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India may not join US-led push to cap prices of Russia oil

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to cap prices of Russia oil** ▶ P1

India may not join US-led push to cap prices of Russia oil

Utpal Bhaskar

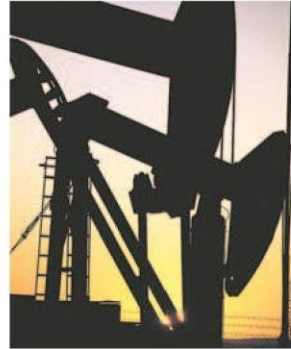
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NEW DELHI

India is averse to joining a US-led global initiative to cap prices of Russian crude oil, two people aware of the matter said, as it gets a steep discount on oil cargoes from Russia and wants to maintain the relationship with its long-time strategic partner. As the world's third-largest oil importer, India's stand is likely to influence the efficacy of the price cap plan.

Finance ministers of G7 countries on 2 September proposed that oil-related service providers be allowed to transact in Russian seaborne oil and petroleum products only at the price cap or lower. They said the price cap is specifically designed to reduce Russia's revenues and its ability to fund the war in Ukraine and limit the impact on global energy prices, particularly for low and middle-income countries. Russia has warned that it will snap oil supplies to any country that joins the price cap plan.

"Overall, the way the US pitches is that a price cap is also good for India. On the other hand, Russia has threatened to stop supplies to anyone participating in this plan. That doesn't



Russia has warned that it will snap oil supplies to any country that joins the price cap plan.

leave us anywhere. In that case, why would we want to be part of it? The deal here is that we have to balance our interests," a government official, one of the two people cited above, said on condition of anonymity.

Russia, which has never been a major oil supplier to India, emerged as the third largest supplier to the energy import-dependent nation in FY23, as it snapped up supplies shunned by many countries. India gets Russian oil at an average discount of around \$15-20 per barrel on a delivered-at-place (DAP) basis, wherein the seller bears the transportation risk for deliver-

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India may not join US-led initiative to cap prices of Russian crude oil

FROM PAGE 1

ing at the designated port. In the current fiscal till August, India imported crude oil worth \$11.41 billion from Russia, shows data from the Union ministry of commerce and industry. With India dependent on imports for as much as 85% of its oil needs and 55% of its natural gas demand, record-high energy prices are a big concern for a major consumer nation such as India.

"The discounts on Russian crude oil to Indian refiners depend on individual cargoes and may vary," said the second person cited above, who did not want to be named.

The price cap proposal also comes against the backdrop of a 2 million barrels per day output cut by the Organization of the

Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) and allies at a time of record high fuel prices in India.

The US has been trying to impress India to join the price cap plan, with visiting US deputy secretary of treasury Wally Adeyemo in August stating that a price cap on Russian oil will help lower energy cost for Indian consumers. India, on its part, has remained steadfast in its relationship with Russia, choosing to neither pursue arbitration with the Russian government-owned Gazprom nor accept a penalty from the world's largest explorer of natural gas over its failure to honour the terms of a deal to supply LNG to state-run GAIL (India) Ltd as reported by *Mint* earlier.

A US embassy spokesperson in New Delhi directed *Mint* to the Indian government for its

views. "For the US position, I can share with you the transcript of a 14 October press conference that US treasury secretary Janet L. Yellen gave in conjunction with 2022 IMF-World Bank Annual Meetings," the spokesperson said in an emailed response.

"It's an innovative policy that aims to cut Putin's revenue while keeping Russian oil flowing onto global markets at low prices. This policy has particular benefits for developing countries. A price cap will help stabilize global energy prices. It will also provide developing countries with greater leverage to negotiate better prices for Russian oil," Yellen said, according to the transcript.

The proposed ban on Russian Federation-origin crude oil is to come into effect on 5



Russia has emerged as the third largest supplier to India. BLOOMBERG

December for maritime transportation of crude oil and on 5 February next year for sea-borne transportation of petroleum products. "The coalition is essentially the G7, the EU,

and Australia... All of these countries have agreed to ban the provision of services that are involved that our country's firms in our countries supply for the transport of Russian oil, and the EU sanctions package includes shipping," Yellen said.

"Beyond that, we're not trying to sign up additional countries to a coalition. None of the coalition countries are buying Russian

oil or will buy Russian oil. And none of the countries outside the coalition are really important suppliers of any of those financial services. So, we, the members of the coalition, will implement the price cap once it's adopted and make sure that the

suppliers of insurance, trade, finance and other financial services that may be provided throughout the world can only be provided if the purchase of oil by whichever country occurs at

The price cap proposal also comes against the backdrop of a 2 million barrels per day output cut by the Opec

a price below the price cap," Yellen added.

Queries emailed to the spokespeople for India's ministries of external affairs and petroleum and natural gas, the US Treasury

Department, and the Russian Federation embassy in New Delhi last Thursday remained unanswered till press time.

"We will be making sure that Western firms abide by that, but we honestly are not asking other governments to do any-

thing, and of course, companies and governments can fight with subject to the cap if they can find ships. Insurance, trade, finance and so forth, which provided by nine coalition members that's fine with the very existence of this price cap really raises the leverage that countries even that are like using western services have when they negotiate with Russia," Yellen said.

State-owned firms such as ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL), Bharat Petroresources Ltd, Indian Oil Corp. Ltd (IOC) and Oil India Ltd (OIL) have also invested \$16 billion in Russia to date, including in the Far East and East Siberia, in oil and gas assets such as Sakhalin-1, Vankor and Taas-Yuryakh. OVL also acquired Imperial Energy Corp. Plc's Siberian deposits.

RAJASTHAN OIL interested in petroleum mining lease

ANIL SHARMA

Jaipur, 17 October

Oil India Limited (OIL) is interested in picking up a petroleum mining lease (PML) in an area spread over 67 square kilometres (sq. km) in Jaisalmer and Bikaner under the Discovered Small Field policy, a senior state government official has said.

“A proposal in this regard has been submitted to the state government and action will be taken soon,” said Subodh Agarwal, additional chief secretary, mines and petroleum, Rajasthan, after meeting OIL Chairman and Managing Director Ranjeet Rath in Jaipur recently.

OIL produces heavy oil and natural gas at Tanot Dandewala and Baghewala in the state, and is exploring PML for five more locations in the state.

There are four petroliferous basins in an area of 150,000 sq km in the state. Agarwal said that OIL and ONGC are producing petroleum and natural gas — they hold 11 PMLs — and under the exploration licence, Vedanta, ONGC, and OIL are doing the exploration work.

The official requested OIL to begin new work in the renewable energy sector, saying there was scope in the field of solar and wind energy in the state and requested it to invest in green energy.

BP to buy Archaea Energy for \$4.1 billion

BLOOMBERG
October 17

BP AGREED TO acquire biogas producer Archaea Energy for about \$4.1 billion including debt, the latest step in the UK energy giant's expansion into lower-carbon fuels.

BP will pay \$26 per share, a 38% premium to the average share price in the 30 days to October 14, Archaea said Monday in a statement. The Houston-based company, which captures waste-gas emissions from landfills and farms, will become a key part of BP's bioenergy business and accelerate its growth, according to the statement.

Archaea fits with BP's "strategic focus on bioenergy," Nick Stork, chief executive officer and co-founder of Archaea, said in the statement. The deal will "increase the role of renewable natural gas in helping customers reach their long-term climate goals."

Archaea was formed in 2021, when Rice Acquisition merged with two other companies to create a giant in so-called renewable natural gas. The environmental benefit of the fuel comes largely from preventing emissions of the powerful greenhouse gas methane, which is created by the decomposition of organic waste under certain conditions.

The company captures biogas at landfills or farms and processes it into pipeline-quality natural gas. Burning the fuel still releases carbon dioxide, but has a lower overall climate impact than if the methane had been allowed to simply vent into the atmosphere.

Under CEO Bernard Looney, BP has sought to position itself at the leading edge of major oil companies' efforts to curtail greenhouse gases and transition to cleaner forms of energy. It was one of the first to promise to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 and has made big bets on offshore wind and electric cars.

Even as the industry made record profits this year on the surge in oil and gas prices after Russia's invasion of Ukraine, companies including BP, TotalEnergies SE and Shell have said they will continue to channel a growing portion of their cash flow into low-carbon energy sources, while transitioning away from fossil fuels as the main source of their revenue.

CIL didn't hike domestic price despite global rate hike: Govt

STATE-OWNED CIL did not increase the price of domestic dry fuel in spite of the unprecedented rise in the global price of coal, the government on Monday said.

Coal India (CIL), which accounts for over 80% of domestic coal output, boosted its production considerably in the recent past and managed to overcome shortage of dry fuel faced by thermal power plants, coal minister Pralhad Joshi said.

While addressing the National Coal Conclave & Exhibition-2022 here, the minister urged the public sector undertakings to compete with the private sector in coal mine auction and early production.

Efforts, he said, are in full swing to stop import of thermal coal by 2024 and incentives are being given for early production from the coal blocks given through commercial mine auction. The minister also stated that 64 coal mines have been auctioned so far under commercial auction which was launched in 2020.

During the conclave, the government executed agreements with 10 bidders of coal mines.

The total annual revenue generation from these blocks is estimated at ₹1,077.67 crore considering production at aggregated peak rate capacity level of 10.39 million tonnes per annum. Once fully operational, these mines are likely to generate employment for 14,047 persons directly and indirectly.

—PTI

Crude oil steady amidst recession fears



London: Oil prices were steady on Monday as China's continuation of loose monetary policy was offset by fears that high inflation and energy costs could drag the global economy into recession. Brent crude futures rose 21 cents to \$91.84 a barrel by 1110 GMT, recovering from a 6.4 per cent fall last week. REUTERS

EU to Boost Protection of Infra as Sabotage Fears Grow

The European Union will step up efforts to protect critical infrastructure from acts of sabotage, which in recent weeks have highlighted the bloc's vulnerability.

The European Commission, the EU's executive arm, will recommend this week that member states boost cooperation and stress test key infrastructure, starting with energy and followed by other high-risk sectors such as communications, transport and space, according to a draft document seen by Bloomberg News. The bloc will also create a "blueprint" mapping out how it will respond to future crises.

The EU's vulnerabilities came into

sharp focus last month when the Nord Stream 1 and 2 pipelines suffered four major gas leaks as the result of suspected attacks. Rail traffic in northern Germany was also halted for several hours after radio cables

were severed, while an oil leak in Poland's Druzhba pipeline gave rise to further fears of sabotage.

"Russia's war of aggression against Ukra-

ine has brought a new set of threats, often combined as a hybrid attack," according to the document, which is still subject to change, highlighting the risk to infrastructure. "This has become blatantly obvious with the apparent sabotage of the Nord Stream gas pipelines." **Bloomberg**



Govt-owned fuel marketers lost \$6.5-7 bn due to price freeze: Moody's

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NEW DELHI

State-owned oil marketing companies (OMCs) in India have lost an estimated \$6.5-7 billion on petrol and diesel sales because of a freeze on retail fuel prices between November 2021 and August 2022, Moody's Investors Services said. Their earnings may be weak this year as they are yet to be compensated for these losses, Moody's said.

The government's recent ₹22,000 crore grant to cover losses incurred by OMCs on sales of liquefied petroleum

gas (LPG) between June 2020 and June 2022 is 'credit positive' for Indian Oil Corp. Ltd, Bharat Petroleum Corp. Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corp. Ltd (HPCL), but the global rating firm signalled this is not adequate.

"We estimate that state-owned refining and marketing companies have lost around \$6.5-7 billion in revenue on the sale of petrol and diesel from November 2021-August 2022," Moody's said in a report titled 'Government grant is credit positive but will only provide partial relief.'

Moody's estimated that IOCL's revenue loss on petrol



Moody's said OMCs' earnings may remain weak this year as they are yet to be compensated for these losses

and diesel sales at \$3.0 billion-\$3.2 billion, while that for BPCL and HPCL is estimated at \$1.6-1.9 billion.

"The ₹220 billion grant is

credit-positive because it will provide support to earnings and cash flow for Indian refiners. However, despite the grant, we expect refiners'

earnings to remain weak in the fiscal year ending 31 March 2023 (fiscal 2023) because of significant losses incurred by these companies on sale of petrol and diesel during the first half of fiscal 2022-23, for which they have not received any compensation so far," the report said.

"Despite higher feedstock costs and an increase in international petrol and diesel prices, the selling prices of petrol and diesel in India, which

account for almost 55% of total sales of petroleum products in the country, did not increase at the same pace," Moody's said.

"Barring a small increase of around ₹10 per litre between 22 March and 6 April 2022, net realized prices for refiners have largely been unchanged since November 2021," it said.

Over this period, the recovery in demand following easing of movement restrictions and the onset of the Russia-Ukraine conflict has led to a

significant rise in crude oil prices, which averaged around \$104 a barrel between January and August 2022, compared to around \$80 a barrel in November 2021, Moody's pointed out.

"While crude oil and international transportation fuel prices have decreased from the highs seen earlier in the year, they remain subject to the volatile industry environment and geopolitical developments. Any rise in crude oil or international product prices without a commensurate increase in net realized prices for the Indian refiners will further weaken their earnings and cash flow outlook," it said.

The global rating firm signalled that the government's ₹22,000 crore grant is credit positive but is not adequate



● GREEN GOALS

RK Singh, new and renewable energy minister

“ We will not just reach 65% (from renewable energy by 2030), we will have more than that. We have pledged 50% (power generation capacity from non-fossil fuels) by 2030.

Business Standard

HPCL ENTERS BHOPAL RETAIL MARKET WITH LAUNCH OF ITS 1ST HAPPYSHOP & PAANI@CLUBHP

HPCL ENTERS BHOPAL RETAIL MARKET WITH LAUNCH OF ITS 1ST HAPPYSHOP & PAANI@CLUBHP

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd., opened its 1st HaPpyShop in the capital of Madhya Pradesh at the HP Auto Centre, Kolar



Road. The store was inaugurated by the Company's Chairman and Managing Director, Shri Pushp Kumar Joshi in the presence of ED – Retail, Shri Sandeep Maheshwari, CGM – Retail, West Zone, Shri Ch Srinivas and other senior officials, dealers and citizens of the locality.

In pursuit of enhancing customer experience on a continuous basis, HPCL is ever expanding the bouquet of services being offered to its esteemed customers. While inaugurating the Bhopal HaPpyShop and PAANI@CLUBHP, Shri Pushp Kumar Joshi said, "It gives me immense pleasure in expanding our Retail footprint to the State Capital. This launch will make a significant difference to the experience of the customers and live up to our motto of 'Delivering Happiness'. The customer response to HPCL Retail new ventures has been very encouraging and is set to accelerate the growth of HaPpyShop and PAANI@CLUBHP network in the Country."

NTPC-Mitsubishi pact for hydrogen co-firing



STATE-RUN POWER GIANT NTPC has inked a pact with Mitsubishi Heavy

Industries and its arm Mitsubishi Power India to demonstrate feasibility for hydrogen co-firing blended with natural gas at NTPC's Auraiya gas power plant.

Saudis Defend Oil Policy in Face of US Accusations

Riyadh: Saudi Arabia has rejected US accusations of aligning itself with Russia amid the Ukraine war by making oil production cuts to drive up crude prices, insisting it was purely a business decision.

"We are astonished by the accusations that the kingdom is standing with Russia in its war with Ukraine," the Saudi defence minister, Prince Khaled bin Salman, tweeted late Sunday.

The Saudi-led OPEC+ cartel — which includes Russia — has angered Washington by deciding to cut production by two million barrels per day from November, adding further pressure on soaring crude prices.

"It is telling that these false accusations did not come from the Ukrainian government," Prince Khaled wrote. "Although the OPEC+ decision, which was taken unanimously, was due to purely economic reasons, some accused the kingdom of standing



Saudi defence minister says decision by OPEC+ to cut oil output was taken unanimously and for purely economic reasons

with Russia. Iran is also a member of OPEC, does this mean that the kingdom is standing with Iran as well?" he asked, referring to Saudi Arabia's regional rival.

In a speech broadcast on Sunday night, Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud insisted his country was "working hard, wit-

hin its energy strategy, to support the stability and balance of global oil markets".

The United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, which like Saudi Arabia are US allies as well as OPEC partners, also defended the cartel's decision as a "technical" move.

White House spokesman John Kirby said last week that Riyadh knew the cut "would increase Russian revenues and blunt the effectiveness of sanctions" on Moscow.

The United States has vowed to re-evaluate ties with the oil-rich kingdom since the cut, which was seen as a diplomatic slap in the face for President Joe Biden by hiking prices on US consumers weeks before congressional elections.

Despite vowing to make the kingdom an international "pariah" following the October 2018 murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, Biden travelled to Saudi Arabia in July and met with Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman — with the two greeting each other with a high-profile fist bump. **AFP**

PLAIN FACTS



Why gas prices will stay high in the near term

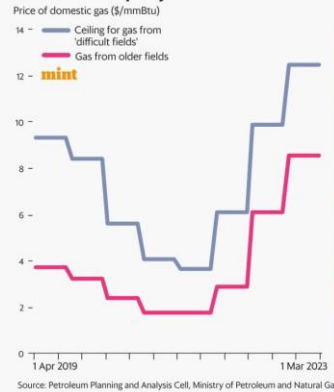
BY HOWINDIALIVES.COM

Earlier this month, the government raised domestic gas prices to a historic high on the back of a seven-fold increase in international prices of liquefied natural gas (LNG) over the past two years. The high prices are expected to hold for at least the next six months and possibly more if the Russia-Ukraine war intensifies. This would add to the financial outgo for industrial consumers, households and the central government.

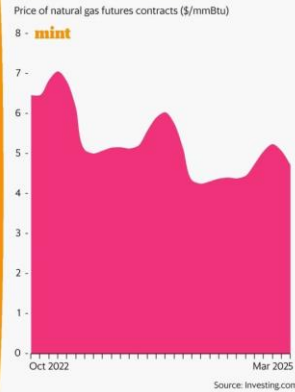
The price of gas from older and more established gas fields, where production is dominated by public-sector oil companies, was raised to \$8.57 per mmbtu (million metric British thermal units), nearly thrice of what it was a year ago. The ceiling price of gas from more difficult deepwater fields, such as Reliance's KG-D6 Basin, was raised to \$12.46 per mmbtu, doubling over a year.

The government regulates prices of gas and resets it every six months. This is based on global prices, which shot up in mid-2021 as global demand picked up after lockdowns and again in early 2022 after the Ukraine war led to disruptions of gas supplies to Europe. The International Monetary Fund's gas price index has risen 72% in 2022, causing the average price of India's LNG imports to rise sharply as well. Global gas prices are now critically dependent on how quickly European demand for natural gas for its heating and other requirements are satisfied. Futures gas contracts indicate that prices will stay high till February 2023, before cooling off. However, if the Ukraine war situation worsens, high prices could persist.

Prices of domestic gas have risen up to 3 times over the past year



Global gas prices are expected to rise further in the near term



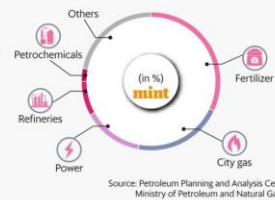
The Gas Economy

TOTAL DOMESTIC LNG production this August was 2,896 million standard cubic metres (mmscm), 1% less than in August 2021, according to government data. Given the spike in global prices, imports have been hit more. India imported 2,369 mmscm in August, a year-on-year fall of 19%. India imports 45-50% of its LNG requirement every month and thus relies on it to fill its demand-supply gap. However, Europe's thirst for gas, following the disruption of Russian supplies, means customers from that region are now outbidding customers from other parts of the globe.

The leading end-consumers of natural gas in India are the fertilizer industry (32% of consumption in April-August 2022) and city-gas projects (21%), which supply fuel to households for cooking and as a clean fuel for vehicles. They are followed by the power sector (14%), and the refinery and petrochemicals sector (11%).

Fertilizer and city-gas sectors lead in gas consumption in India

Sectoral share of natural gas consumption for Apr-Aug 2022



Fertilizer subsidy has increased by 32% this year



Subsidy Surge

NATURAL GAS is a critical feedstock for the fertilizer industry and is used to produce ammonia. Other fossil fuels such as coal and oil can also be used, but are more expensive to process. In India, a third of natural gas production is used by the fertilizer industry.

A rise in the price of most major inputs for the fertilizer industry, including natural gas, has led to the soaring cost of production of fertilizers in the country.

Thus, the fertilizer subsidy, borne by the central government, has jumped sharply. Between April and August this year, the total fertilizer subsidy amounted to about ₹1.21 trillion, an increase of 32% over the same period of the previous year. Costs have risen so sharply that the government is reportedly considering the imposition of a windfall tax on natural gas producers, who are reaping a windfall because of global disruptions in gas supply (<https://bit.ly/3rYrjOS>).

Household Stress

HOUSEHOLDS, WHICH use gas for cooking and in vehicles, are also facing higher prices. Piped gas is also increasingly being used in industrial and commercial establishments in various cities. The number of domestic piped natural gas (PNG) connections for households has risen by 14% this year so far to about 9.7 million connections. The number of CNG stations in India has risen by 28.5% to 4,664 in this period.

For such consumers, the price of natural gas has soared. Piped gas prices have risen by 40-42% for consumers in Delhi and by 21-23% for consumers in Mumbai. This is in a scenario when the rise in domestic gas prices has trailed the rise in global gas prices. If global prices stay high and the government reduces the differential, domestic prices could rise further. How all this plays out will depend primarily on the Russia-Ukraine war.

www.howindialives.com is a database and search engine for public data.

CNG/PNG prices have risen 20-40% in Mumbai and Delhi



BP to buy US RNG producer Archaea for \$4.1 bn

LONDON: BP will buy US-based renewable natural gas (RNG) producer Archaea Energy Inc for about \$4.1 billion, the companies said on Monday, as the British energy major seeks to expand its alternative fuels business.

The deal will be the largest ever RNG acquisition, topping Chevron Corp's \$3.15 billion buyout of biodiesel maker Renewable Energy Group Inc earlier this year, *Reuters* reported.

It will also be the largest acquisition BP has made since Chief Executive Bernard Looney

took office in early 2020 with a pledge to slash BP's greenhouse gas emissions and oil and gas production while growing its renewables business. RNG, or biogas, is gas captured from organic waste in landfills or farms.

Houston, Texas-based Archaea operates 50 RNG and landfill gas-to-energy facilities across the United States and BP aims to grow Archaea's output five-fold by 2030 to 30,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day (boed), Looney told *Reuters*.

BP already has a large biogas business producing around

11,000 boed.

"This is a product that our customers want," Looney said. Utilities and transportation companies are seeking to reduce their carbon footprint and use biogas as a fuel, he added.

"There's more demand for this product today than there is supply," he added, adding that the biogas sector is expected to grow 25 fold by 2050.

BP shares were down 0.4 per cent by 1240 GMT.

BP has offered \$26 in cash for each Archaea share, or \$3.3 billion, and will take on about \$800 million of net debt.

The offer represents a premium of 54 per cent to Archaea's closing price on Friday. Archaea's shares jumped 53 per cent in premarket trade.

But analysts at Jefferies said they "expect the deal to be met with concerns caused by the large premium, the high near-term valuation metrics and the potential impact on 2023 buybacks."

The deal will double the expected earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (EBITDA) from biogas to around \$2 billion by 2030, BP said.

AGENCIES

France braces for strike amid shortage of fuel

Paris, Oct. 17: France on Monday braced for nationwide transport strike actions as the government and unions remained in deadlock over stoppages at oil depots that have sparked fuel shortages.

Leading unions have called for strikes on Tuesday in their biggest challenge yet to President Emmanuel Macron since he won a new presidential term in May.

It will come after workers at several refineries and depots operated by energy giant TotalEnergies voted to extend their strike action, defying the government which has begun to force staff back on the job.

Motorists scrambled to fill tanks as the fuel strike, which has lasted for nearly three weeks, crippled supplies at just over 30 per

cent of France's service stations. The government, increasingly impatient with striking workers, said it was forcing key staff back to work.

"The time for negotiation is over," finance minister Bruno Le Maire said on Monday.

The government said it would begin to requisition workers at the Feyzin depot in southeastern France from 2.00 pm (1200 GMT) on Monday, having already employed the same strategy at the Mardyck depot in the north of the country.

Fuel workers voted to continue stoppages at several refineries run by TotalEnergies, the coordinator for the hard-left CGT union Eric Sellini said, rejecting a pay package agreed between the group's management and

mainstream unions.

Three out of seven of the country's oil refineries and five major fuel depots (out of around 200) are affected, the government said.

Strike action at Esso-ExxonMobil ended at the end of last week at the company's two French refineries, after a pay deal between management and moderate unions which represent a majority of workers. A return to normal supply conditions at petrol stations will take at least two weeks after strikes end, the government has warned.

Unions in other industries and the public sector have also announced action to protest against the twin impact of soaring energy prices and overall inflation on the cost of living. — AFP

'Frozen petrol, diesel prices likely cost OMCs \$7 bn till Aug.'

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

India's state-owned oil marketing companies (OMCs) have lost an estimated \$6.5 billion-\$7 billion on petrol and diesel sales on account of a virtual freeze in retail prices between November 2021 and August 2022, Moody's Investors Service said.

Though the government's recent ₹22,000-crore grant to cover these losses on sales of domestic

liquefied petroleum gas between June 2020 and June 2022 is 'credit positive' for IOC, BPCL and HPCL, the rating agency said this was not adequate.

"Despite the grant, we expect refiners' earnings to remain weak in the fiscal year ending 31 March 2023 because of significant losses incurred on sale of petrol and diesel during the first half of fiscal 2022-23, for which they have not received any compensation so far," Moody's said.

IOC-Vadinar SPM Facility berths 6,000th oil tanker

IndianOil currently operates two SPM terminals at Vadinar, in the south of the Gulf of Kutch

NEW DELHI: India's first unloading Single Point Mooring (SPM) facility, commissioned by IndianOil in 1978 at Vadinar in Dev Bhumi Dwarka district of Gujarat, achieved a significant milestone with the berthing of the 6,000th Oil tanker- MT Yio, a Liberian VLCC (Very Large Crude Carrier) carrying Basrah Crude Oil from Iraq. Mr S M Vaidya, Chairman, IndianOil and Mr D S Nanaware, Director (Pipelines), IndianOil, welcomed the crew of MT Yio to celebrate the momentous occasion.

Complimenting the Team Vadinar of IndianOil, S M



Vaidya said, "Economic and social growth relies on energy and given our dependence on foreign crude, unloading crude supplies from large crude-carrying vessels deep into the sea

safely and reliably is vital to keep our refineries running. I must laud the remarkable contribution of IOCIans at Vadinar who work under the most challenging circumstances to keep

'The 3 lakh kilo litres of crude oil that MT Yio is carrying is adequate to meet about 40 per cent of the daily fuel requirement of our entire nation'

the nation fuelled while setting new benchmarks of operational excellence. The 3 lakh kilo litres of crude oil that MT Yio is carrying is adequate to meet about 40 per cent of the

daily fuel requirement of our entire nation".

IndianOil currently operates two SPM terminals at Vadinar, in the south of the Gulf of Kutch, for unloading of crude oil brought in tankers for transportation to shore tanks through pipelines, of which around 14 km is sub-sea. Subsequently, the crude is transported through cross-country pipelines to IndianOil's mega-refineries at Vadodara, Mathura and Panipat. With the unloading of this crude parcel, IndianOil Vadinar Terminal has crossed a cumulative receipt of 735 MMT. MPOST

The Tribune

Mood's: Crude price hike will weaken oil cos if net realisation doesn't go up

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Moody's: Crude price hike will weaken oil cos if net realisation doesn't go up

CHENNAI, OCTOBER 17

A Rs 220 billion one-time grant to the three oil marketing companies by the Centre would cover their losses on sales of domestic LPG if they still incur losses on the sale of petrol and diesel, said Moody's Investors Service on Monday.

Last week, the central government approved the grant to Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) to cover losses on sales of domestic LPG between June 2020 and June 2022. — IANS

Opec+ members endorse output cut after US cries Saudi coercion

**MAHA EL DAHAN,
AZIZ EL YAAKOUBI &
YASMIN HUSSEIN**

CAIRO OCT. 16

Opec+ member states lined up on Sunday to endorse the steep cut to its output target agreed this month after the White House, stepping up a war of words with Saudi Arabia, accused Riyadh of coercing some other nations into supporting the move.

The US last week said the

cut would boost Russia's foreign earnings and suggested it had been engineered for political reasons by Saudi Arabia, which on Sunday denied it was supporting Moscow in its invasion of Ukraine.

Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz said the kingdom was working hard to support stability and balance in oil markets, including establishing and maintaining agreement of the Opec+ alliance.

Opec+ include Russia.

The Saudi defence minister, King Salman's son Prince Khalid bin Salman, also said the October 5 decision to reduce output by 2 million barrels per day—despite supply tightness in oil markets—was unanimous and based on economic factors.

His comments were backed by ministers of several Opec+ member states including the United Arab Emirates. —Reuters

GOVT TARGETS 65% POWER CAPACITY FROM NON-FOSSIL FUELS BY 2030



R.K. Singh

FC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, OCT. 17

In its efforts to promote green energy, the government has envisaged that India will have more than 65 per cent of India's power generation capacity from non-fossil fuels by 2030. Besides, the government has urged India Inc to start making high-efficiency solar equipment to augment the power generation capacity.

"India is aiming for 65 per cent of power generation capacity from non-fossil fuels but the country will have more than that. India will have 90 GW of solar equipment manufacturing capacity by 2030, up from 20 GW at present," power and new & renewable energy minister R.K. Singh said on Monday at a CII event.

He said about 15-20 GW of solar equipment manufacturing capacity is under construction and the country will have 40 GW of such facilities under the production-linked incentive scheme-II (PLI-II). "We shall have 90 GW plus solar manufacturing capacity by 2030 right from the polysilicon to modules. We already have 20 GW solar manufacturing capacity and 15-20 GW of solar manufacturing capacity is under construction," he said.

As India has planned to hit 500 GW of renewable energy by 2030, the minister also urged the industry player to shift to the manufacturing of high-efficiency solar equipment. "The country already has 170 GW of renewable energy, including large hydro, while another 80 GW is under construction."

On reduction in emission intensity, Singh said, "We have pledged that we would do (reduce it by) 33 per cent by 2030."

कच्चा तेल सस्ता होने के बावजूद नहीं घटे पेट्रोल-डीजल के दाम

■ लंदन ब्रेंट कूड 92 डालर प्रति बैरल पर ■ अमेरिकी कूड 86 डालर प्रति बैरल हुआ ■ मुंबई में पेट्रोल अब ₹106 प्रति लीटर पर

नई दिल्ली (जाति)।

अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में कच्चे तेल की कीमत के 95 डालर प्रति बैरल से नीचे आ जाने के बावजूद घरेलू स्तर पर पेट्रोल और डीजल के दामों में सोमवार को भी कोई बदलाव नहीं हुआ।

अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में लंदन ब्रेंट कूड 0.74 प्रतिशत बढ़कर 92.31 डालर प्रति बैरल पर और अमेरिकी कूड 0.70 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि के साथ

86.21 डालर प्रति बैरल पर रहा। घरेलू स्तर पर तेल विपणन कंपनी भारत पेट्रोलियम

महानगरों में कीमतें		
महानगर	पेट्रोल	डीजल
दिल्ली	96.72	89.62
मुंबई	106.31	94.27
कोलकाता	106.03	92.76
चेन्नई	102.63	94.24

के अनुसार, पेट्रोल और डीजल

की कीमतों में सोमवार को भी कोई बदलाव नहीं हुआ। दिल्ली में पेट्रोल 96.72 रुपए प्रति लीटर और डीजल 89.62 रुपए प्रति लीटर पर स्थिर हैं।

देश में चार महीने से अधिक समय से ईंधन की



कीमतों में कोई बदलाव नहीं हुआ है। मुंबई में पेट्रोल के दाम 106.31 रुपए प्रति लीटर और डीजल की कीमत 94.27 रुपए प्रति लीटर है।

पेट्रोल और डीजल की कीमतें मूल्य वर्धित कर (वैट) और माल ढुलाई शुल्क के आधार पर सभी राज्यों में अलग-अलग हैं। इसी हिसाब से हर जगह इनके अलग दाम हैं पेट्रोल-डीजल के मूल्यों की प्रतिदिन समीक्षा की जाती है।

तेल पर अमेरिका की एक न चली, ओपेक प्लस देशों ने लिया उत्पादन घटाने का फैसला

काहिरा। अमेरिका लगातार तेल उत्पादक देशों पर उत्पादन कम न करने का दबाव बना रहा है लेकिन उसकी एक नहीं चली। तेल उत्पादक देशों के बड़े संगठन ओपेक प्लस ने रविवार को उत्पादन कम करने के अपने फैसले पर मुहर लगा दी। अमेरिका और सऊदी अरब के बीच हुई जुबानी जंग के बाद अमेरिका ने आरोप लगाया है कि रियाद ने कुछ अन्य देशों को तेल उत्पादन घटाने के लिए विवश किया।

संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका ने पिछले हफ्ते कहा था कि कटौती रूस की विदेशी कमाई को बढ़ावा देगी। उसने कहा सऊदी अरब ने तेल उत्पादन में कटौती का फैसला राजनीतिक कारणों से लिया है। इधर सऊदी अरब ने रविवार को ही इस बात से इंकार किया है कि वह यूक्रेन पर आक्रमण में मास्को का समर्थन कर रहा है।

सऊदी किंग सलमान बिन अब्दुलअजीज ने कहा

ओपेक सदस्यों ने फैसले को वकत की जरूरत बताया

राज्य के रक्षा मंत्री और किंग सलमान के बेटे प्रिंस खालिद बिन सलमान ने भी कहा कि 5 अक्टूबर को उत्पादन को 2 मिलियन बैरल प्रतिदिन (बीपीडी) कम करने का निर्णय एकमत और आर्थिक कारकों पर आधारित था। खाड़ी राज्य के ऊर्जा मंत्री, सुहेल अल-मजरोई ने ट्विटर पर लिखा कि मैं स्पष्ट करना चाहूंगा कि ओपेक प्लस का सर्वसम्मति से लिया गया ताजा फैसला एक शुद्ध तकनीकी निर्णय था और इसका कोई राजनीतिक इरादा नहीं था।

■ कुवैत पेट्रोलियम कॉर्पोरेशन के मुख्य कार्यकारी नवाफ सऊद अल-सबाह ने भी एजेंसी से कहा कि ओपेक प्लस के फैसले का स्वागत किया और कहा कि देश संतुलित तेल बाजार बनाए रखने का इच्छुक है।

■ अल्जीरिया के ऊर्जा मंत्री मोहम्मद अर्कब ने इस निर्णय को ऐतिहासिक बताते हुए कहा कि उन्होंने और ओपेक के महासचिव हैथम अल घैस ने इस पर पूर्ण विश्वास व्यक्त किया। घैस ने बाद में एक संवाददाता सम्मेलन में कहा कि संगठन ने एक विशिष्ट कीमत के बजाय आपूर्ति और मांग के बीच संतुलन बनाने का लक्ष्य रखा है।

कि हम तेल बाजारों में स्थिरता और संतुलन का समर्थन करने के लिए कड़ी मेहनत कर रहे हैं, जिसमें ओपेक प्लस गठबंधन के समझौते को बनाए रखना शामिल है। जिसमें पेट्रोलियम निर्यातक देशों

का संगठन (ओपेक) और रूस सहित अन्य प्रमुख उत्पादक देश शामिल हैं। बात दें कि ओपेक के 13 सदस्य देश दुनिया के तकरीबन 44 फीसदी तेल का उत्पादन करते हैं। एजेंसी

अमेरिका का आरोप, सऊदी अरब के दबाव में फैसला

अमेरिकी राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा परिषद के प्रवक्ता जॉन किर्बी ने गुरुवार को आरोप लगाया कि तेल उत्पादन में कटौती के लिए सऊदी अरब ने "एक से अधिक" ओपेक सदस्य को विवश किया था। किर्बी ने ये भी कहा कि ये कटौती रूस के राजस्व में भी वृद्धि करेगी और यूक्रेन पर फरवरी के आक्रमण पर लगाए गए प्रतिबंधों के प्रभाव को कुंद कर देगी। एजेंसी के मुताबिक किंग सलमान ने राज्य के सलाहकार शूरा काउंसिल को एक संवोधन में कहा कि उनका देश शांति का समर्थक है और पिछले महीने रूस से युद्ध के कदियों की रिहाई में राजकुमार को महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका थी। खालिद बिन सलमान ने रविवार को कहा कि वह इस दावे से हैथन हैं कि उनका देश यूक्रेन के साथ युद्ध में रूस के साथ खड़ा है। उन्होंने ट्विटर पर लिखा, यह बता रहा है कि ये झूठे आरोप यूक्रेन की सरकार की ओर से नहीं आए हैं।