीमित करने तथा घरेलू उपभोक्ताओं के लिए रिफिल बुकिंग की अवधि बढ़ाने जैसे कदम उठाने पड़े थे।

नए आदेश के तहत रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज की जामनगर स्थित घरेलू बाजार के लिए संचालित रिफाइनरी को सबसे बड़ा लक्ष्य दिया गया है। उसे जरूरत पड़ने पर 18,000 टन प्रतिदिन एलपीजी उत्पादन करना होगा। वहीं रूस की रोसनेफ्ट समर्थित नायरा एनर्जी की वाडिनार रिफाइनरी के लिए 4,480 टन प्रतिदिन का लक्ष्य तय किया गया है।

सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की 18 रिफाइनरी इकाइयों को मिलाकर 31,470 टन प्रतिदिन एलपीजी उत्पादन का लक्ष्य दिया गया है।

रिलायंस की जामनगर स्थित केवल निर्यात के लिए संचालित दूसरी रिफाइनरी के लिए कोई लक्ष्य निर्धारित नहीं किया गया है।

नए ढांचे में कंपनियों को एलपीजी के भंडारण, निकासी और परिवहन के लिए पर्याप्त बुनियादी ढांचा बनाए रखने तथा उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए प्रौद्योगिकी और आर्थिक रूप से व्यवहार्य उपाय करने को कहा गया है। इनमें जरूरत पड़ने पर नैफ्था को एलपीजी में बदलना और फ्लूइड कैटेलिटिक क्रैकिंग इकाइयों को उन्नत करना भी शामिल है।

सरकार हर छह महीने में उत्पादन लक्ष्यों की समीक्षा करेगी। नई रिफाइनरी, नए तेल-गैस क्षेत्रों और तकनीकी उन्नयन से पैदा होने वाली अतिरिक्त क्षमता को भी इसमें शामिल किया जा सकेगा।

इस तरह सरकार ने पश्चिम एशिया संकट के दौरान उठाए गए अस्थायी कदमों को अब एक स्थायी आपूर्ति-सुरक्षा व्यवस्था का रूप देने की कोशिश की है, ताकि भविष्य में विदेशी एलपीजी आपूर्ति बाधित होने पर घरेलू उपभोक्ताओं को कमी, राशनिंग या रिफिल पर प्रतिबंध जैसी स्थिति का सामना न करना पड़े।

रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज को सबसे बड़ा कोटा

- रिलायंस की जामनगर रिफाइनरी को जरूरत पड़ने पर 18,000 टन रोजाना एलपीजी उत्पादन करना होगा
- रूस की रोसनेफ्ट समर्थित नायरा एनर्जी की वाडिनार रिफाइनरी के लिए 4,480 टन प्रतिदिन का लक्ष्य तय किया गया
- सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की 18 रिफाइनरी इकाइयों को मिलाकर 31,470 टन प्रतिदिन एलपीजी उत्पादन का लक्ष्य दिया गया

ओएनजीसी को वेनेजुएला के लिए लाइसेंस

सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की कंपनी तेल एवं प्राकृतिक गैस निगम (ओएनजीसी) को अमेरिकी वित्त विभाग के विदेशी संपत्ति नियंत्रण कार्यालय (ओएफएसी) से वेनेजुएला में परिचालन फिर से पूरी तरह शुरू करने की मंजूरी मिल गई है। इससे कंपनी के वेनेजुएला स्थित तेल निवेश से जुड़े प्रतिबंधों का एक बड़ा अवरोध दूर हो गया है।

ओएनजीसी के निदेशक (वित्त) अनुपम अग्रवाल ने पहली तिमाही के नतीजों के बाद निवेशकों से बातचीत में कहा कि अमेरिकी मंजूरी मिलने के बाद कंपनी को वेनेजुएला की परियोजनाओं में काम करने की पूरी आजादी मिल गई है। प्रतिबंधों से जुड़े जोखिमों के कारण कंपनी पहले वहां अपनी गतिविधियों को सीमित कर रही थी, लेकिन अब स्थिति बदल गई है। ओएनजीसी की ओवीएल की सैन क्रिस्टोबल तेल परियोजना में 40 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी है। *भाषा*

Virat Vaibhav, Delhi, 17/08/2026
Page No: 9, Size: 4.66cm × 16.40cm

केंद्र ने एलपीजी उत्पादन लक्ष्य तय किए

नई दिल्ली। भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा मजबूत करने और आयातित रसोई गैस की आपूर्ति में होने वाले व्यवधानों के प्रभाव को कम करने के उद्देश्य से सरकार ने पहली बार सार्वजनिक और निजी क्षेत्र की रिफाइनरियों के साथ-साथ तेल एवं गैस उत्पादकों के लिए रिफाइनरी-वार और कंपनी-वार एलपीजी उत्पादन लक्ष्य तय किए हैं। पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय ने एक आदेश के जरिए ऐसा ढांचा तैयार किया है, जिसके तहत आपूर्ति में कमी आने पर 21 रिफाइनरियों और अपस्ट्रीम कंपनियों को एलपीजी उत्पादन बढ़ाना होगा। नए ढांचे के तहत कुल संभावित उत्पादन क्षमता 63,810 टन प्रतिदिन तय की गई है। यह भारत की दैनिक एलपीजी खपत का लगभग 70 प्रतिशत है।

तेल-गैस कंपनियों के लिए अधिकतम उत्पादन लक्ष्य तय

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी): पश्चिम एशिया संघर्ष के दौरान आयातित रसोई गैस की आपूर्ति प्रभावित होने के बाद अब सरकार ने घरेलू तरलीकृत पेट्रोलियम गैस (एलपीजी) उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए पहली बार अलग-अलग रिफाइनरी इकाइयों और तेल-गैस कंपनियों के लिए अधिकतम उत्पादन लक्ष्य तय किए हैं। पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के 13 अगस्त के आदेश के तहत 21 रिफाइनरी और अपस्ट्रीम कंपनियों के लिए कुल 63,810 टन प्रतिदिन का तरलीकृत पेट्रोलियम गैस (एलपीजी) उत्पादन क्षमता निर्धारित की गई है। यह 31 मार्च, 2026 को समाप्त वित्त वर्ष के घरेलू एलपीजी उत्पादन का दोगुना से भी अधिक है। साथ ही यह आंकड़ा देश की 70 प्रतिशत दैनिक खपत के बराबर है। ये लक्ष्य आपूर्ति में कमी की स्थिति में लागू होंगे। भारत में वित्त वर्ष 2025-26 में करीब 3.32 करोड़ टन एलपीजी की खपत हुई, जबकि घरेलू उत्पादन लगभग 1.31 करोड़ टन रहा। करीब 2.13 करोड़ टन एलपीजी का आयात करना पड़ा।

Punjab Kesari, Delhi, 17/08/2026
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ओएनजीसी को वेनेजुएला में कामकाज शुरू करने की अनुमति

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी): सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की कंपनी ऑयल एंड नैचुरल गैस कॉरपोरेशन (ओएनजीसी) को अमेरिकी वित्त विभाग के विदेशी संपत्ति नियंत्रण कार्यालय (ओएफएसी) से वेनेजुएला में परिचालन फिर से पूरी तरह शुरू करने की मंजूरी मिल गई है। इससे कंपनी के वेनेजुएला स्थित तेल निवेश से जुड़े प्रतिबंधों का एक बड़ा अवरोध दूर हो गया है। ओएनजीसी के निदेशक (वित्त) अनुपम अग्रवाल ने पहली तिमाही के नतीजों के बाद निवेशकों के साथ बातचीत में कहा कि अमेरिकी मंजूरी मिलने के बाद कंपनी को वेनेजुएला की परियोजनाओं में काम करने की पूरी आजादी मिल गई है। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रतिबंधों से जुड़े जोखिमों के कारण कंपनी पहले वहां अपनी गतिविधियों को सीमित कर रही थी, लेकिन अब स्थिति बदल गई है।

ओएनजीसी की विदेशी निवेश इकाई ओएनजीसी विदेश लिमिटेड (ओवीएल) की सैन क्रिस्टोबल तेल परियोजना में 40 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी है, जबकि शेष हिस्सेदारी वेनेजुएला की सरकारी पेट्रोलियम कंपनी पेट्रोलियोज डी वेनेजुएला एस.ए. (पीडीवीएसए) के पास है। इसके अलावा ओवीएल की विकासाधीन काराबोबो परियोजना में 11 प्रतिशत हिस्सेदारी है। ओएफएसी की मंजूरी से ओएनजीसी को अपनी वेनेजुएला परियोजनाओं के वित्तीय संचालन में सुविधा मिलेगी और कंपनी 50 करोड़ डॉलर से अधिक के लंबित लाभांश की वसूली भी कर सकेगी।

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ONGC: उत्पादन बढ़ने के आसार, शेयर चढ़ सकते हैं

भास्कर न्यूज़ | मुंबई/नई दिल्ली

भारत की सबसे बड़ी तेल-गैस उत्पादक कंपनी ओएनजीसी के लिए विदेश से लेकर घरेलू मोर्चे तक कई बदलाव आकार ले रहे हैं। कंपनी को अमेरिकी वित्त मंत्रालय से वहां पूर्ण गतिविधियां दोबारा शुरू करने की मंजूरी मिल गई है। इससे प्रतिबंधों के कारण वर्षों से सीमित निवेश और उत्पादन बढ़ाने का रास्ता खुल गया है। ओएनजीसी की विदेशी यूनिट के वेनेजुएला स्थित सैन क्रिस्टोबल प्रोजेक्ट में 40% और निर्माणाधीन काराबोबो परियोजना में 11% हिस्सेदारी है। नई मंजूरी से कंपनी परियोजनाओं में पैसा लगा सकेगी और 500 करोड़ न डॉलर (4,772 करोड़ रुपए) का लंबित लाभांश हासिल करने की दिशा में आगे बढ़ सकेगी। प्रबंधन के मुताबिक, वेनेजुएला सरकार और साझेदारों से बातचीत चल रही है। कंपनी के वित्त निदेशक अनुपम अग्रवाल का कहना है कि प्रतिबंध से जुड़े जोखिम पीछे छूट गए हैं और ओएनजीसी वेनेजुएला को लेकर काफी सकारात्मक है।

घरेलू स्तर पर ओएनजीसी ने हाल ही में शेल एनर्जी इंडिया से हाथ मिलाया है। दोनों कंपनियां गहरे समुद्र में तेल-गैस की खोज के लिए सरकारी नीलामी में संयुक्त बोली लगाने की तैयारी में हैं। एक गहरे समुद्री कुएं पर 12.5-15 करोड़ डॉलर (1,432 करोड़ रुपए) तक खर्च हो सकता है और उत्पादन शुरू होने में 5-10 साल लग सकते हैं। 5 अगस्त को जारी तिमाही नतीजों में कंपनी का शुद्ध मुनाफा पिछली तिमाही के 6,650 करोड़ से बढ़कर 17,030 करोड़ रुपए हो गया।

ब्रोकरेज देख रहे शेयर में 46% तक की तेजी

इससे पहले मोतीलाल ओसवाल ने ओएनजीसी की रेटिंग 'तटस्थ' से बढ़ाकर 'खरीदें' कर दी है। लक्ष्य मूल्य 265 रुपए से बढ़ाकर 288 रुपए किया है। तर्क है कि मूल्यांकन आकर्षक है, उत्पादन बढ़ने की संभावना है। सरकार का ऊर्जा सुरक्षा पर लंबे समय तक जोर कंपनी को फायदा पहुंचा सकता है। कोटक सिक्युरिटीज ने भी इस महीने की शुरुआत में 250 के भाव के मुकाबले 365 का टारगेट रखा है। यानी 46% बढ़त की गुंजाइश बनती है। फिलहाल शेयर 235 रुपए के आसपास बना हुआ है।