



## **ONGC News, 17.01.2021 Print**

ATF price up 3%; petrol, diesel unchanged after hitting new high	Millennium Post	2	Bureau	Neutral
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# ATF price up 3%; petrol, diesel unchanged after hitting new highs

## OUR CORRESPONDENT

**NEW DELHI:** Jet fuel or ATF price on Saturday was hiked by 3 per cent - the fourth increase in two months on firming international oil prices, while petrol and diesel rates remained unchanged after hitting new highs.

Aviation turbine fuel (ATF) price was raised by Rs 1,512.38 per kilolitre, or 2.96 per cent, to Rs 52,491.16 per kl in the national capital, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

This is the fourth increase in price since December 1, 2020. Rates had gone up by 7.6 per cent (Rs 3,288.38 per kl) on December 1, by 6.3 per cent (Rs 2,941.5 per kl) on December 16 and by Rs 1,817.62 (3.69 per cent) on January 1.

ATF prices are revised on 1st and 16th of every month based on the average price of benchmark international rate and foreign exchange rate in

the preceding fortnight.

In Mumbai, ATF price on Saturday went up to Rs 50,596.02 per kl from Rs 49,083.65 per kl.

Prices vary from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes.

The increase in the price of ATF, which makes for close to 40 per cent of the running cost of an airline, will put additional burden on airlines that have been struggling to return to normal business after COVID-19 lockdown had halted their operations.

After rising to record levels, petrol and diesel prices were unchanged for the second day on Saturday. Petrol on January 14 touched an all-time high of Rs 84.70 per litre in Delhi. In Mumbai, the price of petrol at Rs 91.32 a litre is just 2 paise lower than the highest ever rate of Rs 91.34 hit on October 4, 2018.

Diesel price in Mumbai, however, is at a record high of Rs 81.60 per litre. In Delhi, it comes for Rs 74.88 a litre, lower

than its all-time high rate of Rs 75.45 a litre touched on October 4, 2018.

The government had responded to the situation in October 2018, by cutting excise duty on petrol and diesel by Rs 1.50 per litre in a bid to ease inflationary pressure and boost consumer confidence. Alongside, state-owned fuel retailers cut prices by another Re 1 a litre, which they recouped later.

There are demands in some quarters for a reduction in excise duty to ease the burden on consumers.

Excise duty totals Rs 32.98 per litre in petrol and Rs 31.83 in diesel. VAT in Delhi totals to Rs 19.32 a litre on petrol and Rs 10.85 on diesel.

With international oil prices rebounding from the lows of April, retail rates in India too were revised. Since May 2020, petrol price has risen by Rs 15.04 per litre and diesel by Rs 12.50 a litre, price notifications of oil companies showed.

# Fuel demand falters in first half of January

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**New Delhi:** India's fuel sales faltered in the first fortnight of January as festive and holiday season demands evaporated, indicating the economy may be pausing to catch its breath.

Latest market data show diesel demand falling 3.5% short of the same period of 2020. This shows a slowing demand as compared to December when sales had risen to 97% of the pre-pandemic level.

Growth in petrol sales also appeared to have flattened as car sales dropped to their lowest in a decade. Petrol sales clocked 8.5% growth over January 2020, nearly the same as in December.

The year-on-year numbers may not appear alarming, partly because of the base effect. But the trend of demand slowing becomes all too clear when compared against the first fortnight of December. Data show diesel demand in the first fortnight of January down 6.6%

from the same period of December. Petrol too sold 6% less than the same fortnight a month ago.

Jet fuel sales were 48% down from the same period of 2020 as the number of flights still remain curtailed. Here too signs of faltering demand become evident, considering sales were only 43% short of the pre-pandemic level in December. Compared to the first fortnight of December, sales were down nearly 5% in the period under review.

LPG continued to remain in positive territory with over 5% growth over a year ago but was 0.6% down from the first fortnight of December.

Diesel consumption, one of the key barometers of economic activity, had covered slack to reach 97% of the year-ago period in December. It had dropped 7% from the year-ago period in November after shooting past the pre-pandemic level for the first time in eight months in October by clocking a 6% year-on-year growth.

# ATF prices raised for fourth time in 2 months

Petrol, diesel remain unchanged

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI

Jet fuel, or ATF, price on Saturday was hiked by 3% – the fourth increase in two months – on firming international oil prices, while petrol and diesel rates remained unchanged after hitting new highs.

Aviation turbine fuel (ATF) price was raised by ₹1,512.38 per kilolitre (kl), or 2.96%, to ₹52,491.16 per kl in the national capital, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

This is the fourth increase in price since December 1. Rates had gone up by 7.6% (₹3,288.38 per kl) on December 1, by 6.3% (₹2,941.5



per kl) on December 16 and by ₹1,817.62 (3.69%) on January 1.

The increase in ATF price, which makes for close to 40% of the running cost of an airline, will put additional burden on airlines that have been struggling to return to normal business after COVID-19 lockdown had halted their operations.

## BRIEFLY

### ATF price up 3%; no change in petrol, diesel

*New Delhi:* Jet fuel, or ATF, price on Saturday was hiked by 3 per cent, the fourth hike in two months, while petrol and diesel rates remained unchanged after hitting new highs. ATF price was up by Rs 1,512.38 per kilolitre, or 2.96 per cent, to Rs 52,491.16 per kL in Delhi, a notification of state-run fuel retailers said.