



ONGC News as on 28 December 2025 (Print & Online)



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**IIM Nagpur, ONGC Green
sign MOU for research,
policy initiatives**

In a nationally significant move aligned with India's clean energy ambitions, the Indian Institute of Management Nagpur and ONGC Green Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on December 20 to collaborate on research, capacity building, and policy-driven initiatives in the field of green and future energy. The MoU was signed on behalf of IIM Nagpur by its Director, Prof Bhimaraya Metri, and on behalf of ONGC Green Limited by its Chief Operating Officer, Harsh Nupur Joshi. Senior faculty members of IIM Nagpur Prof. Alok Kumar Singh, Dean – Executive Education Programmes and Prof. Nikunj Kumar Jain, Chairperson of the Executive MBA in Energy Management, were present.

Headline: Chemical-laden water in fields due to pipe leakage, farmer in HC against ONGC

પાઈપ લિકેજથી કેમિકલયુક્ત પાણી ખેતરમાં, ONGC સામે ખેડૂત HCમાં

અમદાવાદ, પાઈપલાઈનના લીકેજથી કેમિકલયુક્ત પાણી ખેતરમાં ભરાતા ઓએનજીસી સામે ખેડૂતે હાઈકોર્ટમાં અરજ કરી છે. જેમાં એવો દાવો કર્યો છે કે પાઈપલાઈનના લીકેજથી કેમિકલયુક્ત પાણી ખેતરમાં આવતા કાયમી ફળદ્રુપતા નાશ પામી છે. હાઈકોર્ટે ઓએનજીસીના ખર્ચ જમીનનો ટેસ્ટ કરાવવા આદેશ કર્યો છે.

મહેસાણાથી એક ખેડૂતે ઓએનજીસી સામે અરજ દાખલ કરી છે. જેમાં તેને જણાવ્યું છે કે તેની ખેતીની જમીનને ઓએનજીસીના કારણે કાયમી નુકસાન થયું છે. પરંતુ તેને યોગ્ય વળતર ચૂકવાયું નથી. ઓએનજીસીની પાઈપલાઈનમાંથી પ્રદુષિત પાણી અરજદાર ખેડૂતના ખેતરમાં ભરાયું હતું. આ પાઈપલાઈન ખેતરથી ૩૦ મીટર દૂર છે.

વર્ષ ૨૦૨૦માં ખેડૂતના ખેતરમાં ચોમાસા દરમિયાન કેમિકલ યુક્ત પાણી ભરાયું હતું. આથી તેની ઉપજાઉ જમીનનું નુકસાન થયું હતું. ખેડૂતે

**ફળદ્રુપતા નાશ
પામ્યાનો દાવો,
ઓએનજીસીના ખર્ચ
ટેસ્ટ કરાવવા આદેશ**

ઓએનજીસીના એન્જિનિયરને રજૂઆત કરતા ખેડૂતને ધમકાવવામાં આવ્યો હતો. જ્યારે ઓએનજીસીએ કહ્યું હતું કે અરજદારને કોઈ નુકસાન થયું નથી કે ખેતરમાં કોઈ પાણી ભરાયું નથી. ખેડૂતના ખેતરની માટીનો ઓએનજીસીની લેબોરેટરીમાં ટેસ્ટ કરાયો હતો.

જ્યારે ખેડૂતે આજે કૃષિ યુનિવર્સિટીમાં સોઈલ ટેસ્ટ કરાવતા પીએચ લેવલ ખૂબ જ ઊંચુ જોવા મળ્યું હતું. જે જમીનની બિન ઉત્પાદકતા સૂચવતું હતું. વર્ષ ૨૦૨૧ અને વર્ષ ૨૦૨૩માં પણ આવી જ ઘટના બની હોવાનું ખેડૂતે જણાવ્યું હતું. તેની જમીનને કાયમી નુકસાન થયું હોવાનું ખેડૂતે જણાવ્યું હતું. ઓએનજીસીએ જણાવ્યું હતું કે જીપીસીબીના નિયમો મુજબ કામ કરે છે. અરજદારની જમીનને કાયમી નુકસાન થયું નથી. ખેતીના

નુકસાનનું વળતર ચૂકવવા અરજદારના ખેતર જઈને નિરીક્ષણ કરીને ખાતરી કરવામાં આવી હતી. પરંતુ ખેડૂતે વળતર સ્વીકારવા ઈનકાર કર્યો હતો.

કોર્ટે કહ્યું હતું જવાબદારી ઓએનજીસીની છે. પર્યાવરણને નુકસાન થવું જોઈએ નહીં. ઓએનજીસીએ ઝીરો કેમિકલ વોટર ડિસ્ચાર્જની નીતિ રાખવી જોઈએ. અરજદાર ખેડૂત, જીપીસીબી અને ઓએનજીસીના અધિકારીઓની હાજરીમાં ખેડૂતના જમીનનું ઈન્સ્પેક્શન હાથ ધરાશે. ખેડૂતના જમીનનો ટોકિસિટી, ફર્ટિલિટી અને જીઓ ટેકનિકલ સ્ટડી ટેસ્ટ કરવામાં આવશે. જેનો ખર્ચ ઓએનજીસી આપશે. આ સમગ્ર પ્રક્રિયા ચાર અઠવાડિયામાં હાથ ધરાશે. આ અંગે વધુ સુનાવણી ૨૭ જાન્યુઆરીના રોજ રાખવામાં આવી છે.

આ કેસની સુનાવણી દરમિયાન હાઈકોર્ટે ઓએનજીસીને ટકોર કરી હતી કે આવી બાબતો માટે આટલા મોટા કોર્પોરેશને નાના ખેડૂતો સામે લડવું જોઈએ નહીં અને કેસો કરીને પ્રજાના પૈસાનો વ્યય કરવો જોઈએ નહીં.

BUILT FOR NEW INDIA OF TRAFFIC JAMS

Scooters the new wheels of masses

● Sales growth in double digits, as bikes hit plateau

VIKRAM CHAUDHARY
New Delhi, December 27

FOR DECADES, MOTORCYCLES have been the preferred mode of mobility for the masses due to their higher fuel efficiency compared to scooters, reliability over broken roads, and the ability to travel a longer distance comfortably. However, sales data for 2025 shows that motorcycles are hitting a growth plateau, even as scooters are growing in double digits.

The January-November 2025 sales data collated from the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM)

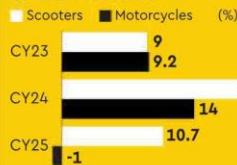
THE RIDE CHOICE

■ Buyers preferring gearless two-wheelers; choices aplenty among scooters

■ Transition to electric mobility mostly happening in scooters

■ Motorcycle generally considered 'male' purchase; scooter a family asset

SALES METRICS



shows that this year, scooters grew a healthy 10.7%, even as motorcycle sales dropped 1%.

Previously, both scooters and motorcycles had been growing comfortably—in 2023,

scooters grew 9%, while motorcycles rose 9.2%, and in 2024, scooters increased by 21%, while motorcycles grew 14%.

Continued on Page 2

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Scooters: New wheels of masses

ANALYSTS SAID THE reasons for change in this balance are several. First is the urbanisation effect. As cities and towns, and even villages, get more and more congested, buyers have started preferring gearless two-wheelers for convenience. There are dozens of such choices among scooters, and not even a single gearless model among mass-market motorcycles.

Second is electrification—among two-wheelers, the transition to electric mobility is mostly happening in scooters, with just a couple of electric motorcycles. Those EV sales are adding to scooter volumes. Third is the quick commerce boom. Zomato, Amazon, Swiggy,

Blinkit delivery partners almost exclusively use scooters because they offer good storage space, instead of motorcycles. Another reason, shared by a Hero MotoCorp dealer from Gurgaon, is the gender effect. "A motorcycle is almost always a 'male' purchase," he said. "But a scooter is a family asset—it can be used by the father to go to his shop, by the mother to go to the market, and by the daughter to go to college." He added that even though motorcycles have higher fuel efficiency, two-wheeler buyers are moving on from mileage to convenience. "In a price-sensitive market like India, motorcycles were the first choice because of their 60-70 km/litre fuel efficiency," he said. "But we are moving away from fuel efficiency to convenience. In stop-and-go traffic of modern India, the clutch pain is immense, and the fuel efficiency advantage is lost. In addition, modern Hero scooters—and even those by other manufacturers—return more than 50 km/litre, narrowing the gap with motorcycles."

In 2026, scooters are expected to grow at a far faster rate than motorcycles. Industry analysts from Icar and CareEdge told FE that as urban traffic continues to worsen, even motorcycle loyalists are expected to shift to scooters. "A lot of rural buyers are moving to scooters because the road infrastruc-

ture is getting better—motorcycles have big wheels that swallow potholes, but nowadays potholes aren't a worry, traffic is, in which scooters are more comfortable," they said. "In addition, scooters generally have fewer moving parts, smaller engine, and simpler drivetrains, and, therefore, routine maintenance and minor repairs tend to be cheaper than on motorcycles, and insurance premiums are typically lower, reducing total cost of ownership."

They added that motorcycles were built for the old India of broken roads and low purchasing power for fuel, and scooters are built for the new India of traffic jams and urban convenience.

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Date :28 December 2025	Page : 3

Resolution of KG-D6 basin between RIL, govt by 2026

ANI
New Delhi, December 27

A LONG-STANDING FINANCIAL disagreement between the government and Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) regarding the KG-D6 oil block may reach a conclusion in early 2026. The dispute involves a \$247 million (around ₹2,050 crore) claim by the government for a higher share of profits from the gas field. This legal process is currently in its final stages within an international arbitration setting.

The issue began when the government decided to block RIL from recovering some of the money it spent on building infrastructure for the KG-D6 oil block. Under the original New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) agreement, firms are allowed to get back all the

ENDING DISPUTE



■ The dispute involves a **₹2,050-cr** claim by the govt for a higher share of profits from the gas field

■ This legal process is currently in its final stages within an international arbitration setting

money they invest in drilling and pipes before they start sharing profits with the government. Reliance, along with its

partners bp and Niko, spent this money to set up the deepwater facility. According to a statement, "the production sharing contracts under NELP explicitly allow an operator to first recover all its development costs fully, before the government's profit share begins."

The document explains that finding oil and gas is a high-risk business, and companies take on all the financial danger themselves. In this case, the government did not invest any money and faced no financial risk, yet it still received a significant share of profits and taxes.

The project was managed by a committee that included two government officials who had the power to stop any decision. Reliance says it did not spend any money or make any moves without the approval of this committee.

New EV Policy

ADVERTORIAL

DRIVING DELHI TOWARDS A GREENER FUTURE



Under the leadership of Chief Minister Smt. Rekha Gupta, the Delhi Government has taken another major step towards building a pollution-free, modern, and sustainable capital. The new Electric Vehicle (EV) Policy, set to be implemented in the upcoming financial year, will serve as a powerful tool to make Delhi's transport system greener, smarter, and more citizen-friendly.

This policy is not limited to merely electrifying vehicles; its objective is to bring tangible improvements to the quality of life for Delhi residents. Vehicular emissions are a major contributor to air pollution in the capital. By promoting EVs as the preferred choice, the government is working to significantly reduce pollutants such as PM 2.5 and PM 10.

Under the new EV Policy, incentives will be provided for scrapping old petrol and diesel vehicles, attractive subsidies will be offered on EV purchases, and exemptions from road tax and registration fees will be provided—making EV ownership accessible for every middle-class family

Under the new EV Policy, incentives will be provided for scrapping old petrol and diesel vehicles, attractive subsidies will be offered on EV purchases, and exemptions from road tax and registration fees will be provided—making EV ownership accessible for every middle-class family. The Delhi Government is also working on the extensive expansion of EV charging infrastructure. Charging points will now be installed not only at public locations but also

near residential colonies. Battery swapping and safe disposal facilities are being developed to ensure convenience for users.

Aligned with the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and India's Net Zero 2070 pledge, the Delhi Government considers EVs not as a future option but an immediate necessity. The government's goal is clear—making Delhi India's EV capital while ensuring clean air and a better quality of life for generations to come.

"Delhi Government Promotes Shared Mobility: Fewer Vehicles, Less Pollution, More Convenience"

The Delhi Government is actively promoting shared transportation to reduce pollution and traffic congestion in the capital. Chief Minister Smt. Rekha Gupta emphasized that pollution cannot be effectively controlled without reducing the number of vehicles on Delhi's roads. In line with this approach, carpooling and shared taxi services are being given priority.

Carpooling not only provides passengers with an affordable and convenient option, but also helps reduce the number of vehicles on the roads. The Chief Minister stated that the Delhi Government is in continuous dialogue with transportation companies like Ola and Uber to encourage shared rides and ensure greater participation of women drivers.

She added that this initiative is not just a measure to control pollution, but a long-term model aimed at improving the quality of life for Delhi residents and ensuring safe and smooth travel on the city's roads.



- * Promotion of carpooling and shared taxi services
- * Increased participation of women drivers
- * Continuous dialogue with transport network companies like Ola and Uber
- * Affordable and convenient travel options for Delhi residents

"Mist Spray Systems to Replace Heavy Anti-Smog Guns for Dust and Pollution Control"



The Delhi Government is taking continuous and effective measures to reduce air pollution and ensure cleaner air in the capital. Chief Minister Smt. Rekha Gupta stated that old and heavy anti-smog guns are now being replaced with mist spray systems. This new technology is lightweight, environmentally friendly, and more effective in reducing dust and pollutant particles in the air.

The Chief Minister explained

that 148 large commercial complexes, malls, hotels, and office buildings in the capital previously had anti-smog guns, which operated in only one direction and consumed large amounts of water. Mist spray systems will replace these and prove more effective in controlling airborne pollutants.

Mist spray systems disperse water in multiple directions, consume less water, and are beneficial for the surrounding greenery. The Chief Minister

emphasized that through such modern initiatives, the Delhi Government is moving forward to make the capital healthier and pollution-free.

In addition, the number of air quality monitoring stations in Delhi is being increased to enable data-driven pollution control measures. This initiative will allow continuous monitoring of air quality across various parts of the city and facilitate timely interventions.



DIP/Shubdarth/Advertorial/0108/25-26

GLOBAL SUPPLY

Oil falls 2% on looming supply glut

CORRESPONDENT
HOUSTON

Oil prices settled more than 2% lower on Friday as investors weighed a looming global supply glut, while also keeping an eye on a potential Ukraine peace deal ahead of talks this weekend between Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy and U.S. President Donald Trump.

Brent crude futures settled down \$1.60 or 2.57% to \$60.64 per barrel. U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude settled down \$1.61 or 2.76% to \$56.74.

While supply disruptions have helped oil prices rebound in recent sessions from their near five-year low on December 16, they are on track for their steepest annual decline since 2020. Brent and WTI are down 19% and 21% respectively on the year, as rising crude output caused concerns of an oil glut heading into next year.

"Geopolitical premiums have provided near-term price support, but have not materially shifted the underlying oversupply narrative," Aegis Hedging analysts said in a note on Friday.

The global oil supply next



year will exceed demand by 3.84 million barrels per day, according to figures from the Paris-based IEA's December oil market report.

Investors are watching for developments in the Russia-Ukraine peace process and the possible impact on future oil prices, as a peace agreement could lead to the removal of international sanctions against Russia's oil sector.

Zelenskiy will discuss territorial issues, the main stumbling block in talks to end the war, with Trump in Florida on Sunday, as a 20-point peace framework and a security guarantees deal near completion.

Announcing the meeting, Zelenskiy said that "a lot can be decided before the New Year."

The Ukrainian president also told Axios he would be willing to call a referendum

on an agreed peace framework if Russia agrees to a ceasefire.

A foreign policy aide to Russian President Vladimir Putin spoke to members of the U.S. administration after Moscow received U.S. proposals about a possible Ukrainian peace deal, the Kremlin said on Friday.

For the oil price, "the negatives remain of elevated global oil storage, and slight progress on Ukraine-Russia peace talks," said Dennis Kissler, senior vice president of trading at BOK Financial.

The White House also ordered its military forces to focus on a "quarantine" of Venezuelan oil for at least the next two months, indicating Washington is currently more interested in using economic rather than military means to pressure Caracas

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Date :28 December 2025	Page : 11

THINK Gas cuts prices

Following the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board's (PNGRB) revision of the Unified Tariff, THINK Gas has announced a reduction in PNG prices in Nellore, Tirupati-Chittoor & in YSR Kadapa-Annamayya-Sri Satya Sai-Anantapur making clean cooking even more affordable for the families in the region. The revised prices will come into effect from January 1. The price of Piped Natural Gas (PNG) for domestic consumers has been reduced to Rs 47/Standard Cubic Metre (SCM), a drop of Rs 4/SCM.

Rajasthan expedites installation of rooftop solar power plants

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

Installation of rooftop solar power plants is being expedited in Rajasthan under the revamped distribution sector scheme (RDSS) to reduce transmission and distribution losses and improve power supply quality. Fixing meters on transformers has also been taken up rigorously under the RDSS.

The Centre's nodal agency for RDSS – the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) – reviewed the

progress of work here over the weekend. REC Chairperson Jitendra Srivastava said the number of teams in the field should be increased to accelerate the metering process and action taken against the infrastructure service providers over their failure to meet targets.

State discoms' Chairperson Arti Dogra and field-level officials of the three discoms in the State attended the review meeting. Various aspects of project management, contract execution, monitoring me-



Under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, the Centre has already released grants for 1.04 lakh consumers in Rajasthan. FILE PHOTO

chanism of discoms, adherence to scheme guidelines, timely recovery of electricity dues, and

timely receipt of subsidy dues were discussed.

Mr. Srivastava said the aggregate technical and

commercial losses had decreased from 17.49% in 2021-22 – prior to the sanction of RDSS works – to 14.26% in 2024-25. Under the PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, applications have been received from 2.36 lakh consumers and solar modules installed for 1.15 lakh.

The Centre has already released grants for 1.04 lakh consumers in Rajasthan. Mr. Srivastava asked the field officials to create awareness on the RDSS among rural consumers and encourage citizens to

avail of its benefits.

The RDSS is aimed at modernising power distribution and making it more efficient and financially stable, with focus on smart metering, infrastructure upgrades and reforms, while funding is linked to performance targets.

Ms. Dogra said the scheme of 150 units of free electricity per month was expected to become popular among consumers after the distribution of State subsidies worth ₹17,000 by the three discoms in Jaipur, Jodhpur and Ajmer.

'Energy storage, green hydrogen to reshape RE sector'

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

In the next five years, technologies like energy storage and green hydrogen would fundamentally reshape India's renewable energy ecosystem, a top executive said.

"Storage will be a game changer in addressing intermittency, enabling renewables to deliver firm, dispatchable power. We are already seeing hybrid projects and battery-backed solutions provide four or more hours of reliable supply, which is critical as industrial and commercial demand rises," said Vaishali Nigam Sinha, co founder and chairperson, sustainability, ReNew Energy in an interview.

Transformative role

"Green hydrogen will play an equally transformative role, particularly in decarbonising hard-to-abate sectors such as steel, cement, fertilizers, and heavy transport," she said.

With the National Green Hydrogen Mission targeting 5 million tonne of production by 2030, supported by dedicated renewable capacity, cost would fall sharply as electrolyser manufacturing scales and renewable power becomes even more competitive.

"Together, storage and green hydrogen will help shift renewables from being perceived as variable to becoming a base load alternative, enabling round-the-clock clean power. This



Vaishali Nigam Sinha

will significantly enhance grid stability, energy security, and India's global competitiveness in clean energy manufacturing and exports," Ms. Sinha added.

Stating India's plan to reach 500 GW of non-fossil capacity by 2030 would require investment of around ₹30 lakh crore, she said it would be mobilised through green bonds, blended finance structures, and multilateral participation, alongside growing interest from global investors seeking long-term, stable returns.

Financing solutions

"We are also seeing increasing momentum around financing solutions for hybrid and storage-backed projects, which reduce risk and improve bankability, especially for industrial and commercial off-takers looking for round-the-clock clean power," she said.

"From a grid integration perspective, investments in green energy corridors, transmission upgrades, and battery storage systems will be critical," she added.

How India's crude oil import basket has undergone change over years

Saptaparno Ghosh
NEW DELHI

Historically, energy security for the world's third-largest oil consumer India has been about navigating the prevailing geopolitics whilst ensuring a positive economics for purchase of crude oil purchases.

From Saudi Arabia accounting for two-thirds of our oil imports, to Russia emerging as the major supplier, New Delhi's crude oil basket has seen multiple policy shifts over the years.

West Asia sourcing

Ranjeet Mehta, CEO & Secretary General at the industry body PHDCCI, notes before 2005, over

70% of the crude oil came from Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran, Kuwait and UAE.

"Our crude oil supplies saw a gradual broadening from 2005 to 2015 and included supplies from Nigeria and Angola in Africa and Venezuela in South America," he observed.

Tehran challenge

In June 2010, The U.N. Security Council sanctioned Iran to stop them from acquiring weapons.

In May 2011, then Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas R.P.N. Singh informed Parliament India had cut down on its Iranian purchases. Subsequently, its share in India's crude basket dropped to



Indian refineries were "well-suited" for Russian oil.

6.2% in 2015-16. Sanctions on Iran were lifted in 2016. In the later years Tehran's share in India's oil imports fell to a little over 10%.

Russian oil

The next big change in India's basket happened in

2022. Moscow's actions in Ukraine, starting February 2022, mired them in multiple sanctions from the European Union and the U.S. China and India, among the biggest oil consumers globally, however, continued to purchase Russian oil, which was now available at a discount.

While Russia accounted for less than 2% of India's crude oil imports in 2021-22, this jumped to 21.6% in 2022-23.

Thereafter, Russia's share further went up to 35.9% in 2023-24 and 35.8% in 2024-25.

At present, oil from Moscow accounts for one-third of the overall crude import basket.

Bearish inclination

CRUDE CHECK. Short MCX crude oil futures

Akhil Nallamuthu
bl. research bureau

Brent crude oil futures on the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) (\$60.20/barrel) was down 0.4 per cent whereas crude oil futures in the domestic market (₹5,182/barrel) rose 1.5 per cent. Here is our outlook and trade recommendation.

BRENT FUTURES (\$60.20)

Brent crude oil futures opened last week on the front foot and rallied. But then, it lost momentum after facing resistance at \$62.20. The trendline also coincided at this level, making it a strong barrier to break.

Friday's decline shows that the bears are regaining traction. However, there are support levels ahead at \$60 and \$58.50. The latter has been holding well since April.

Given the aforementioned factors, there is a good chance for the contract to remain within \$58.50 and \$63 in the near future.

MCX-CRUDE OIL (₹5,182)

Crude oil futures (January) was moving up until Thursday albeit along with a drop in momentum.



On Friday though, there was a sharp drop in price.

The contract faced a resistance at ₹5,300. Also, the 50-day moving average, at ₹5,275, acted as a hurdle. The price action since November shows that crude oil futures has been forming lower highs and lower lows. From the current level, the likelihood of a decline is high.

That said, there is a support ahead at ₹5,000, which can arrest the decline. Just below this is another support at ₹4,800.

Overall, the room for a decline looks limited. At the same time, the likelihood of a rally is low.

Trade strategy: Traders with higher risk appetite can short crude oil futures (January) at ₹5,230.

Target and stop-loss can be ₹5,000 and ₹5,330 respectively.

Online

Headline	India's global green hydrogen hub ambitions remain a non-starter		
Publication	Fortune India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	27 Dec 2025		

India's global green hydrogen hub ambitions remain a non-starter

<https://www.fortuneindia.com/business-news/indias-global-green-hydrogen-hub-ambitions-remain-a-non-starter/129053>

Almost two years after the launch of the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM), India's ambition of becoming a global hub for green hydrogen production, consumption and exports remains largely unrealised.

Despite a flurry of announcements, most projects are still on paper, with actual construction and operations lagging far behind targets and plans.

Of the 158 green hydrogen projects announced so far, just 0.1% or 9,770 tonnes per annum (TPA) is under construction, while only 2.8% (0.3 million metric tonnes per annum, MMTPA) was operational as of August 2025. Data from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) shows that nearly 94% of the announced green hydrogen capacity around 11.2 MMTPA remains at the announcement stage, with key details such as financing, offtake agreements and timelines yet to be finalised, according to experts at the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis (IEEFA).

Although the announced capacity is nearly 2.4 times the government's target, reflecting strong investor interest in India's green hydrogen story, there are concerns about how much of this capacity will actually materialise, says Charith Konda, Energy Specialist at IEEFA. Challenges around adoption and demand remain unresolved.

So far, the limited progress has come primarily from captive projects, such as oil refining and fertiliser manufacturing, where hydrogen demand is guaranteed. Beyond these sectors, projects face major hurdles uncertain demand, high production costs, lack of standard definitions, and weak infrastructure for storage and transport, say experts.

Industry estimates suggest India's total hydrogen demand could reach 1520 MMTPA by 2030. With strong policy support, green hydrogen demand could rise to 4.086.57 MMTPA, driven by new applications in steel, transport, chemicals and exports. Launched in January 2023 with an outlay of 19,700 crore, the NGHM aims to enable 5 MMTPA of green hydrogen production by 2030, requiring investments of over 8 lakh crore (USD 90.5 billion). The government expects global demand for green hydrogen and its derivatives such as green ammonia to exceed 100 MMTPA by 2030, with India potentially capturing 10% of the export market.

Demand remains the weakest link

The biggest concern for investors is the absence of firm buyers. Globally, only 6% of planned green hydrogen capacity has secured offtake agreements, leaving about 94% or 212 million tonnes, without committed buyers, experts say. Without anchor customers, projects struggle to reach financial closure. India faces a similar challenge. While the NGHM sets production targets, it does not mandate purchase obligations for existing hydrogen consumers or potential users. Demand is expected to emerge organically from corporate initiatives and long-term climate goals, making it difficult to bank on.

The demand for green hydrogen and its derivatives is expected to come from three sources replacing grey hydrogen, new applications in hard-to-abate sectors, and exports, says Kaira Rakheja, Energy Analyst at IEEFA.

High costs and infrastructure gaps

Cost remains another major barrier. While industry leaders such as Mukesh Ambani have spoken of producing green hydrogen at USD 1 per kg, current costs in India are still around USD 36 per kg.

Although India benefits from low solar tariffs of 2.53 per kWh, electrolyser costs remain high, ranging from 26,500 to 1,06,000 per kW, depending on technology and scale. The lack of domestic manufacturing capacity is also a concern. To meet the 5 MMTPA target, India would need 60100 GW of electrolyser capacity by 2030, but by August 2025, only 3 GW had been awarded. Similarly, to operationalise 5 MMTPA of green hydrogen, the country will have to add about 125 gigawatts (GW) of additional renewable energy capacity.

Equally critical is infrastructure. Hydrogen storage and transport via pipelines, high-pressure cylinders and cryogenic tanks are expensive. When built as standalone facilities for individual projects, distribution and storage costs can be up to three times the cost of production, compared with shared infrastructure.

According to IEEFA, the sector needs clear demand-side signals to move forward. Measures such as green hydrogen purchase obligations, a globally accepted emissions accounting framework, and the creation of large, shared hydrogen hubs could help bridge the gap between ambition and execution.

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Headline	Why KG Basin could trigger a showdown between the government and RIL in 2026		
Publication	Fortune India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	27 Dec 2025		

Why KG Basin could trigger a showdown between the government and RIL in 2026

<https://www.fortuneindia.com/business-news/why-kg-basin-could-trigger-a-showdown-between-the-government-and-ril-in-2026/129054>

A \$247 claim by the government will go to arbitration, while the Supreme Court will decide on the gas migration issue.

The Krishna-Godavari (KG) basin, India's largest offshore oil and gas exploration province, is likely to emerge as a flashpoint between Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL) and the central government in 2026 as two long-pending disputes are set to come up for legal deliberation in the coming months.

RIL and its partners cumulatively invested over \$10 billion in the hydrocarbon blocks, off the Andhra coast, since its discovery in the early 2000s. Considering the near peak gas production, high depreciation and the government administered pricing mechanism in place, the operator and its partner witness slow cost recovery.

While RIL and its existing partner UK-based BP Exploration (Alpha) Ltd and the former partner Niko will contest the central government's gas siphoning allegation in the Supreme Court, the operator RIL will simultaneously defend a \$247 million claim by the government for additional profit petroleum in arbitration procedure.

Starting February 25, the Supreme Court will hear appeals filed by the Mukesh Ambani-led firm and its partners challenging a Delhi High Court ruling in the KG-D6 gas migration dispute.

RIL has challenged the High Court order that upheld the Centre's claim that the operator and its consortium partners siphoned gas from deposits belonging to a neighbouring ONGC block. In a setback for RIL, the Delhi High Court in February overturned a 2018 international arbitral award that had ruled in favour of RIL and its partners.

The long-running dispute over the government's \$247 million claim arose after the Centre disallowed recovery of a portion of the capital expenditure incurred by the RIL-led consortium, citing delays in achieving production targets. Low gas prices were another reason that discouraged further investment by operators for a prolonged period.

In 2023, the government approved a revised gas pricing regime aimed at protecting consumers from volatility. A new Administered Price Mechanism (APM) for natural gas was introduced, linking prices from old fields to 10% of the Indian crude basket. After the last price revision from April 2025, the rate for difficult fields such as RIL's KG-D6 was set at \$10.04 per metric million British thermal unit (mmBtu) for six months beginning April 1, compared with \$10.16 per mmBtu in the preceding six-month period.

India's natural gas output has shown a muted performance over the last two financial years after three consecutive years of growth, as the production outlook remained uncertain at RIL's KG Basin fields, which had earlier been at the forefront of the industry's expansion.

RIL reported that its E&P business delivered an EBITDA of 21,188 crore in FY25, up around 4.9% year-on-year, supported by higher gas and condensate production from KG-D6 and the CBM portfolio. The average price realised for KG-D6 gas was \$9.65 per mmBtu in FY25, compared with \$10.1 per mmBtu in FY24. The average price realised for CBM gas was \$10.95 per mmBtu in FY25, versus \$14.43 per mmBtu in FY24. The depreciation was high at 5,348 crore. It further increased in the first half of FY26 to 2,900 crore as against 2,687 crore in the same period of previous year.

In the second quarter of FY26, the average price realised for KG-D6 gas rose to \$9.97 per mmBtu. Despite this increase, EBITDA declined 5.4% year-on-year to 5,002 crore due to lower revenues and higher operating costs linked to periodic maintenance activities. Average KG-D6 production in 2Q FY26 stood at 26.1 MMSCMD of gas and 18,746 barrels per day of oil and condensate.

In 2011, BP Plc acquired a 30% interest in RIL's portfolio of exploration and production assets in the offshore, which include KG D6. RIL and its partners, in 2019 announced an investment of \$5 billion to develop three deep-water gas discoveries in KG-D6the R Cluster, Satellite Cluster and MJ fields. The R Cluster began production in December 2020,

the Satellite Cluster came onstream in 2021, and MJ started production in 2023. In earlier annual disclosures, the KG-D6 fields were cited as collectively producing around 30 MMSCMD of gas, accounting for a significant share, estimated at around 30%, of India's domestic gas production.

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Headline	ATTSA और ATTWA ने असम के ऑयल एंड नेचुरल गैस कॉर्पोरेशन (ONGC) हेडक्वार्टर पर विरोध प्रदर्शन		
Publication	Janta Se Rishta	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	27 Dec 2025		

ATTSA और ATTWA ने असम के ऑयल एंड नेचुरल गैस कॉर्पोरेशन (ONGC) हेडक्वार्टर पर विरोध प्रदर्शन

<https://www.jantaserishta.com/local/assam/attsa-and-attwa-protest-at-oil-and-natural-gas-corporation-ongc-headquarters-in-assam-4479040>

AM NAZIRA नाज़िरा: 24 दिसंबर को असम टी ट्राइब्स स्टूडेंट्स एसोसिएशन (ATTSA) और असम टी ट्राइब्स विमेंस एसोसिएशन (ATTWA) के बड़े धरने के बाद, नाज़िरा में ऑयल एंड नेचुरल गैस कॉर्पोरेशन (ONGC) के असम एसेट हेडक्वार्टर में नॉर्मल कामकाज पूरी तरह से रुक गया।

यह विरोध प्रदर्शन तेल और गैस की खोज और प्रोडक्शन के कामों के लिए चाय बागानों को खाली कराने के विरोध में और इस तरह की बेदखली के बाद चाय समुदाय से किए गए वादों को ONGC द्वारा पूरा न करने के विरोध में किया गया था। चाय इंडस्ट्री, जिसने असम को ग्लोबल इकॉनमी से जोड़ने में अहम भूमिका निभाई है, अब उस चीज़ का सामना कर रही है जिसे प्रदर्शनकारियों ने सिस्टमैटिक तबाही बताया। प्रदर्शनकारियों ने आरोप लगाया कि ONGC, जो एक महारत्न पब्लिक सेक्टर अंडरटेकिंग है, चाय बागानों के इलाकों में तेल और गैस निकाल रही है, जिससे चाय समुदाय बेघर हो रहा है और उनकी रोजी-रोटी का मुख्य ज़रिया खतरे में पड़ गया है।

Assam : खुमटाई में बाइक रैली से सड़क सुरक्षा और नशा मुक्ति के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाई गई

देश की इकॉनमी में ONGC के अहम योगदान को मानते हुए, प्रदर्शनकारियों ने दावा किया कि असम में, कॉर्पोरेशन की गतिविधियों की वजह से चाय बागानों की ज़मीन खाली कराई गई, जिससे चाय समुदाय आर्थिक और सामाजिक रूप से हाशिए पर चला गया।

ATTSA और ATTWA के मुताबिक, ONGC ने चाय बागानों की ज़मीन खरीदने के बदले कई वादे किए थे, जिसमें चाय समुदाय के पढ़े-लिखे बेरोज़गार युवाओं को नौकरी देना और D-Pharma, ANM, और GNM जैसे प्रोफेशनल कोर्स में मुफ्त एडमिशन शामिल थे। लेकिन, कहा जाता है कि ये वादे सालों से पूरे नहीं हुए हैं।

बराक घाटी में कांग्रेस को झटका, मैमोल समुदाय ने BJP को समर्थन देने की बात दोहराई

विरोध के बाद, ONGC असम एसेट के एग्जीक्यूटिव डायरेक्टर को सात पॉइंट का एक मांग पत्र सौंपा गया। मांगों में शामिल हैं डी-फार्मा, एएनएम और जीएनएम कोर्स को ONGC और केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय की घोषणा के अनुसार पूरी तरह से मुफ्त करना, GKB ZED तेल कुएं तक 2 किलोमीटर सड़क का निर्माण, दिल्ली पब्लिक स्कूल और एक गोल्फ क्लब की स्थापना के लिए 1992 में लिगिरी पुखुरी चाय बागान से अधिग्रहित भूमि से संबंधित कथित धोखाधड़ी को समाप्त करना, जिसके कई वादे अभी भी अधूरे हैं, नई GGS-2 स्थापना में चाय समुदाय के शिक्षित बेरोज़गार युवाओं की 60 प्रतिशत भर्ती सुनिश्चित करना, शिवबाड़ी चाय बागान अस्पताल को अपग्रेड करना, हाटीपट्टी चाय बागान में एक पुस्तकालय स्थापित करना और तेल क्षेत्र में स्थित प्रत्येक चाय बागान को एक एम्बुलेंस प्रदान करना। ज्ञापन ATTSA नाज़िरा शाखा के अध्यक्ष संजय गोवाला और कार्यवाहक सचिव रमेश करमाकर के हस्ताक्षरों के तहत सौंपा गया था। उन्होंने चेतावनी दी कि यदि उनकी मांगों को लागू नहीं किया गया, तो संगठन ONGC के संचालन को पूरी तरह से बंद करने सहित और अधिक तीव्र विरोध प्रदर्शन शुरू करने के लिए मजबूर होंगे।

Headline	ONGC Announces Recruitment for Director (Production) Position		
Publication	PSU Connect	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	27 Dec 2025		

ONGC Announces Recruitment for Director (Production) Position

<https://www.psuconnect.in/Jobs/ongc-announces-recruitment-for-director-production-position>

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) invites applications for Director (Production) post. Submit applications online via PESB portal by January 16, 2026.

New Delhi: Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) , a Maharatna PSU under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas , has officially opened applications for the prestigious position of Director (Production) . Established in 1956 and ranked among the Fortune Global 500 and Forbes Global 2000 , ONGC has been a leading provider of energy solutions for India for over six decades.

The Director (Production) will be a member of the Board of Directors , reporting directly to the Chairman & CEO . The role involves overseeing offshore and onshore oil and gas production operations , including management of processing plants and reservoir optimization , as well as scouting for new technologies and leading strategic initiatives across the organization.

Key Responsibilities:

Managing performance of offshore and onshore production assets and processing plants.

Planning and executing field monetization strategies aligned with ONGC's corporate goals.

Ensuring sustained and improved production of oil, gas, and value-added products.

Identifying opportunities for external collaborations to enhance production.

Formulating strategies for optimal resource utilization in collaboration with the ONGC Board.

Eligibility Criteria:

Age: Minimum 45 years, with residual service as per superannuation.

Education: Engineering graduate from a recognized university; PG/ MBA/PGDM or relevant geoscience degree is preferred.

Experience: Minimum 5 years in E&P production activities in a large, reputed organization; experience with offshore production units is highly desirable.

Employment Status: Applicants must be in regular employment at the time of application in CPSEs, Central/State Government, PSBs, autonomous bodies, or private companies with annual turnover of Rs. 10,000 crore or more.

Pay Scale:

IDA / CDA pay scales applicable depending on the applicant's background, with a salary range up to Rs. 3,40,000 per month

Application Process:

Applications must be submitted online through the PESB portal <https://pesb.gov.in> . Applicants from government and PSU sectors must forward their applications through the proper channels , while private sector candidates can apply directly online.

Important Dates:

Last date for submission by applicants: 16th January 2026, 3:00 PM.

Last date for forwarding by nodal officers to PESB: 27th January 2026, 5:00 PM.

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About ONGC:

ONGC is India's largest integrated oil and gas company , actively engaged in exploration, production, refining, LNG, power, petrochemicals, and renewable energy . Through its subsidiary ONGC Videsh Limited , it also operates internationally in upstream E&P projects. In 2024, ONGC Green Ltd. was incorporated to expand into renewable energy initiatives.

This is a unique board-level career opportunity for experienced professionals in the oil and gas sector , offering a chance to contribute to India's energy security and strategic resource management.

Headline	ONGC Bids Farewell to Shri Deepak Tandon on Superannuation		
Publication	PSU Connect	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	27 Dec 2025		

ONGC Bids Farewell to Shri Deepak Tandon on Superannuation

<https://www.psuconnect.in/psu-news/ongc-bids-farewell-to-shri-deepak-tdandon-on-superannuation>

ONGC honors Shri Deepak Tandon on his superannuation after 36+ years of service. He led carbon management, sustainability, and key operations across India, leaving a legacy of professionalism and energy sector contributions.

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (#ONGC) honors Shri Deepak Tandon, Executive Director & Head Carbon Management and Sustainability, on his superannuation after an illustrious career spanning over three decades in India's #energy sector.

An M.Sc. in Chemistry, Shri Tandon joined ONGC in 1989 and built a versatile career across technical and strategic domains, including mud services, effluent treatment plants, offshore operations, corporate planning, drilling fluid services, and carbon management & sustainability.

Shri Tandon served at key ONGC locations such as Ankleshwar, Assam, Mumbai, and Delhi, bringing operational insights into policy and strategic planning. In his final role, he significantly advanced ONGC's carbon management and sustainability initiatives, reinforcing the company's commitment to responsible operations and energy transition.

Respected for his leadership, analytical approach, and balanced decision-making, Shri Tandon leaves behind a legacy of professionalism, integrity, and enduring contributions to ONGC's growth.

Headline	Severe Environmental Crisis Hits Rupahi Pathar following Crude Oil Spill from ONGC Pipeline		
Publication	Prag News	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	27 Dec 2025		

Severe Environmental Crisis Hits Rupahi Pathar following Crude Oil Spill from ONGC Pipeline

<https://pragnews.com/en/severe-environmental-crisis-hits-rupahi-pathar-following-crude-oil-spill-from-ongc-pipeline>

The historic Rupahi Pathar is facing a severe environmental crisis due to a crude oil spill from an ONGC pipeline

This alarming incident has contaminated crucial habitats for migratory birds

Extensive agricultural land has been severely damaged

Digital Desk: The historic Rupahi Pathar is facing a severe environmental crisis due to a crude oil spill from an ONGC pipeline, which has spread across a significant portion of the once-pristine fields.

This alarming incident has contaminated crucial habitats for migratory birds, raising ecological concerns.

Furthermore, extensive agricultural land has been severely damaged, leaving the local farming community deeply worried about their livelihoods.

The spill also threatens the Sankari cultural heritage project of Rupahi Pathar, a vital initiative for preserving the region's cultural identity.

It is suspected that the leak originated from the pipeline connecting Rudrasagar oil field's Mathadang No. 2 GGS to the Geleki CTF.

Shockingly, even after two days, the GGS authorities have failed to visit the site or take necessary action, and the administration has yet to implement concrete measures to address the situation.

Frustrated and angered by the inaction, local residents have expressed their outrage, warning of protest against ONGC for the environmental and economic damage caused by the spill.

Headline	INDIAN COAST GUARD CONDUCTS REGIONAL LEVEL POLLUTION RESPONSE EXERCISE (RPREX – 25) OFF MUMBAI		
Publication	Real Mirror News	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	27 Dec 2025		

INDIAN COAST GUARD CONDUCTS REGIONAL LEVEL POLLUTION RESPONSE EXERCISE (RPREX – 25) OFF MUMBAI

<https://realmirrornews.in/2025/12/indian-coast-guard-conducts-regional-level-pollution-response-exercise-rprex-25-off-mumbai/>

INDIAN COAST GUARD CONDUCTS REGIONAL LEVEL POLLUTION RESPONSE (RMN.IN) 1. With increasing maritime trade activities in Indian Ocean

region, threat of marine pollution continues to be a risk to Indian Waters. Further gravity of the situation escalates once the oil reaches ashore. To fight such disaster of oil spill, a robust mechanism needs to be in place. Given the vast coastline of India, coordination and involvement of all the stakeholders is an inescapable requirement to effectively fight the oil pollution at sea. Marine Spill Response is a collective responsibility of both ICG and stakeholders. Indian Coast Guard has been designated as the Central Coordinating Authority for co-ordinating oil response in Indian waters and undertaking oil spill prevention and control.

2. Indian Coast Guard regularly conducts Pollution Response Exercise in order to validate the preparedness of all the stakeholders in combating oil spill in accordance with National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Planning (NOSDCP). Regional Level Pollution Response exercise (RPREX-2025) was conducted on 26 Dec 25 off Mumbai. The Initial planning conference (IPC) was conducted on 18 Dec 25 which included Presentations, lectures by various stakeholders and a Tabletop exercise. On 26 Dec 25, the sea exercise was conducted to simulate oil spill response and control measures.

3. In the exercise, a situation was developed wherein a distress call was received from a Motor Tanker vessel reporting an oil spill due to hole onboard, post collision with a fishing boat, resulting heavy spillage of crude oil into the sea. To combat the spill, a specialised Indian Coast Guard Pollution Control Vessel alongwith 02 additional ICG ships, were deployed in pollution response configuration. MbPA and ONGC also deployed their assets including a OSR vessels for combating the spill. The exercise also witnessed a large scale participation from stakeholders, fisheries dept, Dept. of forests and ensuring preparedness for undertaking pollution response measures.

4. RPREX-2025 tested the efficiency of pollution response capabilities of various stakeholders involved. MbPA, ONGC, Forest Dept (Mangroove Cell), Coastal Police, Fisheries dept, JSW Port, Angre Port, CISF and Oil handling agencies participated in the exercise.