



ONGC News as on 06 June 2026 (Print & Online)

Publication : Amar Ujala (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 21

Headline: Signs of gas reserves found in the Andaman Sea

अंडमान सागर में मिले गैस भंडार के संकेत

नई दिल्ली। भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा को मजबूती देने वाली एक महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि में सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की कंपनी ऑयल इंडिया लि. को अंडमान सागर में प्राकृतिक गैस की मौजूदगी के संकेत मिले हैं।

केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने इस उपलब्धि पर ऑयल इंडिया लि. को बधाई देते हुए इसे देश के लिए ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में नए अवसरों का द्वार बताया है। सोशल मीडिया पोस्ट में पुरी ने



लिखा, अंडमान सागर में ऊर्जा संभावनाओं का एक नया अध्याय खुलता दिखाई दे रहा है। ऑयल इंडिया लि. की ओर से अंडमान द्वीपसमूह के पूर्वी तट से लगभग 15 किलोमीटर दूर और 355 मीटर जल गहराई वाले क्षेत्र में श्री विजयपुरम-3 नामक अन्वेषण कुएं की ड्रिलिंग की गई थी। इसी भू-स्तर में 1900 मीटर से अधिक की गहराई पर किए गए परीक्षणों के दौरान प्राकृतिक गैस मौजूद होने की पुष्टि हुई है। ब्यूरो

Puri launches E85 fuel; to be 20% cheaper than E20 petrol

SUDHEER PAL SINGH
New Delhi, 5 June

Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Friday launched petrol blended with 85 per cent ethanol, also called E85 or flex-fuel, at an Indian Oil petrol pump in Delhi. The cleaner fuel will be priced 20 per cent lower than the price of the E20 variant of petrol.

"We have consciously structured the pricing to ensure the consumers are more than adequately compensated for any lack in calorific value, by making E85 approximately ₹20 per litre cheaper than E20 blended fuel. This is a major plus," Puri

said at the launch event. E20 fuel at Indian oil pumps is priced identical to regular petrol of ₹102.12 per litre.

The scaling up of E85, by making it available at 5,000 retail pumps by December 2027, will help raise India's aggregate ethanol blending levels to nearly 26 per cent by 2030-31, the petroleum ministry said. The launch comes a day after the unveiling of India's first mass-market flex-fuel car, the Maruti Suzuki Wagon R Flex Fuel, developed to run on ethanol-petrol blends ranging from E20 up to E85.

Puri said consumers should switch to E85 fuel also because its use allows Green

House Gas (GHG) emission reduction of 61 per cent compared to conventional petrol vehicles.

Puri said the new fuel was meant exclusively for especially-designed flex-fuel vehicles equipped with compatible engines, and the transition towards E85 vehicles will be guided by rigorous testing and validation by automobile manufacturers over time.

"I am in support of electric vehicles, but they require technology and critical minerals that are largely imported, but the E85 fuel is produced by the sweat and toil of the Indian farmers. E85 is at present the cleanest option in India."

Pradhan put to the test



PLAIN POLITICS

ADITI PHADNIS

As empires go, the Ministry of Education (MoE) is huge. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), which is autonomous but under the overall supervision of the ministry, alone covers more than 25,000 schools in 26 countries with four million students (X and XII classes). The Department of Higher Education is responsible for the governance of 57 central universities, 49,565 affiliated colleges, and 537 state (private) and 437 (public) universities. Enrolment (2021-22), including in Institutions of National Importance like Indian Institutes of Technology, was around 40 million students. The National Testing Agency (NTA), under the ministry, conducts many of the examinations for these institutions. And all this is only a fraction of the ministry's responsibilities.

The man who oversees all this is Dharmendra Pradhan. It isn't that leaks have not happened before under other ministers and governments. But in the space of two months, several National Eligibility Cum Entrance Test (Undergraduate) or NEET-UG papers have leaked. Class XII marksheets have been "wrongly" marked, possibly because of the hasty adoption of digital evaluation. Students' faith in the evaluation system has been shaken to the core: Demands for re-evaluation have plunged the CBSE into chaos. The element of urgency is underlined by the fact that colleges will start admission in a few weeks. The government has responded by

removing top officials of the CBSE. The Congress says "Mantri Pradhan" should take responsibility and quit.

Is Mr Pradhan in trouble? Or is trouble following him in his ministries?

He has been India's longest-serving petroleum minister, starting out as minister of state with independent charge and then Cabinet minister (together from 2014 to 2021). During his tenure, he said emphatically that the government had no business being in business and initiated the privatisation of the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL), aiming to end the government's 52.9 per cent stake in the company. "There is a lot of interest," he told reporters in 2020. Except that it never happened. In 2022, with just one bidder left in the ring, the government scrapped the exercise. His successor, Hardeep Puri, has ruled out the privatisation of any and all oil majors.

Mr Pradhan was given additional charge of the Ministry of Skill Development between 2017 and 2019, just after demonetisation, a period that was devastating for those who aspired to placement. The pandemic followed, dealing another death blow. Crowning achievements in the ministry were hard to come by. He was given additional charge of the Ministry of Education in 2021. Currently, schools are wondering how they will carry out the CBSE order mandating children must study three languages (of which two must be Indian languages), given the undercapacity of the teaching staff. The policy, which is under Supreme Court review, must be rolled out in July.

In politics, however, Mr Pradhan has had significantly more success. He is from Talcher, central Odisha. His father, Debendra Pradhan, was active in politics and became a minister in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government. Mr Pradhan became an activist with the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) and became presi-

dent of students' union of Talcher College as a first-year fresher.

For a young Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) activist, it was hard working in Odisha. Vajpayee and L K Advani's bond with Biju Patnaik meant the BJP could not attack the ruling party in the state. Those who managed to keep their balance while having a foot in two boats — the BJP and the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) — were more successful in politics than a doughty BJP fighter like Mr Pradhan.

Take, for example, Ashwini Vaishnaw, who started out as a bureaucrat and served the Vajpayee government with the blessing of Naveen Patnaik, got a Rajya Sabha seat and is now a highly valued minister in the Modi government, though he still can't bring himself to attack his previous mentor who is in the Opposition. By contrast, Mr Pradhan, who toiled long and hard for the BJP, built it up in Odisha and helped install the party in government, now commands the loyalty of the largest number of BJP members of the Legislative Assembly but was not made chief minister.

Mr Pradhan is not an especially charismatic leader or a brilliant orator. But his understanding of realpolitik and organisational dynamics makes him the ultimate party man. He has overseen Assembly elections for the BJP in Karnataka, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand and, of course, Odisha, before Haryana, where he helped steward the BJP to a stunning victory. In his own state, there isn't a party worker he doesn't know by name, even the ones who have turned rebel: And is not averse to reaching out to rebels even if he himself was responsible for having them dropped in the first place.

After all the controversies in his ministries, Mr Pradhan may need to reinvent himself. The party is now headed by one of his juniors, Nitin Nabin. One option is lateral movement in the central government. But that is not in his hands.



Publication : Business Standard

Editions : New Delhi

Date : 6 June 2026

Page : 8

OIL discovers fresh natural gas in Andaman offshore block

Oil India Ltd (OIL) announced a second "presence" of natural gas in its shallow Andaman offshore block on Friday. The presence was reported at a water depth of 355 metres in a third exploratory well Vijayapuram-3, drilled 15 kilometres off the east coast of the Andaman islands. OIL explorer has now established the presence of hydrocarbon in two of the three exploratory wells drilled so far at the AN-OSHP-2018/1 block, awarded under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy. The company had reported the occurrence of natural gas in second exploratory well Vijayapuram-2 in September 2025. **BS REPORTER**

धर्मेंद्र प्रधान का मुश्किलों से नहीं छूट रहा पीछा

शिक्षा मंत्रालय अपने आप में किसी विशाल साम्राज्य से कम नहीं है। स्वायत्त कहलाने वाला केंद्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड (सीबीएसई) शिक्षा मंत्रालय की निगरानी में काम करता है। सीबीएसई के तहत 26 देशों में 25,000 से अधिक स्कूल और 40 लाख छात्र (कक्षा 10वीं और 12वीं) आते हैं। उच्च शिक्षा विभाग 57 केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालयों, कुल 49,565 संबद्ध महाविद्यालयों, राज्यों के स्तर पर 537 निजी और 437 सार्वजनिक विश्वविद्यालयों का संचालन करता है।

भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (आईआईटी) जैसे राष्ट्रीय महत्त्व के संस्थानों सहित इन उच्च शिक्षण संस्थानों में वर्ष 2021-22 तक कुल लगभग 4 करोड़ छात्रों ने दाखिला लिया था। शिक्षा मंत्रालय के अधीन राष्ट्रीय परीक्षण एजेंसी (एनटीए) इन संस्थानों के लिए कई परीक्षाएं आयोजित करती है। यह सब मंत्रालय की जिम्मेदारियों का महज एक छोटा सा हिस्सा है। इन सभी पर निगरानी रखने का दायित्व शिक्षा मंत्री धर्मेंद्र प्रधान पर है।

ऐसा नहीं है कि पहले अन्य मंत्रियों और सरकारों के कार्यकाल में परीक्षाओं के प्रश्न पत्र लीक नहीं हुए मगर महज दो महीनों के भीतर ही राष्ट्रीय पात्रता सह-प्रवेश परीक्षा (स्नातक) या नोट-यूजी के कई प्रश्न पत्र लीक हो गए हैं। कक्षा 12 के अंक पत्रों में अशुद्धियां पाई गई हैं। संभवतः डिजिटल मूल्यांकन व्यवस्था जल्दबाजी में अपनाने के कारण ऐसा हुआ होगा। खैर, कारण जो भी मगर मूल्यांकन प्रणाली पर छात्रों का विश्वास पूरी तरह डगमगा गया है। पुनर्मूल्यांकन की मांग ने सीबीएसई को अराजकता की स्थिति में धकेल दिया है। स्थिति की गंभीरता इस बात से और भी बढ़ जाती है कि

कुछ ही सप्ताह में कॉलेजों में दाखिला शुरू हो जाएगा। सरकार ने शीर्ष अधिकारियों को बर्खास्त कर इन घटनाक्रम को गंभीरता से लेने के संकेत दिए हैं। दूसरी तरफ विपक्षी दल कांग्रेस का कहना है कि 'मंत्री प्रधान' को जिम्मेदारी लेनी चाहिए और तत्काल इस्तीफा दे देना चाहिए।

क्या धर्मेंद्र प्रधान वाकई मुश्किल में हैं? या उनके मंत्रालयों में मुसीबतें लगातार उनका पीछा करती रही हैं?

वह भारत के सबसे लंबे समय तक कार्यभार संभालने वाले पेट्रोलियम मंत्री रहे हैं। प्रधान ने स्वतंत्र प्रभार वाले राज्यमंत्री के साथ शुरुआत की थी और फिर कैबिनेट मंत्री बनाए गए। अपने कार्यकाल के दौरान उन्होंने स्पष्ट रूप से कहा कि सरकार का कारोबार में कोई दखल नहीं होना चाहिए और उन्होंने भारत पेट्रोलियम निगम लिमिटेड (बीपीसीएल) के निजीकरण की दिशा

में पहल की। इसके तहत कंपनी में सरकार की अपनी 52.9 फीसदी हिस्सेदारी बेचने की योजना थी।

वर्ष 2020 में उन्होंने पत्रकारों से कहा, 'बीपीसीएल में निजी निवेशकों की काफी दिलचस्पी है।' मगर यह योजना कभी कारगर नहीं हो पाई। वर्ष 2022 में केवल एक ही बोलीदाता बचा जिसके बाद सरकार ने यह प्रक्रिया ही रद्द कर दी। प्रधान के बाद पेट्रोलियम मंत्री बने हरदीप पुरी ने किसी भी तेल कंपनी के निजीकरण से इनकार कर दिया है। जब एक सार्वजनिक मंच पर पुरी से निजीकरण के बारे में सवाल पूछा गया तो उन्होंने इसे 'बकवास' बताया। नोटबंदी के ठीक

बाद वर्ष 2017 से वर्ष 2019 के बीच प्रधान को कौशल विकास मंत्रालय का अतिरिक्त प्रभार दिया गया था। यह वह दौर था जो रोजगार की उम्मीद रखने वालों के लिए बेहद मुश्किल गुजरा। इसके बाद कोविड महामारी आ गई। इस महामारी ने हर तरफ कोहराम



सियासी हलचल

आदित फडणीस

मचा दिया। मंत्रालय में कोई बड़ी उपलब्धि देखने को नहीं मिली। उन्हें वर्ष 2021 में शिक्षा मंत्रालय का अतिरिक्त प्रभार दिया गया था। वर्तमान में शिक्षण कर्मचारियों की कमी देखते हुए स्कूल इस बात को लेकर परेशान हैं कि वे सीबीएसई के उस आदेश का पालन कैसे करें जिसमें बच्चों के लिए तीन भाषाएं (जिनमें दो भारतीय भाषाएं होनी चाहिए) पढ़ना अनिवार्य किया गया है। यह नीति (जो सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के समक्ष समीक्षाधीन है) जुलाई में लागू होनी है।

हालांकि, राजनीति में प्रधान को कहीं अधिक सफलता मिली है। वह मध्य ओडिशा के तालचर से हैं। उनके पिता देवेन्द्र प्रधान राजनीति में सक्रिय थे और अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी सरकार में मंत्री बने थे। धर्मेंद्र अखिल भारतीय विद्यार्थी परिषद (एबीवीपी) के कार्यकर्ता बने और पहले साल ही तालचर कॉलेज के छात्र संघ अध्यक्ष बन गए। हालांकि, एक युवा भाजपा कार्यकर्ता के लिए ओडिशा में काम करना कठिन था। वाजपेयी और लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी के बीजू पटनायक के साथ घनिष्ठ संबंधों के कारण भाजपा राज्य में सत्ताधारी दल पर हमला नहीं कर सकी। जो लोग भाजपा और बीजू

जनता दल (बीजद) दोनों दलों के साथ संतुलन साध कर आगे बढ़े वे प्रधान जैसे जुझारू भाजपा नेता की तुलना में राजनीति में अधिक सफल रहे। उदाहरण के लिए अश्विनी वैष्णव को ही लें जिन्होंने अधिकारी के रूप में अपना करियर शुरू किया और नवीन पटनायक के करीब होने के कारण वाजपेयी के साथ काम किया। उन्हें बाद में राज्य सभा सीट मिली और अब वह मोदी सरकार में एक महत्वपूर्ण मंत्री बन गए हैं। यह अलग बात है कि वह अब भी विपक्ष में मौजूद अपने पूर्व 'मार्गदर्शक' पर हमला करने से कतराते हैं।

इसके उलट प्रधान ने भाजपा के लिए लंबे समय तक अथक परिश्रम किया। उन्होंने ओडिशा में पार्टी को मजबूत बनाया और पार्टी को सरकार में लाने में मदद की। ओडिशा विधान सभा में भाजपा विधायक भारी तादाद में उनके समर्थक हैं मगर वह मुख्यमंत्री नहीं बनाए गए। प्रधान कोई करिश्माई नेता या प्रभावशाली वक्ता नहीं हैं। मगर वास्तविक राजनीति और संगठनात्मक गतिशीलता की उनकी समझ उन्हें पार्टी का एक अहम व्यक्ति बनाती है। उन्होंने हरियाणा से पहले कर्नाटक, उत्तराखंड, झारखंड और निश्चित रूप से ओडिशा में भाजपा के लिए विधान सभा चुनावों का संचालन किया जहां उन्होंने भाजपा को शानदार जीत दिलाने में अहम भूमिका निभाई। ओडिशा में ऐसा कोई प्रमुख पार्टी कार्यकर्ता नहीं है जिसे वह नाम से नहीं जानते हों, भले ही वे बागी ही क्यों न हों।

वह बागियों से संपर्क साधने में भी संकोच नहीं करते, उन लोगों से भी नहीं जिन्हें उन्होंने स्वयं पार्टी से बाहर कर दिया था। अपने मंत्रालयों में हुए तमाम विवादों के बाद प्रधान को शायद स्वयं को नए सिरे से स्थापित करने की जरूरत है। भाजपा का नेतृत्व अब नितिन नवीन के हाथों में है जो पार्टी में उनके कनिष्ठ रहे हैं। प्रधान के पास अब एक विकल्प केंद्र सरकार में ही समान महत्त्व का दूसरा ओहदा तलाशना है। मगर ऐसा करना उनके हाथ में नहीं है।

Publication : Business Standard (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 2

ऑयल इंडिया को एक और गैस भंडार मिला

सुधीर पाल सिंह
 नई दिल्ली, 5 जून

ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड (ओआईएल) ने अंडमान में कम गहराई वाले अपने अपतटीय ब्लॉक में प्राकृतिक गैस की दूसरी 'उपस्थिति' का आज ऐलान किया। गैस की यह मौजूदगी अंडमान द्वीप के पूर्वी तट से 15 किलोमीटर दूर खोजे गए तीसरे कुएं 'विजयपुरम-3' में 355 मीटर की गहराई में मिली।

इस सरकारी पेट्रोलियम खोजकर्ता कंपनी ने 'ओपन एकरेज लाइसेंसिंग पॉलिसी' (ओएएलपी) के तहत मिले एएन-ओएसएचपी-2018/1 ब्लॉक में तीन कुओं को खोजा है। कंपनी इनमें से दो में हाइड्रोकार्बन की मौजूदगी का पता लगा चुकी है। कंपनी ने सितंबर 2025 में खोजे गए दूसरे कुएं 'विजयपुरम-2' में प्राकृतिक गैस मिलने की जानकारी दी थी।

कंपनी ने बयान में कहा, 'ईओसीन फॉर्मेशन में 1,900 मीटर से अधिक की गहराई पर स्थित कुएं के शुरुआती उत्पादन परीक्षण में निरंतर फ्लेयरिंग के जरिये प्राकृतिक गैस की मौजूदगी का पता चला है।' कंपनी ने कहा कि परफोरेशन के बाद तत्काल दबाव बनते देखा गया और कुएं ने उत्पादन शुरू कर दिया।

ओआईएल ने कहा कि गैस के संघटन और कैलोरी मान का आकलन करने के लिए गैस के नमूने पर काम किया जा रहा है और इसके उद्गम को समझने के लिए समस्थानिक अध्ययन भी किए जाएंगे।

Publication : Business Standard (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 1

ई85 ईंधन पेट्रोल से 20 रुपये लीटर सस्ता

सरकार ने फ्लेक्स-फ्यूल वाहनों के लिए तैयार उच्च-एथनॉल मिश्रण वाले ईंधन ई85 को सामान्य पेट्रोल की तुलना में 20 रुपये प्रति लीटर की छूट पर शुक्रवार को पेश किया। यह ईंधन शुरू में चुनिंदा पेट्रोल पंपों पर उपलब्ध होगा और इसका उपयोग केवल फ्लेक्स-फ्यूल इंजन वाले वाहनों में ही किया जा सकता है। केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने विश्व पर्यावरण दिवस के अवसर पर इंडियन ऑयल के एक पेट्रोल पंप पर ई85 ईंधन का अनावरण किया। इस ईंधन की देश भर के 48 सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के पेट्रोल पंपों पर की बिक्री की जाएगी।

Publication : Dainik Bhaskar (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 6 June 2026	Page : 11

Headline: Flex fuel E20 cheaper than petrol by ₹20/litre: Puri

फ्लेक्स फ्यूल ई20 पेट्रोल से ₹20/लीटर सस्ता: पुरी

भास्कर न्यूज़ | नई दिल्ली

केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने शुक्रवार को कहा कि फ्लेक्स फ्यूल (ई85) ई20 पेट्रोल से करीब 20 प्रति लीटर सस्ता होगा। दिल्ली में ई85 की कीमत 82.12 प्रति लीटर है, जबकि ई20 पेट्रोल 102.12 प्रति लीटर है। ई85 में 80-85% इथेनॉल और 14-19% पेट्रोल मिलाया जाता है। यह फ्लेक्स-फ्यूल वाहनों के लिए डिजाइन किया गया है, जो ई20 से ई100 तक के ब्लेंड पर चल सकते हैं। पुरी ने इंडियन ऑयल कॉरपोरेशन के एक पेट्रोल पंप पर ई85 लॉन्च करते हुए कहा कि कीमतें इस तरह तय की गई हैं कि उपभोक्ताओं को पर्याप्त लाभ मिले। उन्होंने कहा कि ई85 का इस्तेमाल ईंधन आयात घटाने, पर्यावरण बचाने और किसानों की आय बढ़ाने में मदद करेगा। देशभर के 48 पब्लिक सेक्टर पेट्रोल पंपों पर शुरूआत हुई है। पुरी ने कहा कि कुछ हफ्तों में दिल्ली-एनसीआर, पुणे, मुंबई आदि में 50-100 स्टेशन हो जाएंगे।



Publication : Dainik Jagran (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 6 June 2026	Page : 5

Headline: Special ethanol-blended petrol launched; currently available at seven petrol pumps

एथेनाल युक्त विशेष पेट्रोल लांच, अभी सात पेट्रोल पंपों पर मिलेगा

जागरण संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली: पश्चिम एशिया युद्ध के प्रभाव से बढ़ती पेट्रोल की कीमतों के बीच दिल्ली में पहली बार एथेनाल युक्त विशेष पेट्रोल (ई 85) लांच हुआ है। इस विशेष पेट्रोल में 85 प्रतिशत तक एथेनाल मिला है, जबकि सामान्य पेट्रोल में 20 प्रतिशत तक एथेनाल मिला होता है। इसकी कीमत सीएनजी से भी कम होगी। फिलहाल यह दिल्ली के सात पेट्रोल पंपों पर उपलब्ध होगा। यह पेट्रोल सामान्य वाहनों के लिए नहीं है। यह केवल ई-85 वाहनों के लिए उपलब्ध होगा। बता दें कि फिलहाल दिल्ली में ई-85 वाहनों की संख्या न के बराबर है। क्योंकि वाहन कंपनियों ने हाल में इस नए वर्ग की गाड़ियों को बाजार में उतारना शुरू ही किया है। ई-85 वाहन ऐसे वाहन हैं जो 85%



पूसा रोड स्थित पेट्रोल पंप पर ई 85 पेट्रोल भरते पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप पुरी • जागरण

एथेनाल और 15% पेट्रोल के मिश्रण वाले ईंधन पर चल सकते हैं।

शुक्रवार को एक कार्यक्रम में पूसा रोड स्थित इंडियन आयल के आउटलेट से पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप पुरी ने इस विशेष पेट्रोल को

लांच किया। इस मौके पर हरदीप पुरी ने कहा कि इस वर्ग के अंत तक इसे 500 पंपों तथा अगले वर्ष तक 5,000 पंपों पर विस्तार की तैयारी है।

शुक्रवार को जहां दिल्ली में

- पूसा रोड स्थित इंडियन आयल के आउटलेट से पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप पुरी ने इस विशेष पेट्रोल को लांच किया
- वर्ष के अंत तक इसके 500 पेट्रोल पंपों पर विस्तार की तैयारी, सीएनजी से भी सस्ता होगा विशेष पेट्रोल (ई 85)
- यह पेट्रोल सामान्य वाहनों के लिए नहीं है, यह केवल ई-85 वाहनों के लिए उपलब्ध होगा

सीएनजी की कीमत 83.09 रुपये प्रति किलो थी, तो ई 85 पेट्रोल प्रति लीटर 82.12 रुपये में उपलब्ध था। एक पेट्रोल पंप संचालक ने बताया कि इसके लिए पंपों पर अलग टैंक, अलग पंप तथा पाइप लाइन

बिछाई गई है। हिंदुस्तान पेट्रोलियम, भारत पेट्रोलियम जैसी कंपनियां ही इसकी आपूर्ति करेंगी।

पेट्रोल पंप संचालकों के मुताबिक जैसे जैसे इस वर्ग के वाहनों की संख्या बढ़ती जाएगी, वैसे-वैसे मांग बढ़ने के साथ अन्य पंपों पर भी ई 85 पेट्रोल उपलब्धता का भी विस्तार होगा। फिलहाल यह आनन्द विहार, करोलबाग के पूसा रोड, निजामुद्दीन समेत अन्य स्थानों पर उपलब्ध होना शुरू हुआ है। इसके प्रयोग से किसानों को भी फायदा होगा।

एथेनाल गन्ने और अन्य कृषि उत्पादों के अवशेषों से बनाया जाता है, जिससे किसानों को अतिरिक्त आमदनी होगी। विशेषज्ञों का दावा है कि इस पेट्रोल के इस्तेमाल से 61 प्रतिशत गैस उत्सर्जन में कमी आएगी।

Publication : Deccan Chronicle	Editions : Hyderabad
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 13



OIL INDIA FINDS NATURAL GAS IN ANDAMANS: PURI

FC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, JUN 5

Amid the reported shortage of natural gas in the country, Union minister for petroleum and natural gas Hardeep Singh Puri on Friday said that Oil India Limited (OIL) has reported presence of natural gas in Sri Vijayapuram-3, 15 km off the east coast of the Andaman Islands, at a depth of 355 metres.

The initial production testing at depth of 1,900 plus meters in Eocene formation has established the presence of gas.

"An ocean of energy opportunities reinforced in the Andaman Sea! Very happy to report the presence of natural gas," he said in a post on X.



Publication : Echo of India	Editions : Kolkata
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 11

Despite rise in demand, OMC's ensure steady fuel and LPG supplies across West Bengal

KOLKATA, JUNE 5/--/Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies—IndianOil, BPCL and HPCL—are maintaining steady and uninterrupted supplies of Petrol, Diesel and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) across West Bengal. The Oil Industry remains fully geared to ensure seamless availability of fuels through its extensive supply network comprising terminals, depots, LPG bottling plants and retail outlets. Fuel dispensing operations are continuing smoothly across all outlets and supplies are being maintained without any restrictions, in line with prescribed safety and operational norms. Adequate stocks of petroleum products are available across the supply chain and replenishment is being carried out continuously to meet consumer demand efficiently. LPG supplies to domestic consumers are also being maintained normally and deliveries are progressing smoothly across the State. The Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies are closely coordinating on logistics, stock positioning and distribution planning to ensure uninterrupted energy access to citizens. The overall supply situation remains stable and under constant monitoring. (EOIC)

Publication : Hari Bhoomi (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 6 June 2026	Page : 9

Headline: A natural gas reserve has been discovered in the deep waters of the sea off the Andaman coast

देश को अब नई दिशा मिलेगी केंद्रीय मंत्री पुरी ने ऑयल इंडिया को बधाई दी अंडमान में सागर में गहरे पानी के भीतर प्राकृतिक गैस का भंडार मिला ‘समुद्र मंथन मिशन’ की बड़ी सफलता

एजेसी नई दिल्ली

भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा और घरेलू उत्पादन बढ़ाने के मोर्चे पर एक बेहद सकारात्मक और बड़ी खबर है। देश की प्रमुख सरकारी अन्वेषण कंपनी ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड ने अंडमान सागर में गहरे पानी के भीतर प्राकृतिक गैस की खोज में एक बड़ी सफलता हासिल की है। केंद्रीय मंत्री हरदीप पुरी ने ऑयल इंडिया को बधाई देते हुए एक्स पर यह जानकारी दी। यह खोज भारत के महत्वाकांक्षी डीप-वाटर एक्सप्लोरेशन अभियान को एक नई दिशा देने वाली साबित होगी।

कहां और कैसे मिली यह बड़ी सफलता?



पुरी ने बताया कि अंडमान द्वीप समूह के पूर्वी तट से 15 किमी दूर और 355 मीटर गहरे पानी में स्थित ‘श्री विजयपुरम-3’ नामक एक अन्वेषणात्मक कुएं में प्राकृतिक गैस की मौजूदगी का पता चला है।

ऑयल इंडिया की ओर से इओसीन संरचना में 1900 मीटर से अधिक की गहराई पर प्रारंभिक उत्पादन परीक्षण किया गया, जहां निरंतर ‘फ्लेयरिंग’ के माध्यम से गैस की पुष्टि हुई है। कंपनी गैस की संरचना और उसके ऊर्जा मूल्य का सटीक आकलन करने के लिए गैस के नमूने ले रही है। इसके साथ ही गैस की उत्पत्ति को गहराई से समझने के लिए आइसोटोप अध्ययन भी किया जा रहा है।

Publication : Hindustan (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 15

Headline: E85 fuel launched; ₹20 cheaper than petrol

ई85 ईंधनपेश, पेट्रोल से ₹20 सस्ता

नई दिल्ली। सरकार ने प्लेक्स-फ्यूल वाहनों के लिए तैयार उच्च-एथनॉल मिश्रण वाले ईंधन ई85 को सामान्य पेट्रोल की तुलना में 20 रुपये प्रति लीटर की छूट पर शुक्रवार को पेश किया। यह ईंधन शुरू में चुनिंदा पेट्रोल पंपों पर उपलब्ध होगा और इसका उपयोग केवल प्लेक्स-फ्यूल इंजन से लेस वाहनों में ही किया जा सकता है। केंद्रीय मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने विश्व पर्यावरण दिवस के अवसर पर यहां इंडियन ऑयल के एक पेट्रोल पंप पर ई85 ईंधन का अनावरण किया।



Publication : Hindustan Times

Editions : New Delhi

Date :6 June 2026

Page : 4

**BPCL STRENGTHENS FUEL
SUPPLY ACROSS KERALA**

As dawn breaks across Kerala, BPCL fuel stations begin preparing for another busy day. Fuel sales in Kerala recorded healthy growth during May 2026 compared to the corresponding period last year, driven by increased mobility, commercial activity, and transportation requirements across the state.

{ PRICED ₹20 LESS THAN PETROL }

India launches E85 for flex fuel vehicles

Press Trust of India

letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: India on Friday launched E85 fuel, a high-ethanol blend designed for flex-fuel vehicles, at ₹20 a litre discount to normal petrol.

The fuel will initially be available at select petrol pumps and can be used only in vehicles with flex fuel engines.

Union petroleum and natural gas minister Hardeep Singh Puri unveiled the fuel at an IndianOil retail outlet in New Delhi on World Environment Day, with the rollout beginning at 48 public sector fuel stations nationwide.

He said the government plans to expand its availability to 500 outlets by December 2026 and to about 5,000 outlets by December 2027.

E85 contains 80-85% ethanol and 14-19% petrol, and can be used only in flex-fuel vehicles capable of operating on ethanol blends ranging from E20 to E100.

The expansion of E85 infrastructure is expected to help



Union minister Hardeep Singh Puri during the launch of E85 fuel in Delhi on Friday. PTI

raise India's overall ethanol blending level to nearly 26% by 2030-31, he said.

India has increased ethanol blending in petrol from 1.53% in 2014 to 20% currently, achieving its target five years ahead of schedule, the minister said. The programme has helped save more than ₹1.84 lakh crore in foreign exchange and reduced crude oil imports by nearly 302 lakh metric tonnes, he added.

The government has priced E85 at nearly ₹20 per litre below conventional petrol, aiming to pass on the benefits of domestically produced ethanol to consumers, he said.



Publication : Hindustan Times

Editions : New Delhi

Date :6 June 2026

Page : 4

**BPCL ENSURES REGULAR FUEL
SUPPLY ACROSS DHARASHIV**

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) is ensuring uninterrupted fuel availability across Dharashiv through its robust supply and distribution network. Long before sunrise, fuel tankers begin arriving at BPCL retail outlets across the district. Over the past few weeks, BPCL's retail network in Dharashiv has witnessed a significant rise in fuel demand.



Publication : Hindustan Times	Editions : New Delhi
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 4

**MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS,
BPCL ESTABLISH SPACE LABS**

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs in collaboration with Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL), established 75 Space Labs in Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) across 18 states. The initiative has been implemented through BPCL's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) support, with an investment of nearly Rs 12 crore.

CHINA TURNS TO INDIA FOR OIL MEAL AS EXPORTS SOAR

Vijay C Roy & Dhirendra Kumar

vijay.roy@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: India has emerged as a key supplier of oil meal for China's livestock and poultry feed, with exports having surged more than 25-fold to \$157 million in 2025, as Beijing diversifies feed imports away from its traditional suppliers. India had shipped out oil meal worth \$6.1 million in 2024.

According to the World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS) data, reviewed by Mint, India's oil meal exports to China has surged from \$15.7 million in 2015, marking a nearly 900% rise over the decade, and raising China's share in India's global oil meal shipments to 13.5% in 2025 from 0.4% in 2024.

The shift comes as China, world's largest consumer of animal feed ingredients, looks to reduce dependence on its traditional suppliers such as the US, Brazil and Argentina amid periodic supply disruptions, weather-related production risks and volatility in global agricultural commodity prices. China was a marginal market for Indian oil meal exports for most of the past decade, accounting for less than 2% of the shipments in most years.

Oil meal is the protein-rich by-product left after extracting oil from oilseeds such as soybean, mustard, and groundnut and is also used as an organic fertilizer.

Pricing is a key factor here. "The sharp rise in India's oil meal exports to China was largely driven by India's competitive pricing of rapeseed meal and China's restrictions on Canadian canola imports," said B.V. Mehta, executive director of The Solvent Extractors' Association of India (SEA), an industry body representing the vegetable oil and oilseed sector. "This created a significant opportunity for Indian exporters to fill the supply gap in the Chinese feed market."

Ajay Srivastava, founder of Global Trade Research Initiative, said the increase in India's cargoes was driven by China's growing requirement for protein-rich feed ingredients used in its livestock and aquaculture sectors.



Publication : Millennium Post

Editions : New Delhi

Date : 6 June 2026

Page : 1, 4

ONLY FOR FLEX-FUEL VEHICLES India launches E85 fuel priced Rs 20 below petrol

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: India on Friday rolled out E85 fuel, a high-ethanol petrol blend meant for flex-fuel vehicles, with a price nearly Rs 20 per litre lower than conventional petrol as part of its push to expand cleaner and domestically sourced transport fuels.

Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri launched the fuel at an IndianOil outlet in New Delhi on World Environment Day. The fuel is being introduced at 48 public sector fuel stations across the country and

will initially be available only at select outlets.

Puri said the government plans to expand E85 availability to 500 fuel stations by December 2026 and around 5,000 outlets by December 2027.

E85 contains 80-85 per cent ethanol and 14-19 per cent petrol and can only be used in flex-fuel vehicles designed to operate on ethanol blends ranging from E20 to E100.

The minister said India has raised ethanol blending in petrol from 1.53 per cent in 2014 to 20 per cent now, meeting its target five years ahead of schedule. According **Continued on P4**



Publication : Millennium Post	Editions : New Delhi
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 1, 4

India launches

to him, the programme has saved more than Rs 1.84 lakh crore in foreign exchange and reduced crude oil imports by nearly 302 lakh metric tonnes.

He said wider adoption of E85 could help increase the country's overall ethanol blending level to nearly 26 per cent by 2030-31. Ministry estimates show that flex-fuel vehicles running on E85 can cut lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions by around 61 per cent compared with conventional petrol vehicles.

Puri said if half of all new two-wheelers and passenger vehicles sold in India adopt flex-fuel technology, annual ethanol demand could rise by over 312 crore litres. Such a shift could generate about Rs 12,403 crore in additional income for farmers, save roughly Rs 15,151 crore in foreign exchange each year and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 66.4 lakh metric tonnes.

Drawing a comparison with Brazil, where more than 80 per cent of light vehicles use flex-fuel technology, Puri said India was building a national flex-fuel ecosystem. He added that no engine failures linked to ethanol blending had been reported since E20 became the national standard fuel. "Every litre of ethanol replaces imported fossil fuel," he said. "Every drop of E85 carries the spirit of an Atmanirbhar Bharat."

India beats the odds, delivers 7.7% FY26 growth, 7.8% in Q4

FY27 growth forecast cut to 6.6% due to higher energy prices, commodity costs supply-chain disruptions

SIMONTINI BHATTACHARJEE

NEW DELHI: Amid an uncertain global situation owing to ongoing regional wars, India's economy expanded 7.8 per cent in the January-March quarter, exceeding forecasts on strong domestic demand and government expenditure.

The GDP growth compared with 7 per cent expansion a year back and 8 per cent in the previous quarter. Full-year growth accelerated to 7.7 per cent from 7.1 per cent in FY25, supported by healthy consumption and robust investment activity.

In a post on X, Prime Minister Narendra Modi stated, "India's growth momentum remains strong! GDP growth rate of 7.7% in FY 2025-26 and 7.8% in Q4 of FY 2025-26 reflect the inherent strength of our economy, the success of reforms and the hard work of 140 crore Indians."



The January-March period accounted for just one month of disruptions caused by the war in Iran. The spike in oil prices and the disruption in supplies from the Middle East — a key source for India's

crude oil, natural gas and LPG — will be fully visible in the current April-June quarter.

The Reserve Bank of India has already cut its 2026-27 (FY27) GDP growth forecast to 6.6 per cent from 6.9 per

cent, citing elevated energy and commodity prices and persistent supply-chain disruptions linked to the conflict in West Asia.

Chief Economic Adviser V Anantha Nageswaran,

addressing a press conference after the release of the data, said India could return to a growth rate of more than 7 per cent in FY28 if external conditions improve.

He said even if growth

TAKEAWAYS

- » Q4 captured only one month of Iran conflict impact; full effect on oil prices and supply disruptions expected in April-June quarter
- » Escalating West Asia conflict may raise inflation, widen trade deficit and disrupt energy supplies
- » Real GDP FY26: Rs 323.12 lakh crore vs Rs 299.89 lakh crore in FY25
- » Nominal GDP FY26: Rs 346.36 lakh crore vs Rs 318.07 lakh crore; growth of 8.9%
- » New GDP Series: Second release based on FY23 as the base year

slows below 7 per cent in FY27, as projected by the RBI, policy measures aimed at preserving macroeconomic stability and ensuring adequate supplies could help the economy return to a growth trajectory above 7 per cent in FY28, provided external conditions improve.

However, on the contrary, Nageswaran further stressed the increased adverse global developments. The escalating conflict in West Asia has emerged as the single biggest risk to the country's growth trajectory, threatening to fuel inflation, widen trade deficits and disrupt energy supplies, data shows.

Gross value added, which strips out the volatile components such as indirect taxes and government subsidies to present a more accurate measure of underlying economic activity, grew 7.9 per cent during the

Continued on P4



Publication : Millennium Post

Editions : New Delhi

Date : 6 June 2026

Page : 1, 4

From Page 1

India beats

January-March quarter, the data released by MoSPI showed.

"Real GDP or GDP at constant prices is estimated to attain a level of Rs 323.12 lakh crore in the 2025-26, against the First Revised Estimate (FRE) of GDP for the year 2024-25 of Rs 299.89 lakh crore," according to the data released by National Statistic Office (NSO).

The nominal GDP or GDP at current prices is estimated to attain a level of Rs 346.36 lakh crore in 2025-26, against Rs 318.07 lakh crore in 2024-25, showing a growth rate of 8.9 per cent.

This is the second set of GDP data in the new series with 2022-23 as the base year.

Commenting on the data, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the government is committed to further drive the "reform express" with decisive policy measures to ensure positive economic momentum amidst the global challenges.

NSO further said GDP at constant prices in January-March quarter of 2025-26 is estimated at Rs 87.77 lakh crore, against Rs 81.40 lakh crore in the year-ago period, a growth of 7.8 per cent.

NSO said secondary and tertiary sectors have boosted the performance of the economy by registering growths of 8.8 per cent and 9.3 per cent, respectively, during FY26.

These sectors include construction, manufacturing, trade, hotels, transport, communication and services related to broadcasting, storage, and financial, real estate, IT, professional services and ownership of dwelling.

The primary sector registered 3.2 per cent growth rate mainly driven by the performance of agriculture and fishery sectors.

"Agriculture, livestock, forestry and fishing" segment grew at 3.6 per cent in the fourth quarter compared to 4.6 per cent. During 2025-26, the growth was 3.1 per cent.

On the expenditure side, both private final consumption expenditure (PFCE) and gross fixed capital formation (GFCF) registered over 7.5 per cent expansion during 2025-26.

The gross value added (GVA) has been estimated at Rs 294.91 lakh crore in 2025-26, against Rs 273.36 lakh crore in 2024-25, registering a growth rate of 7.9 per cent as against 7.3 per cent in the preceding year.

The GVA in the fourth quarter of FY26 was Rs 80.18 lakh crore against Rs 74.32 lakh crore in the year-ago period, registering a growth of 7.9 per cent.

As per data, in FY26, the manufacturing sector was the best-performing sector, registering growth of 10.7 per cent. The manufacturing sector registered growth at a higher rate than that of the services sector, which is influenced by government infrastructure spending, production incentives, and industrialisation.

The service sector, which represents the largest contribution to economic output, grew at 9.3 per cent, with growth coming from transport, finance and other digital economy activities. Growth in agriculture stood at 3 per cent,

representing an improvement from last year's growth.

Investments were especially positive. Gross Fixed Capital Formation - an indicator of investments, rose by 10.8 per cent in the last quarter of FY26, which is a much higher figure compared to GDP growth. In the same period, Private Final Consumption Expenditure, indicating household expenditure, increased by 7.1 per cent.

The government also highlighted that India faces a problem due to several factors associated with both supply and demand. Starting from the beginning of the conflict, the Indian oil basket rose by 40.5 per cent, while Brent Crude grew by 39.5 per cent.

ENERGY
FRONTIERS



SANJAY AGARWAL

THE WRITER IS A
FORMER SECURITY
ADVISOR, MINISTRY
OF HOME
AFFAIRS, GOI

From Washington
to Beijing and
New Delhi,
multiple actors
are vying for
influence over
the world's
largest proven
oil reserves

Who Controls Venezuela's Oil?

Though Caracas owns the world's largest proven oil reserves, sanctions, licensing regimes and geopolitical rivalries increasingly shape who buys the crude, who earns from it and who gains strategic leverage

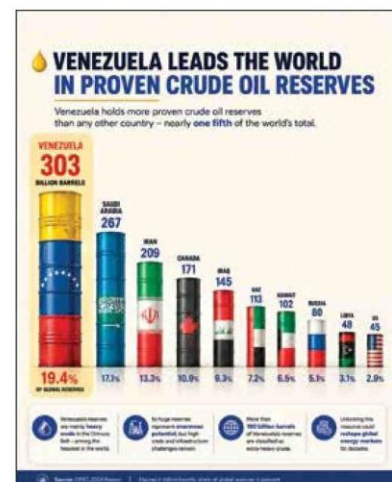
The struggle over Venezuelan oil has never been merely about energy. It is about political power, geopolitical influence, sanctions, debt recovery, market access, and control over the world's largest proven hydrocarbon reserves. The central question is not who legally owns the oil—Venezuela does—but who controls its sale, who captures the revenue, and who derives strategic advantage. In 2026, Washington's policies, sanctions mechanisms, and licensing regimes have fundamentally reshaped Venezuelan oil exports.

Ownership Versus Control
Legally, Venezuela's oil reserves belong to the state and are administered through Petróleos de Venezuela S.A. (PDVSA), the national oil company. Yet legal ownership and effective control are no longer synonymous. While PDVSA continues operating fields and overseeing production, its freedom to market oil internationally remains heavily constrained by U.S. sanctions, licensing requirements, banking controls, shipping restrictions, and financial oversight.

A significant portion of Venezuela's export system now functions under conditions where Washington exercises substantial influence over who may buy Venezuelan crude, how payments are processed, and where revenues ultimately flow. This creates a unique situation: an OPEC member formally owns its resources but faces external constraints shaping their commercial disposition. The consequence is not direct American ownership of Venezuelan oil, but considerable American leverage over its monetisation.

Where Does the Money Go?

The traditional model under Hugo Chávez and Nicolás Maduro was straightforward: oil revenues were straight-forwarded through PDVSA into government coffers, financing public spending, subsidies, patronage networks, social programs, and the security apparatus. That model has been progressively and significantly altered by sanctions, debt obligations,



arbitration awards, and licensing arrangements.

Today, revenues from many transactions face external scrutiny. Significant portions are absorbed by operating costs, debt servicing, investor repayments, and joint-venture commitments before reaching the Venezuelan state. In several arrangements, payments route through controlled financial channels designed to prevent direct access by sanctioned entities.

Recent reports indicate some oil revenue has been directed toward mechanisms supporting Venezuelan workers and stabilising domestic financial conditions through selected banking channels. The stated American objective is ensuring revenues benefit ordinary Venezuelans while minimising diversion through corruption or regime-controlled structures. Whether fully achievable remains debated, but the trend is unmistakable: the Venezuelan government now captures a smaller share of oil rent than it once did.

The Real Beneficiaries

The greatest immediate beneficiaries are not necessarily located in Venezuela. India has emerged as perhaps the most significant commercial winner. Indian refiners dra-

matically increased Venezuelan crude purchases, taking advantage of substantial discounts relative to Brent benchmarks. Companies such as Reliance, IOC, and HPCL gain competitively priced feedstock while diversifying away from excessive dependence on any single supplier. Equally important, Indian state-owned investments trapped in Venezuela for years may finally have a pathway toward recovery. Venezuelan Acting President Delcy Rodríguez's long 5-day visit to India, June 3-7, 2026, is to be seen in this context.

Chevron is the principal corporate beneficiary. As the only major American oil company maintaining significant operations inside Venezuela, it occupies a privileged position in any recovery scenario. Beyond current production, Chevron gains access to some of the world's most extensive undeveloped reserves, providing enormous long-term strategic value.

American consumers may benefit indirectly. The Trump administration's energy strategy seeks to increase supply availability and moderate prices. Additional Venezuelan barrels contribute to this objective, even though immediate impact on global prices remains limited.

For Venezuela itself, benefits are mixed. Workers may receive greater income stability and economic activity may improve modestly. Yet the state's ability to capture and freely deploy oil revenues remains constrained compared with the pre-sanctions era.

China, by contrast, appears among the relative losers. Once the dominant buyer of Venezuelan crude and major financing source, Beijing's influence has diminished as sanctions, licensing requirements, and changing trade patterns redirected flows elsewhere. Russia faces similar limitations, though it retains political and strategic relationships with Caracas.

Economics of Venezuelan Crude

A common misconception is that Venezuela's vast reserves automatically translate into immense profitability. The reality is more complicated. Most reserves are concentrated in the Orinoco Belt and consist of extremely heavy crude requiring dilution, upgrading, specialised transportation, and complex refining processes.

These technical challenges ensure Venezuelan crude trades at persistent discounts—approximately USD 25 below Brent. While headline reserve figures exceed Saudi Arabia's, extraction costs, infrastructure deterioration, operational inefficiencies, and years of underinvestment significantly reduce commercial attractiveness. Industry estimates suggest full-cycle production costs often approach USD 39-46 per barrel, leaving limited margins when prices soften.

Consequently, Venezuela's challenge is not geological abundance but economic viability. Possessing the world's largest reserves does not automatically confer market power if production capacity and infrastructure remain impaired.

Implications for OPEC and Global Markets

Despite geopolitical drama, Venezuela's current production remains modest by global standards. Even

optimistic forecasts place output near 1 million barrels per day—a fraction of historical levels and only a small percentage of world supply.

For this reason, OPEC+ does not view Venezuelan recovery as an immediate threat. The greater concern lies in the long term. If American influence over Venezuelan exports expands while U.S. domestic production remains strong, Washington could indirectly shape additional volumes originating from an OPEC member. Such an outcome would challenge traditional assumptions about cartel cohesion and pricing power—especially after the UAE quit OPEC last month.

The strategic irony is striking: an administration advocating lower oil prices could simultaneously exercise significant influence over supply from one of the world's largest reserve holders. This potentially creates a new mechanism for influencing global energy markets outside conventional OPEC frameworks.

Larger Geopolitical Significance

The Venezuelan oil question ultimately concerns much more than petroleum. It sits at the intersection of great-power competition, sanctions policy, energy security, and hemispheric influence. Washington seeks to limit Chinese and Russian leverage in Latin America. Beijing seeks to preserve access to strategic resources. India seeks affordable energy and recovery of stranded investments. Venezuela seeks economic revival without surrendering sovereignty.

The most important analytical point is simple: ownership, production, and control have become separated. Venezuela owns the oil. Yet the ability to determine who buys it, how revenues are handled, and who ultimately captures the economic rent is increasingly shaped by external power.

This reality represents one of the most consequential shifts in global energy politics of the past decade. The implications will continue unfolding over the years.

Views expressed are personal

OIL's second Andaman gas find boosts exploration prospects

The discovery was made at the Vijayapuram-3 exploratory well, located around 15 km off the east coast of Andaman

SRI VIJAYA PURAM: Oil India Ltd (OIL) has made its second natural gas discovery in the Andaman offshore basin, bolstering hopes that the frontier region could emerge as a major hydrocarbon-producing area in the future.

The discovery was made at the Vijayapuram-3 exploratory well, located around 15 km off the east coast of the Andaman Islands in a water depth of 355 metres, Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Friday.

It follows OIL's first gas discovery at the Vijayapuram-2 well in September 2025. With two successful finds from three



exploratory wells drilled under its Andaman exploration campaign, the company has significantly improved the basin's exploration outlook.

Puri described the latest find as a positive step towards enhancing India's energy security through greater offshore

CLOSER LOOK

- » Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri described latest find as a positive step towards enhancing India's energy security through greater offshore exploration
- » Initial production testing at a depth of over 1,900 metres in the Eocene formation confirmed the presence of natural gas through continuous flaring, he said

exploration. Initial production testing at a depth of over 1,900 metres in the Eocene formation confirmed the presence of natural gas through continuous flaring, he said in a post on X.

The minister noted that the discovery aligns with the Samudra Manthan Mission, the

National Deep Water Exploration Mission announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2025, under which a large number of deepwater and ultra-deepwater wells are planned across India's offshore basins.

According to OIL, the well

showed encouraging reservoir characteristics. After perforation, it recorded a rapid pressure build-up and commenced production, indicating commercial potential.

Industry experts view the back-to-back discoveries as a significant milestone for exploration in the relatively under-explored Andaman Basin. The company said the find confirms the presence of a working petroleum system and may point to additional hydrocarbon accumulations in the region.

Following the earlier Vijayapuram-2 discovery, OIL launched an extensive appraisal

programme, including reprocessing existing seismic data and acquiring nearly 600 sq km of additional 3D seismic data. The data is currently being processed and interpreted to guide future appraisal drilling.

With two gas discoveries already confirmed, the Andaman offshore region is increasingly being seen as one of India's most promising frontiers for oil and gas exploration.

"OIL remains committed to advancing exploration through technological excellence and unlocking the nation's hydrocarbon potential for a secure energy future," the company said.

AGENCIES



Oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri launches E85 petrol in New Delhi on Friday.

E85 petrol to be ₹20 cheaper than regular fuel

Rituraj Baruah
rituraj.baruah@livermint.com
NEW DELHI

State-run oil marketing companies (OMCs) rolled out a high-ethanol petrol blend on Friday, priced about ₹20 per litre lower than regular fuel, as the government seeks to reduce the country's \$120-billion annual oil import bill and tap rising production capacity in the domestic ethanol sector.

Currently, about 48 retail outlets of public sector OMCs in the country offer this cleaner fuel, according to Union minister for petroleum and natural gas Hardeep Singh Puri. The government plans to scale it up to 200 retail outlets by December and about 5,000 by December 2027, and to raise India's aggregate ethanol blending levels to nearly 25 per cent by 2030-31. The country currently has about 100,000 fuel stations, of which about 90,000 are state-run.

"I think we have consciously structured the pricing to ensure that consumers are adequately compensated by making E85 approximately ₹20 per litre cheaper than E20," Puri said at the launch of the E85 petrol, at an Indian Oil retail outlet in the national capital.

The lower price can be attributed to the new variant's lower calorific value compared to regular E20 petrol. At the time of the launch, in the national capital, the fuel was priced at ₹82.12 a litre.

Noting that all the existing vehicles compatible with E20 petrol would continue to get the regular fuel and there would be no supply constraint for it, Puri said, "E85 is a different category. At fuel bunks, a board will say very clearly that only for E85 compliant cars only. You will buy E85 as you want to contribute to lessen fuel import bills, save the environment, and enhance farmer's income."

The minister said that several countries, particularly Brazil, have successfully adopted flex-fuel vehicles.

Mint earlier reported that the Centre is preparing a broader policy push to enable the adoption of flex-fuel vehicles that can run on ethanol blends up to E85.

The launch comes as automakers, including Maruti Suzuki India and Hero MotoCorp, have introduced flex-fuel variants of their best-selling WagonR and Splendor vehicles.

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

Publication : Mint	Editions : New Delhi
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 16

China boosts India oil meal imports

Vijay C. Roy & Dhirendra Kumar

NEW DELHI

India has emerged as a key supplier of oil meal for China's livestock and poultry feed, with exports having surged more than 25-fold to \$157 million in 2025, as Beijing diversifies feed imports away from its traditional suppliers. India had shipped out oil meal worth \$6.1 million in 2024.

According to the World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS) data, reviewed by *Mint*, India's oil meal exports to China has surged from \$15.7 million in 2015, marking a nearly 900% rise over the decade, and raising China's share in India's global oil meal shipments to 13.5% in 2025 from 0.4% in 2024.

The shift comes as China, world's largest consumer of animal feed ingredients, looks to reduce dependence on its traditional suppliers such as the US, Brazil and Argentina amid periodic supply disruptions, weath-

er-related production risks and volatility in global agricultural commodity prices. China was a marginal market for Indian oil meal exports for most of the past decade, accounting for under 2% of shipments in most years. Oil meal is the protein-rich by-product left after extracting oil from oilseeds such as soybean, mustard and groundnut and is also used as an organic fertilizer.

Pricing is a key factor here. "The sharp rise in India's oil

meal exports to China was largely driven by India's competitive pricing of rapeseed meal and China's restrictions on Canadian canola imports," said B.V. Mehta, executive director of

The Solvent Extractors' Association of India, an industry body representing the vegetable oil and oilseed sector. "This created a significant opportunity for Indian exporters to fill the supply gap in the Chinese feed market."

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

Publication : Navbharat Times (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 13

Headline: A step towards a green future: Ethanol-blended E-85 fuel launched

ग्रीन फ्यूचर की ओर कदम, लॉन्च हुआ एथेनॉल मिश्रित E-85 फ्यूल

■ पीटीआई, नई दिल्ली: से करीब 20 रुपये प्रति लीटर कम है। यह केंद्र सरकार ने विश्व पर्यावरण दिवस 48 सरकारी पेट्रोल पंपों पर उपलब्ध होगा। पर शुक्रवार को फ्लेक्स फ्यूल वाहनों के लिए उच्च एथेनॉल मिश्रित E-85 ईंधन लॉन्च किया। केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने दिल्ली में इसकी शुरुआत की।

केंद्रीय मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने दिल्ली में इसकी शुरुआत की।

सरकार दिसंबर 2026 तक 500 और दिसंबर 2027 तक 5,000 आउटलेट्स तक इसका विस्तार करेगी। मंत्री ने कहा कि भारत ने पेट्रोल में एथेनॉल मिश्रण 2014 के 1.53% से बढ़ाकर 20% कर दिया है। E-85 के उपयोग से ग्रीनहाउस गैस उत्सर्जन में करीब 61% तक कमी आ सकती है।

Headline: India-Venezuela: A mutually beneficial deal



आदित्य चोपड़ा
adityachopra@punjabkesri.com

भारत-वेनेजुएला : फायदे का सौदा

हार्पुख संकट के चलते दुनिया भर में उधल-पुधल मची हुई है। तेल और ऊर्जा का संकट गहराता जा रहा है। ऐसे में सभी देश सपनाई पर बढ़ते दबाव के बीच तेल आयात के स्रोतों में विविधता लाने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं। भारत भी इससे अछूता नहीं है। भारत अपनी जरूरतों के मुताबिक तेल आयात के लगातार विकल्प ढूँढ रहा है। भारत अपनी जरूरत का 80 प्रतिशत तेल आयात करता है। ऐसे में तेल उत्पादक देशों के साथ भारत के रणनीतिक संबंध मजबूत होना स्वाभाविक है। पश्चिम एशिया तनाव के बीच वेनेजुएला को कार्यात्मक राष्ट्रपति डेवली रोड्रिगेज भारत के द्वार पर आई। डेवली ने प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी और विदेश मंत्री एस. जयशंकर से बातचीत की। भारत वेनेजुएला के साथ अपनी ऊर्जा साझेदारी को मजबूत करना चाहता है। दोनों देशों ने वैश्विक सपनाई में व्यवधान के बीच कच्चे तेल के प्रवाह बढ़ाने पर जोर दिया। भारत हाल ही में वेनेजुएला के कच्चे तेल के सबसे बड़े खरीदारों में से एक बनकर उभरा है। वेनेजुएला के राष्ट्रपति निकोलस मादुरो को अमेरिकी सेना उठाकर ले जाने के बाद वेनेजुएला की कमान डेवली को सौंपी गई थी। 58 साल पहले भारत को तत्कालीन प्रधानमंत्री श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी ने वेनेजुएला की राजधानी काराकस की ऐतिहासिक यात्रा की थी, तब शायद किसी ने भी नहीं सोचा होगा कि यही देश भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा के लिए महत्वपूर्ण साझेदार बन सकता है। दुनिया के सबसे बड़े तेल भंडार वाले इस देश को नजर भारत पर टिकी हुई है। वह भारत को तेल बेचना चाहता है। उसके पास सकुटी अरब और ईरान से अधिक तेल भंडार मौजूद हैं। हालाँकि राजनीतिक अस्थिरता, आर्थिक संकट और अमेरिकी प्रतिबंधों के कारण वह अपनी पूरी क्षमता से उत्पादन नहीं कर पाया। भारत पहले से ही रूस, सकुटी अरब और ईरान जैसे देशों से तेल खरीद रहा है। पश्चिम एशिया में जारी संकट के कारण भारत अपनी तेल जरूरतों के लिए नए सपनाई देशों पर मंथन कर रहा है। ऐसे समय में वेनेजुएला एक विकल्प बनकर उभर सकता है। वेनेजुएला के तेल खरीद का सस्ता इतना सहज भी नहीं है। आप जानकर हैरान होंगे कि दुनिया के सबसे बड़े तेल भंडार वाला देश अपने तेल को बेचने के लिए संघर्ष कर रहा है। इसकी सबसे बड़ी वजह वेनेजुएला के कच्चे तेल की प्रकृति है, सकुटी अरब या खाड़ी देशों का अधिकांश तेल अविशुद्ध हल्का होता है। उसे निकालना, पाइपलाइन में भेजना और जहाजों में भरना आसान होता है लेकिन वेनेजुएला का तेल बेहद भारी और गाढ़ा है। विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि उसका तेल कई मामलों में बिटुमेन जैसा व्यवहार करता है। यही कारण है कि उसे जमीन से निकालने, पाइपलाइन में बहाने और बंदरगाह तक पहुँचाने में बड़ी दिक्कत आती है। यानी वेनेजुएला के पास तेल तो बहुत है, लेकिन वह आसानी से बहने वाला तेल नहीं है। यही उसकी सबसे बड़ी चुनौती है। यहाँ पर भारत के जादुई तेल यानी नेपथा की जरूरत पड़ती है। आमतौर पर तेल उत्पादक देश दूसरे देशों को तेल बेचते हैं लेकिन वेनेजुएला की स्थिति अलग है। उसे अपना तेल निकालने और बेचने के लिए पहले दूसरे देशों से नेपथा जैसे हल्के हाइड्रोकार्बन खरीदने पड़ते हैं। यानी जिस देश के पास दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा तेल भंडार है, वह अपने तेल को बाजार तक पहुँचाने के लिए हाइड्रोकार्बन आयात करने पर मजबूर है। यही वजह है कि नेपथा की आपूर्ति वेनेजुएला के लिए सिर्फ एक व्यापारिक मूद्रा नहीं, बल्कि उसकी पूरी ऑयल इकोनॉमी की लाइफलाइन है। भारत दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी रिफाइनिंग शक्तियों में शामिल है। देश में हर साल करोड़ों टन नेपथा का उत्पादन होता है। गुजरात, महाराष्ट्र और अन्य राज्यों में स्थित बड़ी रिफाइनरियाँ घरेलू जरूरतों के साथ-साथ निर्यात के लिए भी पर्याप्त मात्रा में नेपथा तैयार करती हैं। रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज, इंडियन ऑयल, भारत पेट्रोलियम और हिंदुस्तान पेट्रोलियम जैसी कंपनियाँ इस क्षेत्र में बड़ी भूमिका निभाती हैं। यही कारण है कि भारत वेनेजुएला के लिए सिर्फ तेल खरीदने वाला ग्राहक नहीं, बल्कि ऐसा साझेदार बन सकता है जो उसके तेल उद्योग की सबसे बड़ी समस्या का समाधान भी दे सकता है। अगर भारत से नेपथा की निर्यात आपूर्ति बढ़ती है, तो वेनेजुएला का भारी तेल अधिक मात्रा में वैश्विक बाजार तक पहुँच सकता है। यदि भारत नेपथा निर्यात करता है और बदले में उसे तेल की डील मिलती है तो यह भारत के लिए फायदे का सौदा हो सकता है। दोनों देशों में ऊर्जा, व्यापार, निवेश, दवा, स्वास्थ्य तथा परिवहन जैसे क्षेत्रों में सहयोग पर भी चर्चा हुई है। यद्यपि भारत और वेनेजुएला के बीच हजारों किलोमीटर की समुद्री दूरी है, इसलिए तेल लाने वाले जहाजों को लम्बी दूरी तय करनी पड़ेगी। भारत की परिवहन लागत ज्यादा होने के बावजूद अगर कम दूरी पर तेल मिलता है तो उसके लिए डील आकर्षक रहेगी। दुनिया भर में जिस तरह से भूराजनीतिक दृश्य बदल रहे हैं, ऐसे में भारत को अपने तेल भंडारों में पर्याप्त तेल रखना होगा। भारत का बुद्धिकोण पूरी तरह से स्पष्ट है। भारत न तो किसी एक देश पर बहुत ज्यादा निर्भर होना चाहता है और न ही किसी के दबाव में तेल खरीदना चाहता है। भारत अपने हितों को सर्वोपरि रखते हुए आर्थिक रूप से फायदेमंद डील ही करेगा।

भारत दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी रिफाइनिंग शक्तियों में शामिल है। देश में हर साल करोड़ों टन नेपथा का उत्पादन होता है। गुजरात, महाराष्ट्र और अन्य राज्यों में स्थित बड़ी रिफाइनरियाँ घरेलू जरूरतों के साथ-साथ निर्यात के लिए भी पर्याप्त मात्रा में नेपथा तैयार करती हैं। रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज, इंडियन ऑयल, भारत पेट्रोलियम और हिंदुस्तान पेट्रोलियम जैसी कंपनियाँ इस क्षेत्र में बड़ी भूमिका निभाती हैं। यही कारण है कि भारत वेनेजुएला के लिए सिर्फ तेल खरीदने वाला ग्राहक नहीं, बल्कि ऐसा साझेदार बन सकता है जो उसके तेल उद्योग का समाधान भी दे सकता है।

Publication : Punjab Kesri (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 3

Headline: Natural gas reserves discovered in Andaman

अंडमान में प्राकृतिक गैस का भंडार मिला

श्री विजयपुरम, (पंजाब केसरी): सर्वजनिक क्षेत्र की कंपनी ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड (ओआईएल) ने अंडमान अपतटीय क्षेत्र में प्राकृतिक गैस का दूसरा भंडार खोज लिया है। इससे सीमांत बेसिन इलाके के आने वाले वर्षों में महत्वपूर्ण हाइड्रोकार्बन उत्पादक क्षेत्र के रूप में उभरने की संभावना मजबूत हुई है। केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने शुक्रवार को कहा कि नवीनतम खोज विजयपुरम-3 अन्वेषण कुएं में की गई है, जो अंडमान द्वीप समूह के पूर्वी तट से लगभग 15 किलोमीटर दूर 355 मीटर गहरे समुद्री क्षेत्र में स्थित है। यह ओआईएल द्वारा इस क्षेत्र में खोदा गया दूसरा सफल गैस-युक्त कुआं है। इससे पहले कंपनी ने सितंबर 2025 में विजयपुरम-2 कुएं में प्राकृतिक गैस की खोज की थी। कंपनी ने बताया कि अंडमान में जारी उसके अन्वेषण अभियान के तहत अब तक खोदे गए तीन अन्वेषण कुओं में से दो में हाइड्रोकार्बन की उपस्थिति की पुष्टि हो चुकी है। यह कुआं अंडमान द्वीप समूह के पूर्वी तट से लगभग 15 किलोमीटर दूर समुद्र में स्थित है।

PUDUCHERRY CM URGES CENTRE TO RESTORE RETAIL-RATE DIESEL SUPPLY

TDG NETWORK
PUDUCHERRY

Puducherry Chief Minister N Rangasamy on Friday wrote a letter to Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri seeking the continuation of a special diesel supply arrangement for registered fishermen in Puducherry.

In his letter, Rangasamy said the Puducherry State Fishermen Cooperative Federation operates diesel outlets exclusively for registered fishing vessels at Thengaithittu Fishing Harbour in Puducherry and Savithri Nagar Fishing Harbour in Yanam.

The federation supplies nearly 50 lakh litres of die-



Puducherry Chief Minister N Rangasamy

sel annually, supporting around 450 mechanised fishing vessels and the livelihoods of more than one lakh fisherfolk across Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam.

The Chief Minister noted that Bharat Petroleum Cor-

poration Limited had earlier extended a special arrangement under which diesel was supplied to the federation at rates equivalent to retail outlet prices, providing significant relief to the fishing community.

However, he said recent re-

visions in diesel pricing had widened the gap between bulk consumer rates and retail outlet rates, resulting in a substantial increase in fuel costs for mechanised fishing vessels.

"Fuel constitutes the largest component of fishing expenditure, and the present price differential has adversely affected the economic viability of fishing operations," Rangasamy said in the letter.

Highlighting the welfare-oriented nature of the cooperative outlets, he stated that they were established exclusively for registered fishermen and "are not commercial retail establishments."

Seeking intervention from the Centre, Rangasamy re-

quested the continuation of the earlier arrangement under which diesel was supplied at retail outlet rates. "Alternatively, an appropriate special pricing mechanism or subsidy arrangement may kindly be considered for diesel supplied to registered fishing vessels through the cooperative consumer outlets," he said.

Describing the matter as urgent, the Chief Minister pointed out that mechanised fishing vessels are resuming operations after the annual fishing ban period and that affordable fuel was essential for sustaining fishing activities and protecting the livelihoods of thousands of fisher families.

E85 Fuel to be Sold at ₹20/L Discount: Puri

Our Bureau

New Delhi: State-run oil firms will sell E85 fuel — a blend of 85% ethanol and 15% petrol — at a discount of ₹20 per litre to offset the biofuel's lower energy content, oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Friday after inaugurating an E85 dispensing facility at a Delhi petrol pump.

The government plans to roll out E85 fuel in phases, with 500 fuel stations targeted by the end of this year and 5,000 by the end of 2027 across India, Puri said.

Indian Oil already has a network of 400 fuel stations that can dispense E100 fuel, or pure ethanol with no mix of petrol, across Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu.

Ethanol's energy content is about one-third lower than that of petrol. To compensate for this, E85 users will receive a ₹20 per litre discount compared with E20, the regular fuel blend sold across the country that contains 20% ethanol and 80% petrol.



The E20 blend will continue to be available at all fuel stations, as most vehicles currently on Indian roads can use blends of up to 20% ethanol.

In recent days, Maruti Suzuki and Hero MotoCorp have each launched one vehicle model capable of running on E85 fuel. The simultaneous rollout of compatible vehicles and fuel dispensing infrastructure will help accelerate E85 adoption, Puri said.

, adding that there was a "pretty compelling case" for shifting to E85 because it would be cheaper, lower emissions and reduce dependence on fuel imports.

Oil India strikes natural gas in Andaman offshore block

IAN S
NEW DELHI

Oil India Limited on Friday announced a fresh discovery of natural gas in its third exploratory well in the Andaman shallow offshore block, marking another significant indication of hydrocarbon presence in the region. The company said the Vijayapuram-3 (Loc. OAEB) well, drilled under the Offshore Andaman Block AN-OSHP-2018/1 as part of the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP), is located around 15 kilometres off the east coast of the Andaman Islands at a water depth of 355 metres.

The drilling was carried out

at a depth of over 1,900 metres in the Eocene formation.

In a regulatory filing to the exchanges, the company stated that initial production testing of the well confirmed the presence of natural gas, with continuous flaring observed after perforation. The well also showed immediate pressure build-up, followed by production of gas. "Oil India Limited is pleased to announce the presence of natural gas in its 3rd exploratory well Vijayapuram-3 (Loc. OAEB), drilled 15 km off the east coast of the Andaman Islands at a water depth of 355 meters in the Offshore Andaman Block AN-OSHP-2018/1 under the OALP," it said.



Publication : The Free Press Journal	Editions : Mumbai
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 1

Gas find in Andamans

Oil India Ltd has struck natural gas in its Vijayapuram-3 exploratory well in the Andaman offshore basin, marking its second hydrocarbon discovery in the block. The find strengthens hopes of developing the region into a significant energy-producing zone and could boost India's efforts to reduce dependence on imported hydrocarbons.

'Flex fuel to cost ₹20/litre cheaper than E20 petrol'

Our Bureau
New Delhi

Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Friday that the retail selling price of flex fuel, the E85 variant that has a higher blend of ethanol, will be around ₹20 cheaper than the E20 petrol variant.

"I think we have consciously structured the pricing to ensure that consumers are adequately compensated by making E85 approximately ₹20 per litre cheaper than E20," the Oil Minister said while launching the E85 variant at an Indian Oil Corporation-run retail outlet.

Currently, the E85 variant is priced ₹82.12 a litre in Delhi against ₹102.12 a litre of E20 blended petrol.

The rollout commences across 48 public sector OMC retail outlets (ROs) in the country, enabling flex-fuel vehicle users to access this cleaner fuel.

E85 is a high-ethanol blended fuel comprising 80-85 per cent ethanol and 14-19 per cent petrol, specifically designed for use in flex-fuel vehicles.

The initiative aims to facilitate the adoption of flex-fuel vehicles (FFVs), which are capable of operating on ethanol blends from E20 to

E100, without restricting consumers to a single blend.

NEW VARIANT

The Minister explained that the newly launched variant, which has 85 per cent ethanol and 15 per cent petrol, will be available at fuel retail outlets (ROs) with clearly displayed signage.

"E85 is a different category. At fuel bunks, a board will say very clearly that only for E85 compliant cars only. You will buy E85 as you want to contribute to lessen fuel import bills, save the environment, and enhance farmer's income. I believe within a few weeks we will have about 50 to 100 ethanol dispensing stations in Delhi-NCR, Pune, Mumbai, and Nagpur. By 2026-end, we will have 500 and by 2027 end we



Hardeep Singh Puri,
Oil Minister

will have 5,000 dispensing stations," Puri emphasised.

The Minister emphasised that several countries, particularly Brazil, had successfully leveraged flex fuel vehicles and are an intrinsic part of their energy dynamics. India is gradually moving in that direction.

Puri also noted that the push towards ethanol had led to a rise in the production capacity to around 1,900 crore litres of ethanol against a requirement of roughly 1,150 crore litres to meet the E20 petrol blending mandate.

"If one out of two cars which are manufactured from now onwards and which is very easy to do, if they are E85 compliant, then we will have a situation where another 318 crore litres of ethanol can be consumed. For 20 per cent ethanol blending, we required around 1,150 crore litres ethanol. The capacity installed is 1,800-1,900 crore litres. Today, it is absolutely clear that the debate of energy security Vs food security was baseless," the Oil Minister explained.

PETROL DEMAND JUMPS 18.5%, DIESEL 22.3% IN MAY

Govt cracks down on bulk fuel purchases from retail pumps

GR warns of action against industrial and commercial consumers purchasing fuel from retail petrol pumps

Vallabh Ozarkar
Mumbai, June 5

THE MAHARASHTRA government on Friday launched a statewide crackdown on hoarding, black marketing and diversion of petroleum products after petrol demand rose 18.54 per cent and diesel demand surged 22.3 per cent in May compared with a year earlier, even as bulk diesel sales declined sharply.

A Government Resolution (GR) issued by the Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department warned that action would be taken against both industrial and commercial

consumers purchasing fuel from retail petrol pumps and pump operators supplying fuel to bulk buyers in violation of norms.

According to the GR, some bulk consumers have shifted to purchasing diesel from retail outlets because bulk diesel is currently more expensive than fuel sold through retail pumps. The trend has led to a sharp fall in bulk diesel sales and increased pressure on fuel intended for ordinary consumers.

While reiterating that Maharashtra has adequate stocks of petrol and diesel and is not facing any fuel shortage, the

government said stricter monitoring was needed to prevent diversion of supplies and ensure availability for retail consumers.

The order follows directions issued by the Union Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas amid concerns over hoarding, black marketing and misuse of petroleum products. It also cites disruptions in global energy markets arising from ongoing geopolitical developments.

District administrations have been directed to monitor daily sales at petrol pumps and immediately inspect outlets reporting sudden or statistically

abnormal increases in fuel sales. Officials will also scrutinise industrial and commercial establishments showing unusual changes in fuel consumption.

The government has ordered action against hoarding, black marketing, fuel diversion, unauthorised storage, fuel adulteration, overcharging and the sale of substandard petroleum products. Strict checks have also been ordered on the filling of tankers, bowlers, drums and barrels at retail pumps, as well as on suspicious vehicles making repeated fuel purchases.

The GR makes it clear that industries and other bulk consumers requiring large quantities of fuel should procure supplies directly from oil marketing companies through authorised bulk supply chan-

nels rather than retail petrol pumps.

At the same time, the government has directed officials to ensure uninterrupted diesel supplies for agriculture, hospitals and registered fishing vessels after verification of genuine requirements.

District administrations have been asked to coordinate with Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) to identify supply bottlenecks, irregularities and abnormal demand patterns.

To strengthen monitoring, districts must upload details of inspections, seizures and enforcement action through a state-monitored online system by 6 pm every day.

Cattle Shed Answer

A Hormuz mine-laying season has shown how thin India's fuel security is; the sure reply lies not in distant diplomacy but in the dung-soaked floor of an ordinary Indian village shed

On 28 February 2026, the war that diplomats had spent two years rehearsing began. American and Israeli aircraft struck Iranian nuclear and missile installations; Iran's Supreme Leader was killed, and by 2 March the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps had formally closed the Strait of Hormuz to merchant traffic, laying mines and warning off shipping.

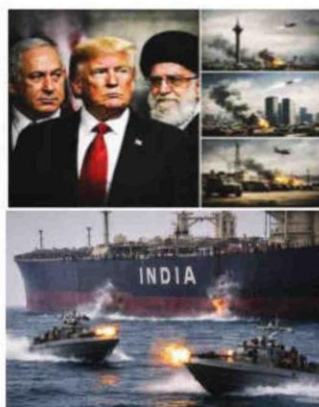
Two Indian-flagged tankers, including the VLCC Sanmar Herald, were turned back under gunfire despite prior clearance. By mid-March, Brent had crossed \$116 a barrel; by April the United States Navy was blockading Iranian ports. Indian Oil Corporation, in a measure without recent precedent, barred its own piped-gas customers from buying domestic LPG cylinders to ration a supply suddenly under stress.

This is not a refinery story alone. India imports approximately 87 per cent of the crude oil it consumes, and roughly 48 per cent of those barrels came from the Middle East as recently as last winter. But the sharper exposure is in the kitchen. Of the 33.15 million tonnes of liquefied petroleum gas India consumed in 2025, about 60 per cent was imported, and about 90 per cent of those imports originated from the Middle East. Every cylinder in every village queue is a longer logistical chain than the refinery feedstock the country has spent two decades worrying about. The fragility is structural; it is not subject to grand-bargain diplomacy; and it will be exposed each time the Persian Gulf catches fever.

The argument that follows is that India already owns the largest under-deployed civilian energy resource on earth, in plain view of every village panchayat - and that the consequent answer to Hormuz lies less in West Asian capitals than in the cattle sheds of Bardhaman, Beed and Bareilly.

The numbers are uncomfortable. Of India's 535.78 million livestock counted in the 20th Livestock Census of 2019, approximately 302 million are large bovines - the world's largest such herd. NITI Aayog has estimated that the herd produces in the order of three million tonnes of dung every day. Under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy's own technical standards, a kilogram of fresh cow dung yields roughly 0.04 cubic metres of biogas, and about thirty cubic metres of that gas carries the calorific equivalent of a single 14.2-kilogram LPG cylinder.

The arithmetic produces a number so large that the policy mind, on first encountering it, tends to discard it as fanciful. It is not fanciful. It is what we have been throwing



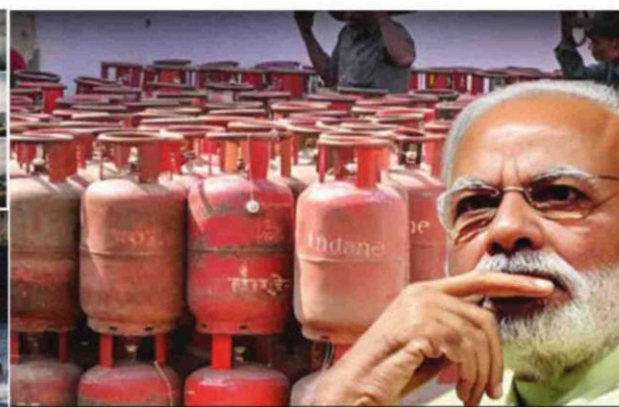
away each morning into a drain, or stacking against a wall to dry into low-calorific cakes.

A village-cluster biogas plant is technically unremarkable: a pit, an inlet for slurry, a fermentation chamber where mesophilic bacteria do their patient anaerobic work over a retention of about thirty days, a holder for the methane that rises, and piped distribution to fifty or a hundred households. The plant produces, as inevitable by-product, a stream of digested slurry - the digestate - that is, gram for gram, a finer organic fertiliser than urea, with the nutrient profile of farmyard manure and none of its weed-seed burden. At cluster scale, piping gas to a hundred households at a tariff well below the prevailing LPG cylinder rate of Rs 918, the digestate alone - if sold to neighbouring farmers - covers operating cost. The household saves; the plant pays; the field gains.

The principal beneficiary, however, is neither the household ledger nor the soil. She stands at the chulha. The Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana has put cylinders in over 10 crore poor kitchens; the harder secret of the scheme is that millions of those cylinders are refilled less often than the policy supposes, because Rs 900 is nine hundred rupees, and a smoky chulha is free.

A piped village biogas line, refilled by the buffalo in the corner, dissolves the trade-off. The respiratory cost - the cataract, the chronic bronchitis, the asthma in the child crawling underfoot - is among the largest avoidable disease burdens in rural India. The dung the household contributes, weighed and priced at a panchayat collection centre, becomes income; the gas that returns to her stove becomes dignity.

Why, then, has none of this happened at scale? The architecture exists, but it has scattered. India's legacy household-biogas programme has been folded into the Biogas component of the National Bioenergy Programme (Phase I, 2021-22 to 2025-26), with a dedicated outlay of approximately



Rs 100 crore within a broader Rs 858 crore envelope. The GOBAR-Dhan portal today lists about 1,219 functional family-and-cluster plants and 163 functional Compressed Biogas plants nationally - against the SATAT scheme's target of 5,000 CBG units by 2024.

The failures are not technological; the plants work where they are installed. They are institutional. The schemes have been split across three ministries - MNRE, Jal Shakti and Petroleum - each with its own forms, subsidy schedule and silence.



T KANNAN

The writer, a practicing Chartered Accountant and a Vedantic Scholar, can be reached at kannan@cakt.in

The Indian models that work, however, are already on the ground. Uttar Pradesh's Gram-Urja pilot installs household digesters at a unit cost of about Rs 39,000, of which the family pays only about Rs 4,000; early reporting from the pilot's 2,250 plants suggests household LPG consumption can fall by up to 70 per cent where the unit

is well-fed and well-watered. Gujarat's Banas Dairy cooperative - itself a lineal descendant of the milk model Verghese Kurien gave India - pays farmers a rupee for every kilogram of fresh dung delivered, processes it into Compressed Biogas and organic fertiliser, and is being expanded under a Rs 60-crore allocation in the state's 2026-27 budget for ten new cooperative plants. The household micro-economics and the cooperative aggregation logic are not theoretical exercises; both are running.

The international comparators sober the ambition. China built, between the early 1980s and 2014, over forty million household digesters under disciplined central subsidy - and much of that infrastructure has since fallen idle as rural-to-urban migration emptied the feedstock villages and grid LPG eroded the case for households that no longer kept cattle.

Nepal's Biogas Support Programme, launched in 1992 with Dutch support, has installed over a quarter of a million domestic digesters, though field studies have repeatedly shown serious dis-adoption where after-sales service was thin. Germany's biogas industry - about 9,600 plants producing roughly 80.6 TWh of energy in 2025 - succeeded precisely because the federal feed-in-tariff structure made it a market rather than a scheme, and because the plants are owned by farmer cooperatives that have a twenty-year reason to keep them running. The lesson is consistent: subsidy without market discipline is a monument; market without subsidy is a project for the patient.

What India needs, then, is not a new mission but the seriousness to coordinate the one it has. Consolidate biogas under a single nodal authority - MNRE is the natural candidate - with a five-year cluster-installation target written into the Finance Commission's devolution formula, prioritising the cattle-dense districts of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra.

Route the construction subsidy through NABARD and the District Central Cooperative Banks in two tranches - half on commissioning, half against a verified six-month yield report countersigned by the Panchayati Raj institution. Vest each cluster plant in a producer cooperative of dung suppliers on the Banas model, with gas tariff and digestate revenue divided by formula among the members. The architecture exists; only the political will to bind it together is missing.

The Sanmar Herald turned around at Hormuz some weeks ago. The Bardhaman housewife who buys her cylinder today is paying for that turnaround, though she will not see the figure on her receipt. India will not refine itself out of the Persian Gulf, but it can cook itself out of a great deal of it - from the cattle shed inward, one panchayat at a time. The shed is not glamorous. The dung is not romantic. Neither is the chokepoint.

Publication : The Telegraph

Editions : Kolkata

Date : 6 June 2026

Page : 6



Minister of petroleum and natural gas Hardeep Singh Puri launches E85 fuel in New Delhi on Friday. (PTI)

E85 for flex-fuel cars

New Delhi: India on Friday launched E85 fuel, a high-ethanol blend designed for flex-fuel vehicles, at ₹20 a litre discount to normal petrol.

The fuel will initially be available at select petrol pumps and can be used only in vehicles with flex fuel engines.

Union petroleum and natural gas minister Hardeep Singh Puri unveiled the fuel at an Indian Oil retail outlet in New Delhi on World Environment Day, with the rollout beginning at 48 public sector fuel stations nationwide.

He said the government plans to expand its availability to 500 outlets by December 2026 and to about 5,000 outlets by December 2027.

E85 contains 80-85 per cent ethanol and 14-19 per cent petrol, and can be used only in flex-fuel vehicles capable of operating on ethanol blends ranging from E20 to E100.

The expansion of E85 infrastructure is expected to help raise India's overall ethanol blending level to nearly 26 per cent by 2030-31, he said.

PTI



Publication : The Times of India

Editions : New Delhi

Date : 6 June 2026

Page : 1, 16

Oil India finds gas in Andaman well

State-run Oil India Limited has reported the presence of natural gas in its third exploratory well in the Andaman shallow offshore block. OIL is appraising the extent of the find at the well drilled 15km off the east coast at a water depth of 355 metres. **P16**



Publication : The Times of India

Editions : New Delhi

Date :6 June 2026

Page : 1, 16

Oil India strikes natural gas in third Andaman offshore well

New Delhi: State-run Oil India Limited (OIL) Friday said it has reported the presence of natural gas in its third exploratory well in the Andaman shallow offshore block, further indicating hydrocarbon potential in the region, reports **Atul Mathur**.

In a regulatory filing to stock exchanges, the company said natural gas was encountered in the exploratory well Vijayapuram-3, drilled 15 km off the east coast of the Andaman Islands at a water depth of 355 metres in an offshore block under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP).

"Initial production testing of the well at the depth of 1900 plus metres in the Eocene formation has established the presence of natural gas through continuous flaring. Post perforation, immediate pressure build up was observed and well started to produce," it said. It added that gas sampling is being undertaken to assess its composition and calorific value and to carry out isotope studies to understand its genesis.

With this, OIL has established the presence of hydrocarbons in two of the three wells in the Andaman offshore block. The first indication of natural gas was reported from its second exploratory well, Vijayapuram-2, in Sept 2025.



Publication : The Times of India

Editions : Hyderabad

Date : 6 June 2026

Page : 1, 11

Natural gas in OIL's third Andaman well

State-run Oil India Limited has reported the presence of natural gas in its third exploratory well in the Andaman shallow offshore block. This well was drilled by the company 15 km off the east coast of the Andaman Islands at a water depth of 355 metres. **P11**



Publication : The Times of India

Editions : Hyderabad

Date : 6 June 2026

Page : 1, 11

Oil India finds natural gas in 3rd Andaman offshore well

New Delhi: State-run Oil India Limited (OIL) Friday said it has reported the presence of natural gas in its third exploratory well in the Andaman shallow offshore block, further indicating hydrocarbon potential in the region, reports **Atul Mathur**.

In a regulatory filing to stock exchanges, the company said natural gas was encountered in exploratory well Vijayapuram-3, drilled 15 km off the east coast of the

Andaman Islands at a water depth of 355 metres in an offshore block under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP).

"Initial production testing of the well at the depth of 1900 plus meters in the Eocene formation has established the presence of natural gas through continuous flaring. Post perforation, immediate pressure build up was observed and well started to produce," it said.



Publication : The Times of India

Editions : Mumbai

Date : 6 June 2026

Page : 11

OIL detects natural gas in third offshore well in Andaman

New Delhi: State-run Oil India Limited (OIL) Friday said it has reported the presence of natural gas in its third exploratory well in the Andaman shallow offshore block, further indicating hydrocarbon potential in the region, reports **Atul Mathur**.

In a regulatory filing to stock exchanges, the company said natural gas was encountered in exploratory well Vijayapuram-3, drilled 15 km off the east coast of the Andaman Islands at a water depth of 355 metres in an offshore block under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP).

"Initial production testing of the well at the depth of 1900 plus meters in the Eocene formation has established the presence of natural gas through continuous flaring. Post perforation, immediate pressure build up was observed and well started to produce," it said. It added gas sampling is being undertaken to assess its composition and calorific value and to carry out studies to understand its genesis.



Publication : The Tribune

Editions : New Delhi

Date : 6 June 2026

Page : 16

High-ethanol blend E85 for flex-fuel vehicles launched

NEW DELHI, JUNE 5

India on Friday launched E85 fuel, a high-ethanol blend designed for flex-fuel vehicles, at Rs 20 a litre discount to normal petrol. The fuel will initially be available at select petrol pumps and can be used only in vehicles with flex fuel engines.

Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri unveiled the fuel at an IndianOil retail outlet in New Delhi. — PTI

Publication : Virat Vaibhav (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 6 June 2026	Page : 9

Headline: Oil India makes new natural gas discovery in Andaman offshore block

अंडमान के अपतटीय ब्लॉक में ऑयल इंडिया ने की प्राकृतिक गैस की नई खोज

एजेंसी ■ नई दिल्ली

सरकारी महारत कंपनी ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड ने शुक्रवार को अंडमान के उथले समुद्री (अपतटीय) ब्लॉक में अपने तीसरे खोजी कुएं में प्राकृतिक गैस की नई खोज की घोषणा की। कंपनी ने कहा कि यह खोज इस क्षेत्र में हाइड्रोकार्बन की मौजूदगी का एक और महत्वपूर्ण संकेत है। कंपनी के अनुसार, विजयपुरम-3 (स्थान ओआईवी) नामक यह कुआं ओपन एकरेज लाइसेंसिंग पॉलिसी (ओएएलपी) के तहत ऑफशोर अंडमान ब्लॉक एएन-ओएसएचपी-2018/1 में ड्रिल किया गया है। यह कुआं अंडमान द्वीप समूह के पूर्वी तट से लगभग 15 किलोमीटर दूर समुद्र में स्थित है, जहां पानी की गहराई 355 मीटर है। कंपनी ने बताया कि ड्रिलिंग कार्य इयोसीन भू-स्तर में 1,900 मीटर से अधिक गहराई तक किया गया एक्सचेंज फाइलिंग में ऑयल इंडिया ने बताया कि कुएं के प्रारंभिक उत्पादन परीक्षण में प्राकृतिक गैस की मौजूदगी की पुष्टि हुई है। छिद्रण (परफोरेशन) के बाद लगातार गैस जलती हुई दिखाई दी, जो गैस की उपलब्धता का संकेत है। कंपनी ने



बताया कि कुएं में दबाव तेजी से बढ़ा और इसके बाद गैस का उत्पादन शुरू हो गया। ऑयल इंडिया ने अपनी नियामकीय फाइलिंग में कहा, ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड को यह घोषणा करते हुए खुशी हो रही है कि ओपन एकरेज लाइसेंसिंग पॉलिसी के तहत ऑफशोर अंडमान ब्लॉक एएन-ओएसएचपी-2018/1 में अंडमान द्वीप समूह के पूर्वी तट से 15 किलोमीटर दूर और 355 मीटर जल गहराई पर ड्रिल किए गए तीसरे खोजी कुएं विजयपुरम-3 (स्थान ओआईवी) में प्राकृतिक गैस की मौजूदगी मिली है। कंपनी ने कहा कि फिलहाल गैस के नमूनों का परीक्षण किया जा रहा है ताकि उसकी संरचना और ऊष्मीय क्षमता का पता लगाया जा सके। इसके साथ ही समस्थानिक (आइसोटोप) अध्ययन भी किया जा रहा है, जिससे हाइड्रोकार्बन के स्रोत और उत्पत्ति को समझने में मदद मिलेगी।

7.8% growth spurt in Q4FY26 despite West Asia turmoil

Full-year GDP growth pegged at 7.7%

ASIT RANJAN MISHRA
New Delhi, 5 June

India's economy expanded 7.8 per cent in the March quarter of 2025-26, comfortably surpassing expectations and suggesting that the West Asia crisis had only a limited effect on economic activity, according to provisional national accounts data released on Friday. Economists, however, cautioned that the fallout from the ongoing crisis and the potential impact of El Niño could pose risks to growth in 2026-27.

The March-quarter growth rate was well above the Reserve Bank of India's estimate of 7 per cent. It also exceeded the 7.2 per cent forecast by economists surveyed by *Reuters* and *Bloomberg*.

The statistics office also revised FY26 growth upwards by 10 basis points to 7.7 per cent from its February estimate.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said India's strong growth momentum reflected the economy's underlying resilience, the success of structural reforms and the efforts of 1.4 billion Indians. "We shall leave no stone unturned to further 'Ease of Living', 'Ease of Doing Business' and increase opportunities for our youth," he said.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the government remained "committed to further drive the 'Reform Express' with decisive policy measures to ensure positive economic momentum amid the global challenges".

Growth in the fourth quarter was underpinned by double-digit expansion in the trade, hotels and transport sector, which grew 12.5 per cent, its fastest pace in 12 quarters. Financial, real estate and professional services also recorded double-digit growth of 10.4 per cent for a third consecutive quarter.

Agricultural growth accelerated to 3.6 per cent in the March quarter, supported by a stronger rabi harvest. Mining expanded 5.4 per cent, electricity 4.1 per cent and construction 8.4 per cent, all marking an improvement from the previous quarter.

Manufacturing, however, acted as a drag on overall growth. The sector expanded 7.3 per cent, slipping back into single-digit territory after posting double-digit growth for five consecutive quarters. On the demand side, the economy was driven by a sharp rise in investment. Gross fixed capital formation grew 10.8 per cent, registering double-digit growth for the first time in at least 12 quarters. Private final consumption expenditure remained robust at 7.1 per cent, although growth moderated sequentially.

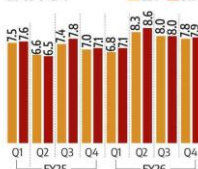
Government final consumption expenditure rose a modest 4.9 per cent during the quarter as both the Centre and the states focused on adhering to fiscal deficit targets.

Economic expansion

Bouncing back
GDP growth (% Y-o-Y)



Sustaining near 8% levels
in % Y-o-Y

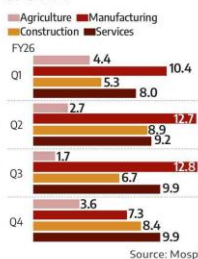


Investment surge
in % Y-o-Y

	FY26			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Private spending (PFCE)	8.7	7.2	8.2	7.1
Government spending (GFCE)	5.8	6.6	4.6	4.9
Investment (GFCF)	4.9	8.4	8.2	10.8

PFCE: Private final consumption expenditure
GFCE: Government final consumption expenditure
GFCF: Gross fixed capital formation

Agri, construction shine
in % Y-o-Y



Source: Mospi

Turn to Page 8 ►



Publication : Business Standard

Editions : New Delhi

Date : 6 June 2026

Page : 1, 8

7.8% growth spurt in Q4FY26 despite West Asia turmoil

Net exports recorded a surplus on a constant-price basis in the fourth quarter. This was largely attributable to a higher import deflator, reflecting a sharp increase in crude oil prices and persistently elevated gold prices.

Nominal GDP growth was revised marginally higher to 8.9 per cent, taking the economy's size to ₹346.4 trillion, compared with the February estimate. The higher nominal output helped the government maintain its fiscal deficit at 4.4 per cent of GDP in FY26.

Economists nevertheless remained cautious about the outlook for FY27, pointing to geopolitical uncertainties and the risk of El Niño-induced supply disruptions. Upasna Bhardwaj, chief economist at Kotak Mahindra Bank, said tighter financial conditions, higher inflation and the pros-

pect of a weak monsoon could weigh on both urban and rural demand. "We expect GDP growth to hover in the 6-6.3 per cent range, depending on how these risks play out," she said.

Rajani Sinha, chief economist at CareEdge, noted that the impact of the West Asia conflict was visible only towards the end of the March quarter, meaning its full economic consequences would emerge over the coming months. "The uncertainty surrounding the resolution of the West Asia conflict, along with intermittent flare-ups, poses a key challenge for the global economy. Furthermore, the possibility of a below-normal monsoon amid a rising probability of El Niño conditions presents a significant risk to domestic demand, particularly in rural areas," she added.

E25 shift should come before flex-fuel move: PMO advisor

SAKET KUMAR
New Delhi, 5 June

India should eventually raise ethanol blending in petrol from the current E20 level to E25 before transitioning towards flex-fuel vehicles and E100 fuel, Tarun Kapoor, advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, said on Friday, outlining what he described as the next phase of the country's effort to reduce dependence on imported fossil fuels.

Speaking at the 6th World Environment Day Conference organised by the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), Kapoor said India's ethanol blending programme had emerged as one of the country's major achievements, and was now recognised globally.

"We are at E20 now, and we have not gone beyond E20 because we want this whole thing to stabilise a bit. Ultimately, I think we should go to

E25, then put a full stop and then move towards flex-fuel and make available E100," Kapoor said.

The remarks come as the government steps up efforts to improve energy security amid heightened geopolitical uncertainties and volatility in global crude oil markets.

Referring to the ongoing crisis in West Asia, Kapoor said recent developments

had reinforced the need for India to become more self-reliant in energy. A sharp rise in crude oil prices could have a significant impact on the economy, he said, adding that transport remains one of the largest consumers of fossil fuels and would need to

undergo a rapid transition.

Kapoor said the shift would have to be led primarily by electric mobility, with biofuels playing a complementary role. Electric mobility would have to lead the transport sector's transition away from fossil fuels, Kapoor added.

He said electric two-wheelers (e2Ws) had made progress but needed to grow much faster, while adoption in passenger vehicles would require lower prices, better financing options, and expanded charging infrastructure. Kapoor also identified buses and trucks as sectors where faster electrification could have a major impact.

Kapoor said a substantial allocation for charging infrastructure remained available

under existing schemes, and added that the Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) had identified around 60 highways for the development of charging facilities aimed at supporting electric trucks.

He said electric trucks and buses could deliver a significant impact because diesel consumption in India is roughly twice that of petrol. The government is already supporting a pilot programme for electric trucks and intends to expand deployment in the coming years, he added.

Kapoor also disclosed that experiments were underway on blending Isobutanol with diesel, which could provide another pathway to reduce fossil-fuel consumption. "If it succeeds, then probably we will introduce Isobutanol blending in diesel," he said, adding that the fuel could be produced using feedstock and infrastructure similar to those used for ethanol production.



TARUN KAPOOR, ADVISOR TO THE PM, SAID ETHANOL BLENDING HAD EMERGED AS ONE OF INDIA'S MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS, AND WAS RECOGNISED GLOBALLY



Publication : Business Standard	Editions : New Delhi
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 1, 8

This is a challenging decade, says PM; calls for energy self-reliance

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said the current decade was turning out to be a decade of adversities, beginning with the Covid-19 pandemic and followed by several wars, which have triggered an energy crisis, leading to volatile oil prices and disruptions in gas supply chains. But India has weathered these challenges with strength and resilience through the collective efforts of its 1.4 billion people, he said. Addressing a gathering after inaugurating and laying foundation stones for development projects worth ₹18,000 crore in Surat, Modi said the current crises had underlined the importance of self-reliance and diversification in the energy sector. 8▶

Achieving energy self-reliance is key: PM

ARCHIS MOHAN
New Delhi, 5 June

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said the current decade was turning out to be a decade of adversities, beginning with the Covid-19 pandemic and followed by several wars, which have triggered an energy crisis, leading to volatile oil prices and disruptions in gas supply chains. But India has weathered these challenges with strength and resilience through the collective efforts of its 1.4 billion people, he said.

Addressing a gathering in Gujarat's Surat after inaugurating and laying foundation stones for development projects worth ₹18,000 crore, the PM said the current global crises had underlined the importance of atmanirbharta, or self-reliance, in the energy sector, and the crucial role played by the country's efforts over the last 12 years to diversify its sources of oil supplies and build renewable energy capacity.

The PM detailed the govern-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi (left) on a visit to L&T's Hazira unit in Surat, where he reviewed industrial operations and infrastructure projects

PHOTO: PTI

ment's "historic investments" over the last dozen years in renewable energy, ethanol blending, railway electrification, civil

transmission networks and expanding the piped gas network.

The PM said voters had repeatedly given a mandate to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)

because they trust his government's development initiatives and growth-driven agenda for the country. He said that amid his government's focus on self-reliance, there are "some pessimists" in the country who constantly mock the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative.

To accelerate the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative, the country is focusing heavily on connectivity. Projects such as the Vadodara-Mumbai Expressway, the Dedicated Freight Corridor and the Ahmedabad-Mumbai bullet train corridor reflect this priority, he said. The PM added that the world is shifting towards a green future and India is working extensively on 'green growth', with Gujarat having taken decisive steps in this regard years ago.

Earlier in the day, the PM visited Larsen & Toubro's Hazira facility in Surat, where he reviewed ongoing industrial operations and infrastructure projects. He visited the AM Naik Heavy Engineering Complex, L&T's

state-of-the-art manufacturing facility, and was shown around by company officials. He was briefed on the 'Zorawar' tanks and other defence equipment manufactured at the facility. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and L&T Defence have jointly developed the air-transportable 25-tonne tank designed for rapid deployment, largely along the frontier with China.

Taking a jibe at the Congress, the PM said "immense public anger" forced the party to change its CM in Karnataka and accused it of spreading chaos in the past 12 years and seeking political and electoral opportunities in them.

Later in the evening, the PM launched ₹2,970 crore projects in Daman and inaugurated new Airport Terminal in Union territory. Addressing a gathering, he said the country clocked 7.7 per cent gross domestic product (GDP) growth in FY26. "India is fastest growing major economy in the world," he said.



Publication : Business Standard	Editions : New Delhi
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 8

NTPC invites EoI for flexible thermal power

NTPC has floated an expression of interest (EoI) to identify technology providers and engineering, procurement and construction partners for developing flexible thermal power generation solutions to support grid integration of renewable energy. The EoI has been invited for sub-critical thermal power units in the 150-250 Mw range capable of two-shift operation and operation at a minimum technical load of 25 per cent.

BS REPORTER

भारत को ई25 की दिशा में आगे बढ़ने की दरकार

साकेत कुमार
नई दिल्ली, 5 जून

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के सलाहकार तरुण कपूर ने शुक्रवार को कहा कि भारत को पेट्रोल में एथेनॉल मिश्रण को मौजूदा ई-20 स्तर से बढ़ाकर ई-25 तक ले जाना चाहिए और इसके बाद देश को एथेनॉल और पेट्रोल दोनों पर चलने वाले (फ्लेक्स-फ्यूल) वाहनों और ई-100 की दिशा में आगे कदम बढ़ाना चाहिए।

उन्होंने इसे आयातित जीवाश्म ईंधनों पर निर्भरता कम करने की दिशा में अगला कदम

बताया। सोसायटी ऑफ इंडियन ऑटोमोबाइल मैनुफैक्चरर्स (सायम) द्वारा आयोजित 6वें विश्व पर्यावरण दिवस सम्मेलन में कपूर ने कहा कि भारत का एथेनॉल मिश्रण कार्यक्रम देश की बड़ी उपलब्धियों में से एक है और इसे दुनिया भर में सराहा जा रहा है। उन्होंने कहा, 'हम फिलहाल ई-20 स्तर पर हैं। अभी हम इससे आगे नहीं बढ़े हैं क्योंकि हम चाहते हैं कि यह व्यवस्था पहले पूरी तरह स्थिर हो जाए। आखिरकार हमें ई-25 तक जाना चाहिए और इसके बाद पेट्रोल और एथेनॉल दोनों से चलने वाले वाहनों की दिशा में बढ़ना



तरुण कपूर, प्रधानमंत्री के सलाहकार

चाहिए और फिर ई100 यानी शत-प्रतिशत एथेनॉल को लक्षित करना चाहिए।' कपूर ने कहा कि पश्चिम एशिया में जारी तनाव और वैश्विक स्तर पर कच्चे तेल की कीमतों में

उतार-चढ़ाव ने भारत के लिए ऊर्जा के मामले में आत्मनिर्भर बनने की जरूरत पर जोर दिया है। उन्होंने कहा कि कच्चे तेल की कीमतों में तेज बढ़ोतरी का देश की अर्थव्यवस्था पर बड़ा असर पड़ सकता है। परिवहन क्षेत्र जीवाश्म ईंधन का सबसे बड़ा उपभोक्ता है, इसलिए इसमें तेजी से बदलाव लाना जरूरी है। परिवहन क्षेत्र को जीवाश्म ईंधन से दूर करने में इलेक्ट्रिक वाहनों की सबसे बड़ी भूमिका होगी जबकि जैव ईंधन (बायोफ्यूल) सहायक भूमिका निभाएंगे। इलेक्ट्रिक दोपहिया वाहनों की बिक्री बढ़ी है लेकिन इसमें और

तेजी लाने की जरूरत है। वहीं, यात्री वाहनों में इलेक्ट्रिक वाहनों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कीमतें कम करनी होंगी, बेहतर वित्तीय सुविधाएं देनी होंगी और चार्जिंग नेटवर्क का विस्तार करना होगा। उन्होंने कहा कि बसों और ट्रकों के विद्युतीकरण से सबसे अधिक प्रभाव पड़ सकता है। चार्जिंग से जुड़े ढांचे के लिए सरकार की योजनाओं में पर्याप्त आवंटन है। भारी उद्योग मंत्रालय ने इलेक्ट्रिक ट्रकों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए करीब 60 राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों पर चार्जिंग सुविधाएं तैयार करने के लिए जगह की पहचान की है।



Publication : Financial Express	Editions : New Delhi
Date :6 June 2026	Page : 1, 11

ECONOMY **PAGE 11**

PRICES OF PETROL, DIESEL MAY GO UP BY ADDITIONAL ₹5



PRICES OF PETROL and diesel may need to be raised by another ₹5 per litre despite multiple hikes over the past three weeks, as state-run oil marketers continue to incur losses of ₹610 crore every day amid elevated crude oil prices and fuel losses triggered by the West Asia crisis, reports **Saurav Anand**.

ANOTHER HIKE IN THE OFFING

Fuel prices seen rising by ₹5/litre

SAURAV ANAND
New Delhi, June 5

PETROL AND DIESEL prices may need to be increased by another ₹5 per litre despite multiple hikes over the past three weeks, as state-run oil marketing companies (OMCs) continue to incur under-recoveries of around ₹610 crore everyday amid elevated crude oil prices and fuel losses triggered by the West Asia crisis.

According to Prashant Vasisht, senior vice president and co-group Head, Corporate Ratings, ICRA, OMCs are currently losing around ₹5.5 per litre on petrol and ₹4.5 per litre on diesel, even after cumulative retail fuel price increases of about ₹7.5 per litre since May 15.

"Taken together, the three state-run fuel retailers could be facing an overall under-recovery of around ₹610 crore daily. A further increase of about ₹5 per litre in petrol and diesel prices could help OMCs move closer to break even on auto fuel sales," Vasisht said.

The losses extend beyond auto fuels. ICRA estimates LPG under-recoveries remain elevated at around ₹680 per cylinder, while losses on aviation turbine fuel (ATF) are running at nearly ₹93 crore per day.

According to a Crisil Ratings analysis, cumulative petrol and diesel price increases could move closer to ₹10 per litre if crude oil prices remain elevated and OMCs continue to pare losses.

"The broader effect will reverberate across the economy through higher transport costs, pushing up both food and core inflation," Crisil said.

The ratings agency estimates that a ₹7.5-per-litre increase in petrol and diesel prices could add around 36 basis points to consumer inflation, while a cumulative ₹10-per-litre increase could raise the impact to 48 basis points.

Transport costs are expected to be the main transmission channel. Crisil noted that freight transport accounts for 54% of India's logistics costs, while road transport carries nearly 71% of total freight movement. Fuel alone consti-

RECOVERY STRATEGY



■ OMCs are currently losing an estimated **₹5.5/litre** on petrol & **₹4.5/litre** on diesel

■ Three state-run fuel retailers likely facing overall under-recovery of around **₹610 crore** daily

■ ICRA estimates LPG under-recoveries remain elevated at around **₹680/cylinder**

■ Losses on ATF are running at nearly **₹93/day**

tutes around 42% of road transport costs, making supply chains highly vulnerable to fuel price increases.

As a result, sectors dependent on transportation are expected to face higher costs. Crisil said categories such as dairy products, fruits, pulses, spices, tea, coffee, eggs, meat and fish could witness stronger price pass-through as rising freight costs feed into retail prices.

Manufacturers are also facing a dual cost shock from elevated crude-linked inputs and higher transportation expenses, increasing pressure on margins and consumer prices.

Crude oil prices have averaged around \$112 per barrel during the first two months of the current fiscal, significantly higher than Crisil's full-year base-case estimate of \$95 per barrel.

With fuel retailers still incurring substantial losses despite recent price hikes, the debate over balancing OMC finances, inflation management and consumer affordability is set to intensify in the coming weeks.

Online

Headline	ONGC chairman calls on AP CM, discusses energy project		
Publication	Bizz Buzz	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

ONGC chairman calls on AP CM, discusses energy project

<https://www.bizzbuzz.news/industry/energy/ongc-chairman-calls-on-ap-cm-discusses-energy-project-1393234>

ONGC Limited chairman Arun Kumar Singh called on Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and discussed the company's ongoing projects

ONGC discusses Andhra energy expansion plans

5 June 2026

Amaravati: ONGC Limited chairman Arun Kumar Singh called on Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and discussed the company's ongoing projects and future plans in the state.

During the meeting at the Secretariat, Singh briefed the chief minister on ONGC's operations. They also discussed the company's efforts towards strengthening the energy sector in Andhra Pradesh and its expansion plans in the state, an official release said.

Nayara completes Vadinar turnaround

"Singh met Naidu and briefed him on the (ONGC's) company's ongoing operations in Andhra Pradesh, including natural gas and crude oil exploration activities in the Krishna-Godavari Delta Basin, besides outlining future expansion plans in the state," the release said.

Naidu reviewed the revenue generated through ONGC projects, employment opportunities created by them and their impact on the local economy.

Global Oil Prices Dip as Israel-Lebanon Ceasefire Offers Glimmer of Hope

The CM stressed the need for closer coordination between the state government and ONGC to facilitate the speedy implementation of projects.

Naidu assured full support from the government for initiatives aimed at enhancing energy security as part of the state's development agenda.

"ONGC should utilise its Corporate Social Responsibility funds for the development of villages in areas where oil and natural gas extraction activities are being carried out," the CM said.

Responding to the chief minister, Singh said ONGC is providing advanced cancer treatment equipment to hospitals in Kakinada and Guntur as part of its CSR initiatives.

Headline	ONGC Recruitment 2026 for Junior and Associate Consultants Applications are now invited		
Publication	Career Star	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

ONGC Recruitment 2026 for Junior and Associate Consultants Applications are now invited

<https://careerstar.in/ongc-recruitment-2026-for-junior-and-associate-consultants-applications-are-now-invited/>

ONGC Recruitment 2026 for Junior and Associate Consultants Applications are now invited, ONGC's Well Services division under the Ahmedabad Asset is

seeking applications from experienced retired ONGC professionals belonging to the Production and Drilling disciplines. Eligible candidates may apply for the positions of Junior Consultant and Associate Consultant on a contractual basis for a tenure of two years.

The selected consultants will be deployed as competent personnel in shift and general-shift roles on charter-hired and O&M-operated Workover Rigs of Ahmedabad Asset. Their primary responsibility will be to oversee and monitor workover operations, ensuring safe and efficient execution of field activities.

Candidates interested in applying are encouraged to thoroughly review the official notification before submitting their applications to ensure they meet all requirements. The official notification and website links are provided below in the article please read carefully.

Last Date of Application: June 2026

Eligibility Criteria and Other Details for ONGC Recruitment 2026 for Junior and Associate Consultants Applications are now invited

Sl. No.

Post

Level

No. of Posts & Discipline(s)

Required Experience

Junior Consultant

E1 to E3

37 Posts (Production, Drilling, Mechanical, Electrical, Instrumentation)

Retired ONGC executives who retired at E1 to E3 level with a minimum of 5 years of relevant in-line experience in Workover or Drilling field operations from the Production, Drilling, Mechanical, Electrical, or Instrumentation disciplines.

Associate Consultant

E4 to E5 and E6+

Included in the 37 Posts (Production, Drilling, Mechanical, Electrical, Instrumentation)

Retired ONGC executives who retired at E4 to E5 or E6+ level with a minimum of 5 years of relevant in-line experience in Workover or Drilling field operations from the Production, Drilling, Mechanical, Electrical, or Instrumentation disciplines.

Remuneration for ONGC Recruitment 2026 for Junior and Associate Consultants Applications are now invited

For Junior Consultant (E1 to E3):

Tenure

Monthly Honorarium ()

Conveyance Reimbursement (/Month)

Reimbursement for Office at Residence (Secretary, Peon, etc.) (/Month)

Total Compensation (/Month)

Communication Charges Reimbursement (Max. /Month)

1st Year

2nd Year

For Associate Consultant (E4 to E5):

Tenure

Monthly Honorarium ()

Conveyance Reimbursement (/Month)

Reimbursement for Office at Residence (Secretary, Peon, etc.) (/Month)

Total Compensation (/Month)

Communication Charges Reimbursement (Max. /Month)

1st Year

2nd Year

Important Dates and Application Process for ONGC Recruitment 2026 for Junior and Associate Consultants Applications are now invited

Particulars

Details

Age Limit

Candidates must be less than 64 years of age as on the date of advertisement.

Required Documents

Scanned copies of ONGC Identity Card (both sides) and Aadhaar Card (both sides) must be submitted along with the application/Bio-Data form.

Application Submission Mode

Applications in the prescribed format along with required documents may be submitted through email or in person.

Email Address

AMDWSPC@ONGC.CO.IN

Offline Submission Address

Contract Cell, Room No. 132, 1st Floor, Avani Bhavan, ONGC, Ahmedabad Asset, Gujarat

Last Date to Apply

19-Jun-26

Selection Process

Written Test and Personal Interaction/Interview

Test/Interview Venue

ONGC, Ahmedabad

Test/Interview Date

Will be communicated to shortlisted candidates via email.

The selection process will include a written test followed by an interaction/interview.

Criteria

Marks

- A. Year of Experience
- B. Academic Qualification
- C. Written Test
- D. Interaction/Interview

Total Marks

Written Test:

The test will be conducted in offline (pen-and-paper) mode.

Question papers will be available in both English and Hindi.

The examination will consist of 20 objective-type multiple-choice questions.

Candidates will be given 60 minutes to complete the test.

Each question will carry 2.5 marks, making the total score 50 marks.

No negative marks will be deducted for incorrect answers.

Qualifying Criteria:

Candidates must secure at least 15 marks out of 50 (30%) in the written test to qualify for the next stage.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for the interaction/interview round.

To qualify in the interaction/interview, candidates must obtain a minimum of 10 marks out of 20 (50%).

Final Merit List:

The final merit ranking will be prepared based on the cumulative marks obtained in all evaluation parameters, including experience, academic qualifications, written test performance, and interaction/interview. Engagement offers will be issued to candidates according to their position in the overall merit list.

Travel Allowance:

No TA, DA, or accommodation facility will be provided for attending the written test, interview, or interaction process.

Note: for more and complete details please check the notification below.

Sharing is appreciated

Headline	Hafele India delivers world's tallest movable wall at ONGC Convention & Exhibition Centre in Goa		
Publication	Construction Times	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Hafele India delivers world's tallest movable wall at ONGC Convention & Exhibition Centre in Goa

<https://constructiontimes.co.in/Hafele-India-delivers-world%E2%80%99s-tallest-movable-wall-at-ONGC-Convention-&-Exhibition-Centre-in-Goa>

Real Estate Hafele India delivers worlds tallest movable wall at ONGC Convention & Exhibition Centre in Goa A landmark achievement in Co-Creation & Co-Engineering, redefining scale, flexibility, and acoustic performance for large-format convention spaces.

Hafele India, a global leader in interior solutions, has achieved a significant industry milestone with the successful delivery of the worlds tallest movable wall at the Convention & Exhibition Centre of ONGC in Goa. Standing at an impressive 22 metres and spanning 48.1 metres in width, the installation represents a breakthrough in engineering precision, spatial flexibility, and high-performance architectural solutions.

Designed to enable seamless transformation of large convention spaces, the movable wall delivers 57 dB sound insulation, ensuring superior acoustic performance while allowing spaces to be configured efficiently based on evolving requirements. Built with 1500 mm wide panels, the system has been engineered for smooth movement and seamless functionality at scale. The project opens opportunities for future phases involving similar interior solutions, reflecting the potential for continued collaboration on large-scale infrastructure requirements.

Speaking on the milestone, Frank Schloeder, Managing Director, Hafele South Asia, said: This is a significant milestone for Hafele India and a strong reflection of our ability to execute complex, high-performance projects at scale. This project showcases the power of Co-Creation & Co-Engineering, where close collaboration and expertise come together as we continue to push boundaries in support of world-class infrastructure in India.

Adding to this, Ashish Aundhkar, Business Head Partitions & Automatics, Hafele India, said: Delivering a solution of this scale required precise planning and coordination across multiple teams and interfaces. The system has been engineered as a large-format movable wall solution designed to handle significant span and height requirements, while ensuring strong acoustic performance and controlled sealing for stability. A precision track-switching mechanism enables smooth and reliable movement of panels, allowing the space to be reconfigured efficiently based on operational needs.

A strong example of Hafeles Co-Creation & Co-Engineering concept, the project was brought to life through close collaboration between C. P. Kukreja Architects, Engineers India Limited (EIL), VRC, and Hafele India. At Hafele, Co-Creation & Co-Engineering is a philosophy of working closely with customers and project stakeholders to jointly develop customised, purpose-driven solutions tailored to unique project requirements. The ONGC Convention & Exhibition Centre project stands as a classic example of this approach, bringing together diverse expertise to deliver a life-size, high-performance solution that reinforces the brand purpose of Maximising the Value of Space. Together.

Headline	Oil India strikes natural gas in Andaman offshore block for second time, boosts exploration hopes		
Publication	Fortune India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Oil India strikes natural gas in Andaman offshore block for second time, boosts exploration hopes

<https://www.fortuneindia.com/business-news/second-natural-gas-discovery-by-oil-in-andaman-offshore-block-boosts-exploration-prospects/141777>

The Oil India Ltd (OIL) has made its second natural gas discovery in the Andaman offshore region, reinforcing hopes that the frontier basin could emerge as a significant hydrocarbon-producing area in the coming years.

The latest discovery was made at the Vijayapuram-3 exploratory well, located about 15 kilometres off the east coast of the Andaman Islands in a water depth of 355 metres, Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Friday.

It marks the second successful gas-bearing well drilled by OIL in the block, following the natural gas find at Vijayapuram-2 in September 2025.

Of the three exploratory wells drilled so far under the company's ongoing Andaman exploration campaign, two have now confirmed the presence of hydrocarbons, substantially improving the basin's exploration outlook, the company said.

Puri described the development as another positive development in India's efforts to strengthen domestic energy security through increased exploration in offshore basins.

"Initial production testing of the well at a depth of 1900 plus meters in the Eocene formation has established the presence of natural gas through continuous flaring, he said in an X post.

"Under the Samudra Manthan Mission (National Deep Water Exploration Mission) announced by Hon'ble PM @narendramodi Ji on Independence Day 2025, large number of deepwater & Ultra deepwater exploration wells are planned in our offshore basins to fully exploit our hydrocarbon reserves," the minister said in the post.

This presence of natural gas will help the country in taking forward the exploration ambitions in coordination with global deepwater exploration experts, he said.

According to the company, initial production testing carried out at a depth of over 1,900 metres in the Eocene formation established the presence of natural gas through continuous flaring.

Following perforation, the well recorded a rapid pressure build-up and commenced production, indicating encouraging reservoir characteristics.

The back-to-back gas discoveries are being viewed as a major milestone for India's offshore exploration efforts, particularly in the relatively underexplored Andaman Basin.

Industry observers believe the findings could pave the way for intensified exploration and appraisal activities aimed at unlocking the region's hydrocarbon potential.

OIL said the latest discovery serves as an important indicator of a working petroleum system and could point to the presence of additional hydrocarbon accumulations within the basin.

Following the earlier Vijayapuram-2 discovery, OIL initiated an extensive appraisal programme, including reprocessing of existing seismic data and acquisition of nearly 600 square kilometres of additional 3D seismic data.

The company said data processing and interpretation are currently underway and would guide future appraisal drilling activities.

With two successful gas discoveries from three exploratory wells, the Andaman offshore region is increasingly emerging as one of India's most promising frontiers for future oil and gas exploration.

Rank

Company Name

Reliance Industries

LIC

Indian Oil Corporation

State Bank of India

ONGC

[View Full List](#)

Responding to Puri's post, the company said, "Oil India remains committed to advancing exploration through technological excellence and unlocking the nation's hydrocarbon potential for a secure energy future. PTI SN NN

Frequently Asked Questions

What has Oil India discovered in the Andaman offshore block?

Oil India Ltd (OIL) has made its second natural gas discovery at the Vijayapuram-3 exploratory well in the Andaman offshore region, reinforcing exploration hopes.

Where was Oil India's latest natural gas discovery made?

The latest discovery was made at the Vijayapuram-3 exploratory well, located about 15 kilometres off the east coast of the Andaman Islands in 355 metres water depth.

Why is Oil India's second gas discovery in Andaman significant?

It reinforces hopes that the Andaman Basin could become a significant hydrocarbon-producing area, strengthening India's domestic energy security through increased offshore exploration.

The FAQs are AI-generated, and Fortune India is not responsible for its content or any associated copyright issues.

Headline	ONGC Invites Applications from Retired Executives for 37 Consultant Posts in Ahmedabad Asset; Apply by June 19		
Publication	INDIAN PSU	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

ONGC Invites Applications from Retired Executives for 37 Consultant Posts in Ahmedabad Asset; Apply by June 19

<https://indianpsu.com/ongc-consultant-recruitment-2026-ahmedabad-asset/>

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has invited applications from experienced retired ONGC executives for engagement as Junior Consultants and Associate Consultants in its Well Services Department, Ahmedabad Asset. The contractual engagement is aimed at strengthening supervision of work-over operations on charter-hired and O&M-operated work-over rigs.

According to Advertisement No. AMD/CONSLT-2026, ONGC plans to engage retired executives from Production, Drilling, Mechanical, Electrical and Instrumentation disciplines with at least five years of in-line experience in work-over or drilling field operations.

A total of 37 positions are proposed under the recruitment drive. Retired executives who superannuated at E1 to E3 levels are eligible to apply for Junior Consultant positions, while those retired at E4 and E5 levels can apply for Associate Consultant posts. Retired E6-level officers may also be considered subject to availability of vacancies and their willingness to work at E5 remuneration levels.

The engagement will be purely contractual for a period of two years or until the consultant attains the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. Applicants must be below 64 years of age as on the date of advertisement.

Under the compensation structure, Junior Consultants will receive a monthly package of 40,000 during the first year and 41,350 during the second year. Associate Consultants will receive 66,000 per month in the first year and 68,000 in the second year, apart from reimbursement of mobile communication expenses up to 2,000 per month on actual basis.

The selection process will comprise evaluation of experience, academic qualifications, a written test and personal interaction/interview. The written examination will consist of 20 objective-type questions in English and Hindi, carrying a total of 50 marks, with no negative marking.

Selected consultants will be responsible for supervising work-over operations, ensuring compliance with Oil Mines Regulations and Mines Act provisions, maintaining safety standards, overseeing rig deployment activities, updating QHSE documentation and performing duties prescribed for Competent Persons under OMR-2017.

The last date for submission of applications is June 19, 2026. Details regarding the written test and interview schedule will be communicated separately to shortlisted candidates through email.

Headline	PESB Recommends Bhaskar Chowdary Nettem as ONGC Director (Production)		
Publication	Indian GRAPEVINE	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

PESB Recommends Bhaskar Chowdary Nettem as ONGC Director (Production)

<https://indiangrapevine.com/pesb-recommends-bhaskar-chowdary-nettem-as-ongc-director-production>

PESB recommends Bhaskar Chowdary Nettem for the post of Director (Production) at ONGC, following its selection process for PSU leadership.

Headline	ONGC Signs 5-Year MoU to Advance India's First Geothermal Power Project at Ladakh's Puga Valley		
Publication	PSU Connect	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

ONGC Signs 5-Year MoU to Advance India's First Geothermal Power Project at Ladakh's Puga Valley

<https://www.psuconnect.in/memorandum-of-understanding/ongc-signs-5-year-mou-to-advance-indias-first-geothermal-power-project-at-ladakhs-puga-valley>

ONGC extends partnership in Ladakh for India's first geothermal power plant at Puga Valley, marking a major clean energy milestone at 14,000 ft.

New Delhi: In a landmark development for India's renewable energy sector, the ONGC Energy Centre has signed a renewed five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) and the Union Territory Administration of Ladakh to advance the country's first geothermal power project at Puga Valley.

The agreement marks a significant milestone in India's clean energy roadmap, strengthening efforts to harness geothermal resources from one of the world's most promising high-altitude geothermal provinces.

1 MW Pilot Plant to Anchor India's Geothermal Future

The proposed project envisions a 1 MWe pilot geothermal power plant, designed to demonstrate the viability of large-scale geothermal energy production in India.

Located at an altitude exceeding 14,000 feet, Puga Valley presents extreme engineering challenges, including harsh climatic conditions and difficult terrain. Despite this, ONGC Energy Centre has already achieved a breakthrough by successfully drilling India's first geothermal well in the region and generating steam sufficient for power production.

This positions India among a select group of nations actively developing geothermal energy as a reliable, round-the-clock renewable power source.

Join PSU Connect on WhatsApp

A Strategic Push Toward Net Zero Goals

The Puga geothermal initiative is expected to play a key role in:

Enhancing energy security in the Himalayan region

Reducing dependence on conventional fossil fuels

Supporting sustainable infrastructure development

Creating local employment and economic opportunities

The project also aligns closely with India's broader climate commitments and the national vision of achieving net-zero emissions, reinforcing the push toward diversified renewable energy sources.

High-Level Participation in MoU Signing

The renewed MoU was formally signed by senior officials including:

Shri Rudra Goud P.T., IAS, Administrative Secretary, Power Development and New & Renewable Energy Department, UT Ladakh

Shri Romil Singh Donk, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Leh

Shri Sunil Kumar, Director General, ONGC Energy Centre

Their participation underscores strong institutional alignment between the central government, UT administration, and technical energy bodies.

Why This Project Matters

Unlike solar and wind energy, geothermal power offers a stable baseload energy supply available 24/7 regardless of weather conditions. If successfully scaled, the Puga Valley project could serve as a blueprint for geothermal development across India's Himalayan and volcanic regions.

Experts believe this initiative could mark the beginning of a new renewable energy category in India's energy mix, complementing solar, wind, and hydro power.

Conclusion

The extended collaboration between ONGC Energy Centre and Ladakh authorities signals more than just a pilot project; it represents India's entry into next-generation renewable energy innovation. If successful, Puga Valley may become the cornerstone of India's geothermal energy future and a symbol of high-altitude engineering excellence.

Headline	How ONGC Is Driving BRICS Collaboration on Carbon Capture Technologies		
Publication	PSU Connect	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

How ONGC Is Driving BRICS Collaboration on Carbon Capture Technologies

<https://www.psuconnect.in/psu-news/how-ongc-is-driving-brics-collaboration-on-carbon-capture-technologies>

ONGC organized the BRICS Side Event on Advancements in CCUS Technologies under India's BRICS 2026 Chairship, bringing together policymakers, researchers, and industry leaders to discuss carbon capture, utilization, and storage solutions.

New Delhi, June 5, 2026: State-owned energy major ONGC successfully organized the BRICS Side Event on "Advancements in Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) Technologies" as part of India's BRICS Chairship 2026, bringing together policymakers, industry leaders, researchers, and technical experts from BRICS member nations.

The event served as a key platform for discussions on emerging technologies, policy frameworks, financing mechanisms, and collaborative opportunities across the entire CCUS value chain. Participants explored how carbon capture technologies can play a pivotal role in achieving climate objectives while ensuring energy security and industrial competitiveness.

The deliberations focused on five critical areas of the CCUS ecosystem, including policy, finance and regulatory frameworks, advancements in carbon dioxide capture technologies, innovations in CO utilization, transport and geological storage solutions, and CO-based Enhanced Hydrocarbon Recovery (CO-EHR).

Join PSU Connect on WhatsApp

Experts emphasized that CCUS is increasingly becoming an essential component of global decarbonization strategies, particularly for hard-to-abate sectors such as oil and gas, steel, cement, and chemicals. The technology enables the capture of carbon emissions from industrial facilities and power plants, preventing them from entering the atmosphere while creating opportunities for utilization and long-term storage.

The discussions highlighted the importance of supportive policy frameworks, cross-border collaboration, and investment in research and development to accelerate large-scale deployment of CCUS projects across BRICS economies.

As one of the world's fastest-growing energy markets, India has been actively exploring advanced carbon management technologies to balance economic growth with environmental sustainability. The event reflected the country's commitment to fostering international cooperation on climate solutions while advancing energy transition objectives.

Participants also examined the potential of CO-based Enhanced Hydrocarbon Recovery, a technology that can increase oil and gas production from mature reservoirs while simultaneously storing captured carbon underground.

The summit concluded with a shared recognition among BRICS nations that Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage will be a critical enabler for strengthening energy security, supporting industrial growth, enhancing competitiveness, and meeting long-term climate goals. Stakeholders underscored the need for continued collaboration to accelerate innovation and scale up deployment of CCUS technologies across member countries.

The event further reinforced India's leadership role during its BRICS Chairship and highlighted ONGC's commitment to advancing low-carbon technologies and sustainable energy solutions.

Headline	ONGC Energy Centre, Ladakh Administration extend pact for India's first Geothermal Power Project		
Publication	PSU Watch	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

ONGC Energy Centre, Ladakh Administration extend pact for India's first Geothermal Power Project

<https://psuwatch.com/newsupdates/ongc-energy-centre-ladakh-administration-extend-pact-for-indias-first-geothermal-power-project>

The ONGC Energy Centre has signed an MoU with the Union Territory Administration of Ladakh and the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council to extend their collaboration for another five years

Published on

New Delhi: The ONGC Energy Centre has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Union Territory Administration of Ladakh and the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council to extend their collaboration for another five years for the development of India's first geothermal power project at Puga Valley in Ladakh.

Follow The PSUWatch Channel on WhatsApp

The agreement, signed on June 4, seeks to advance geothermal energy development in the Himalayan region through the establishment of a 1 MWe pilot geothermal power plant. Located at an altitude of over 14,000 feet, Puga Valley is considered one of the world's most promising geothermal provinces and is expected to serve as the foundation for commercial-scale geothermal power generation in India.

The project has already achieved a significant milestone with the successful drilling of India's first geothermal well by the ONGC Energy Centre. According to the organisation, the well has generated sufficient steam for sustainable power production despite the region's challenging terrain and extreme weather conditions.

The breakthrough marks a major step in India's efforts to harness geothermal energy and places the country among a select group of nations pursuing geothermal resources as a dependable, round-the-clock renewable energy source.

The Puga geothermal project is expected to strengthen energy security in the Himalayan region, reduce reliance on conventional fuels, support sustainable development and generate economic opportunities for local communities. The initiative is also aligned with the vision of Narendra Modi to promote alternative energy resources and supports India's long-term net-zero commitments.

Follow PSU Watch on LinkedIn

The MoU has been signed by Rudra Goud P. T., Administrative Secretary, Power Development and New & Renewable Energy Department, UT Ladakh; Romil Singh Donk, Deputy Commissioner, Leh; and Sunil Kumar on behalf of their respective organisations.

The renewed partnership is expected to accelerate India's geothermal energy ambitions and contribute to diversifying the country's renewable energy portfolio.

is India's Business News centre that places the spotlight on PSUs, Bureaucracy, Defence and Public Policy. ? Click to join our channel now: . Prefer LinkedIn? Follow PSU Watch on . Click to stay connected on and stay updated.)

Headline	Bought a scrap ONGC Bolero 4x4 and turned it into an off-road beast		
Publication	Team Bhp	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Bought a scrap ONGC Bolero 4x4 and turned it into an off-road beast

<https://www.team-bhp.com/news/bought-scrap-ongc-bolero-4x4-and-turned-it-road-beast>

Every time I saw the electronic shifter, I was tempted to get the 4x4 sorted, and when I started to work on the front propeller shaft, I realized that the electronic shifter was not working

BHPian Jacks & Hooks recently shared this with other enthusiasts:

My dream build MM540 was running all fine, and I had planned a trip with my wife and brother to Leh. We had shipped the vehicle by car carrier from Bangalore to Chandigarh. We reached Chandigarh, picked the vehicle, and started to Leh via Pathankot. My brother was at the wheel, and unfortunately, he lost control of the vehicle near Jalandhar. While he was trying to stabilize the vehicle, the jeep toppled.

Fortunately, all of us walked out safely. We recovered the vehicle, gave it in a garage nearby, and continued our trip in a Revv car, renting a

Mahindra Marazzo. We shipped the vehicle back from Jalandhar to Bangalore once it was ready, but then realized the vehicle was not back to its original charm.

And then, I started searching for another jeep, and this time, preferably a 4x4. I was in Mettupalayam to meet a regular jeep spares vendor, and all of a sudden found an old-generation Bolero standing in near scrap condition. Out of curiosity went near the vehicle and found it to be a 2005 model Bolero with MDI engine and BA10 5+1 gearbox with 4x4 Electronic shifter (Ex ONGC vehicle). My mind was already inclined to buy and revamp this one. Without much time, the deal was closed the same evening. The engine (Di-Turbo) and wheels in my MM540 were good, and hence I decided to transplant the same Di-Turbo to the Bolero and retain the original Bolero BA10 gearbox with 4x4 transfer case. It had the original Bolero power steering and brake booster, which needed nothing more than a service.

It took a week for the engine change to be done, and unfortunately, I haven't taken any pictures of the work in progress. After all these works were done, A complete deep clean was done and the vehicle was ready for road use. The only pending work in the vehicle was that I couldn't find the front propeller shaft. While I was trying to find one, I started using the vehicle and started falling in love with the dimensions and handling of the vehicle.

Few pictures of the vehicle after the work completion:

The front seats that came with the vehicle were not comfortable, and hence swapped them with Ecosport bucket seats, which had the armrest. Slight alteration had to be done to the mount, but once installed, the seat has been very useful as it has the height adjustment and the lumbar support too.

Picture of the interior after seat replacement:

The interior is still a mess as all the panels and dashboard are sprayed silver by the Govt department. But haven't focused on the interior works yet, as I am looking at making the vehicle mechanically wholesome first.

Every time I saw the electronic shifter, I was tempted to get the 4x4 sorted, and when I started to work on the front propeller shaft, I realized that the electronic shifter was not working. After spending three full days in the garage, we found out that the transfer case motor was working when connected directly, but not when connected through the BCM. A rigorous search for BCM or somebody to repair the BCM yielded no results. Also heard from a lot of people that the electronic shifter 4x4 transfer case was not reliable, and hence, I thought of replacing the electronic shifter with a manual transfer case.

Siddique from Genin Motors, Mettupalayam, has always been helpful in all my jeep builds, and this time too, he helped me in sourcing a BA10 4x4 manual transfer case. I was confused between the NGT 520 and BA10, but finally decided to go for the BA10 as it was a direct fit to this generation of Bolero, and the NGT needed a slight alteration to the chassis. This was installed within 3 days, and the original Bolero front propeller shaft had to be altered from 32 inches to 36 inches for proper fitting. Post which we took the first trial, which ended up as a disappointment as the front propeller shaft was shaking and got bent. Finally found out that it was the issue of the star and the yolk. On replacing it and fixing it with another shaft, the issue was sorted.

Picture of the 4x4 Gear lever mount:

The actual rubber boot of BA10 doesn't fit here due to the center panel width. Custom work has to be done here, but before that, I am looking forward to taking the vehicle off-road on a trail and understanding what further mechanical corrections are needed. Post Gearbox installation, the vehicle was with my regular mechanic for all the fluid replacement and all preventive checks before hitting the trails at Urumbikara (Vagamon), which is considered one of the toughest. A separate post shall be written about this experience. Based on the experience of the OTR, further mechanical and aesthetic updates will follow. Shall keep progress posted here.

Check out BHPian comments for more insights and information.

Headline	Natural Gas Discovery Off Andaman Islands Boosts India's Energy Security		
Publication	The Researchers	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	6 Jun 2026		

Natural Gas Discovery Off Andaman Islands Boosts India's Energy Security

<https://www.theresearchers.us/2026/06/05/andaman-natural-gas-discovery/>

India's efforts to strengthen domestic energy production have received a major boost with the discovery of natural gas off the east coast of the Andaman Islands.

The find, made by state-owned Oil India Limited (OIL), is being viewed as a significant milestone in the exploration of the largely untapped Andaman Basin and could play an important role in enhancing the country's long-term energy security.

Discovery in the Andaman Sea

Oil India recently confirmed the presence of natural gas in an exploratory offshore well drilled in the Andaman Sea. The discovery was made at the Sri Vijayapuram-2 (Vijayapuram-2) well, located around 17 kilometres from the shoreline on the eastern coast of the Andaman Islands. The well was drilled in water depths of about 295 metres and reached a target depth of approximately 2,650 metres.

Initial production testing conducted between depths of 2,212 and 2,250 metres established the presence of natural gas. Laboratory analysis of gas samples showed methane content of around 87 per cent, confirming the hydrocarbon discovery. The find marks one of the most significant breakthroughs in India's offshore exploration programme in recent years.

Congratulations @OilIndiaLimited

An ocean of energy opportunities reinforced in the Andaman Sea!

Very happy to report the presence of natural gas in Sri Vijayapuram-3 an exploratory well drilled by Oil India Ltd. 15 km off the east coast of the Andaman Islands at a water pic.twitter.com/j6QvWqZkFx

Hardeep Singh Puri (@HardeepSPuri) June 5, 2026

Growing Confidence in the Andaman Basin

The discovery reinforces long-standing geological assessments that the Andaman Basin may hold substantial hydrocarbon resources. The basin lies within a larger petroleum-rich belt stretching from Myanmar in the north to Indonesia in the south, where several commercially successful gas fields have already been developed.

Exploration activities by Oil India and the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) have intensified in the region under India's Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP). The latest find is expected to encourage further drilling and seismic studies across the basin.

Fuelling the Future: Natural Gas Found at Sri Vijayapuram-3, 15 km Off Andaman Coast Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri

The find by Oil India Limited underscores the Andaman Sea's significant energy potential' and represents a successful outcome in pic.twitter.com/DEO3DNpoO1

RT_India (@RT_India_news) June 5, 2026

Strategic Importance for India

India remains heavily dependent on imports for its energy requirements, importing a large share of its crude oil and a significant portion of its natural gas demand. Any commercially viable domestic gas discovery has the potential to reduce import dependence, improve energy security, and strengthen the country's economic resilience.

Energy experts believe that while the current discovery is encouraging, additional appraisal drilling and reservoir studies will be required to determine the size of the gas reserves and assess their commercial viability. The process of developing offshore infrastructure and bringing the resource into production could take several years.

Recent Progress in Exploration

The latest announcement follows a series of encouraging developments in the Andaman offshore block. Oil India recently reported natural gas presence in another exploratory well in the same region, indicating growing hydrocarbon potential across the basin. These discoveries are strengthening confidence that the Andaman Sea could emerge as an important future source of domestic energy.

Looking Ahead

While commercial production remains some distance away, the discovery represents a significant step forward in India's quest for energy self-reliance. If further exploration confirms sizeable reserves, the Andaman Basin could become a key contributor to India's natural gas supply in the coming decades.

The discovery also highlights the increasing importance of offshore exploration as India seeks to meet rising energy demand while reducing dependence on imported fuels. As appraisal and development activities continue, the Andaman Basin is expected to remain a focal point of India's energy strategy.

Headline	Oil India's Andaman Gas Hit: Appraisal Over Exploration		
Publication	Whalesbook	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Oil India's Andaman Gas Hit: Appraisal Over Exploration

<https://www.whalesbook.com/news/English/energy/Oil-Indias-Andaman-Gas-Hit-Appraisal-Over-Exploration/6a22f884775d982ca6c9ce1a>

Oil India has confirmed a second natural gas discovery in the Andaman offshore block, with its Vijayapuram-3 well showing continuous flaring.

While this success validates the region's hydrocarbon potential, the company is now shifting its focus from pure exploratory drilling to intensive appraisal work, marking a critical transition toward potential commercial development amidst high-stakes deepwater operating costs.

Used by 10,000+ active investors

Select the stocks you want to track in real time.

Receive instant updates directly to WhatsApp.

The Shift from Exploration to Appraisal

The discovery at the Vijayapuram-3 well, situated 15 kilometers off the Andaman coast, represents more than a successful drill site; it signals a fundamental change in the operational strategy for the Andaman-Nicobar basin. With two of the three exploratory wells now confirming hydrocarbon presence, Oil India is moving past the initial phase of 'wildcat' exploration into a formal appraisal cycle. This transition is essential for quantifying the 2P (proven and probable) reserves, a prerequisite for any commercial production viability. The company is currently integrating new 3D seismic data to refine its geological models, aiming to minimize the high risks inherent in frontier deepwater drilling before committing to more expensive development infrastructure.

Offshore Dynamics and Competitive Standing

Unlike the more mature basins where ONGC dominates with massive offshore scale, Oil India's Andaman venture represents a high-risk, high-reward push into frontier territory. The technical requirements for these shallow-to-deepwater operations are significant, demanding specialized vessels and advanced subsea expertise. While recent regulatory adjustments to royalty structures have improved the economics for domestic producers, the capital intensity of the Andaman project remains a pressure point. Oil India's ability to successfully monetize these finds will depend on its capacity to manage long-term operational costs and maintain steady production growth, an area where it has historically leveraged its lower-cost, onshore-heavy portfolio to outperform sector peers.

The Forensic Bear Case: Execution Risks

Despite the positive sentiment surrounding the gas flaring results, the project faces structural and operational hurdles. Frontier deepwater exploration is notoriously capital-intensive, often leading to margin compression if geological results underperform expectations during the appraisal phase. Furthermore, the Andaman-Nicobar region presents sensitive environmental challenges. Regulatory delays concerning environmental clearances are a persistent threat to project timelines, potentially stalling the transition from exploration to full-scale extraction. Investors should remain cautious: previous domestic offshore projects have frequently faced cost overruns and technical difficulties that can drag on financial performance. While Oil India's current P/E ratio is reflective of its status as a robust energy producer, the market may be underestimating the multi-year timeline and geological complexity required to bring these specific offshore assets to commercial maturity.

Future Outlook

Moving forward, the focus will remain on the ongoing isotope studies and gas composition analysis, which will dictate the technical feasibility of the appraisal program. The government's 'Samudra Manthan Mission' continues to incentivize these high-risk endeavors, aiming to secure long-term domestic energy feedstock. While brokerage sentiment remains generally positive due to the company's dividend history and operational resilience, the market is likely to watch the upcoming appraisal results for definitive evidence of commercial extractability, rather than relying solely on individual well hits.

Quarterly results, bulk deals, concall updates and major announcements delivered in real time.

Headline	Oil India's Andaman Discovery: Real Value or Exploration Hype?		
Publication	Whalesbook	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Oil India's Andaman Discovery: Real Value or Exploration Hype?

<https://www.whalesbook.com/news/English/energy/Oil-Indias-Andaman-Discovery-Real-Value-or-Exploration-Hype/6a2311d1775d982ca6c9d867>

Oil India has confirmed a second natural gas find at its Vijayapuram-3 well in the Andaman offshore basin.

While management frames this as a win for domestic energy security, the economic viability of this deepwater frontier remains unproven. With two successful wells out of three attempts, investors must weigh the long-term potential against the significant capital expenditure required to bring remote, high-pressure subsea reserves to market.

Used by 10,000+ active investors

Select the stocks you want to track in real time.

Receive instant updates directly to WhatsApp.

The Economic Reality of Frontier Exploration

The confirmation of hydrocarbon presence at the Vijayapuram-3 well suggests a geological petroleum system is at play within the Andaman Basin, but proximity to discovery does not equate to commercial extraction. While the market often reacts positively to drilling success, the transition from exploration to production in the Andaman region faces extreme topographical and logistical hurdles. Unlike established fields in the Krishna-Godavari basin, these offshore assets require complex subsea infrastructure that could weigh heavily on future capital expenditure ratios.

Comparing Against Regional Peers

When juxtaposed with ONGC's operations in mature blocks, Oil India's aggressive pivot toward the Andaman region appears to be a high-stakes bet on long-term resource replacement. Market participants should note that the company's price-to-earnings multiple has historically been suppressed by the volatile nature of exploration-heavy portfolios. While these finds represent a technical success under the Samudra Manthan Mission, they do not immediately alter the firm's near-term earnings per share. Peer analysis indicates that similar deepwater ventures by regional energy players often suffer from multi-year gestation periods before contributing meaningfully to bottom-line profitability.

The Forensic Bear Case

The optimism surrounding these results masks significant structural risks. First, the cost of subsea development in the Andaman Sea is inherently higher than onshore assets due to the depth and isolation of the region. Investors should be wary of potential margin compression if the company accelerates its 3D seismic acquisition program without a corresponding increase in gas output pricing. Furthermore, past project execution in India's offshore sectors has frequently been marred by delays in regulatory approvals and infrastructure rollouts. Given the technical complexity of the Eocene formation, the risk of technical challenges or lower-than-anticipated flow rates remains a distinct possibility that could undermine the project's internal rate of return.

Future Outlook and Strategic Direction

Moving forward, the primary metric for stakeholders will be the conversion rate of these exploratory wells into commercially viable production blocks. With additional seismic data currently being processed, the company is positioning itself for a multi-phase appraisal cycle. Brokerage consensus suggests that while these discoveries validate the geological thesis of the region, the market will likely remain cautious until a comprehensive development plan, including cost-benefit analysis and tie-in strategy, is formalized. The company must prove it can manage the capital intensity of this frontier basin without sacrificing its healthy dividend profile.

Quarterly results, bulk deals, concall updates and major announcements delivered in real time.

Headline	PM Modi, Venezuela's Rodríguez Discuss Energy Partnership, Critical Minerals		
Publication	bhashatimes	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

PM Modi, Venezuela's Rodríguez Discuss Energy Partnership, Critical Minerals

<https://bhashatimes.com/en/india/modi-rodriquez-energy-partnership-venezuela>

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Venezuela's acting President Delcy Rodríguez held talks in New Delhi on Thursday, exploring a long-term energy partnership alongside collaboration in pharmaceuticals and critical minerals.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Venezuela's acting President Delcy Rodríguez held talks at Hyderabad House on Thursday, discussing the forging of a long-term energy partnership between the two nations. This marks Rodríguez's first visit to India since she became the interim head of the Venezuelan government.

The two leaders also explored collaboration in pharmaceuticals and the critical minerals sector. The Indian side raised the issue of repatriating oil dividends owed to ONGC Videsh Ltd, which has equity participation in two oil exploration projects in Venezuela but has been unable to bring back more than \$500 million in dividends.

Modi said in a social media post that they discussed the expansion of cooperation in energy, critical minerals, technology, agriculture and healthcare. Rodríguez stated that Venezuela views India as a preferred partner. Venezuela holds the world's largest proven crude oil reserves and has become India's third largest oil supplier, after Russia and the United Arab Emirates.

The Indian government is aggressively seeking new sources of crude oil for energy security, and Venezuela features prominently in those plans. Payments for energy purchases will be handled according to companies' preferences. Rodríguez is scheduled to visit Reliance Industries' Jamnagar refinery in Gujarat, which has a capacity of 1.24 million barrels per day and is currently the main buyer of Venezuela's heavy crude.

Three Killed, Seven Houses Burnt in Suspected Militant Attack in Manipur's Kangpokpi

Headline	India's Crude Oil Crisis to Worsen, Trade Deficit to Expand		
Publication	Bharat Horizon	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

India's Crude Oil Crisis to Worsen, Trade Deficit to Expand

<https://bharathorizon.com/world/asia-pacific/indias-crude-oil-crisis-to-worsen-trade-deficit-to-expand.html>

The Indian government informed a parliamentary panel that the crude oil crisis will persist and the trade deficit is expected to widen due to West Asia tensions, as warned by the CEA.

India's Crude Oil Crisis to Continue, Trade Deficit to Widen: Government Warns Parliament Panel

The Indian government has informed a parliamentary panel that the ongoing crude oil crisis is expected to persist, and the country's trade deficit will widen further amid escalating tensions in West Asia. The Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) has warned that the trade deficit could expand significantly, impacting the nation's economic stability.

Government's Assessment to Parliamentary Panel

In a recent briefing to the parliamentary panel, government officials highlighted that the crude oil crisis, driven by geopolitical instability in West Asia, shows no signs of abating. The panel was told that rising global oil prices and supply disruptions are likely to continue, exerting pressure on India's import bill and widening the trade deficit.

The CEA noted that the trade deficit, which has already been under strain due to higher import costs, could worsen in the coming months. This development poses challenges for the government's fiscal management and economic growth targets.

Impact of West Asia Turmoil

The ongoing turmoil in West Asia has led to volatility in crude oil markets, with prices remaining elevated. As a major importer of crude oil, India is particularly vulnerable to such shocks. The government's warning underscores the need for strategic measures to mitigate the impact, including diversifying energy sources and enhancing domestic production.

Economists have expressed concern that a prolonged crisis could lead to higher inflation, increased current account deficit, and pressure on the rupee. The government is reportedly exploring options to cushion the economy, including diplomatic efforts to stabilize the region and alternative energy partnerships.

The parliamentary panel has sought further details on the government's contingency plans and the expected timeline for the crisis resolution. The situation remains fluid, with global markets closely monitoring developments in West Asia.

Headline	Rising Crude Oil Prices Squeeze Household Budgets in Patna		
Publication	Bharat Horizon	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Rising Crude Oil Prices Squeeze Household Budgets in Patna

<https://bharathorizon.com/world/global-economy/rising-oil-prices-squeeze-patna-household-budgets.html>

Rising crude oil prices due to West Asia tensions and Strait of Hormuz disruptions push up fuel and essential commodity prices in Patna, straining household budgets.

Patna: Rising global crude oil prices amid continued tensions in West Asia and disruptions near the Strait of Hormuz are beginning to affect household budgets in Patna. Petrol is currently priced at Rs 113.77 per litre, diesel at Rs 99.36 and a domestic LPG cylinder at Rs 1,002.50.

The increase in fuel prices has pushed up transport costs and led to higher prices of essential commodities. Vegetable prices in local mandis have risen by 20%-25%, while pulses and cooking oil have also become more expensive. Tomatoes, for instance, now cost around Rs 40 per kg compared to Rs 30-35 earlier. Traders say vegetables transported from outside Bihar have become costlier because of higher fuel expenses.

Raj Kumar Jha, general secretary of the All India Road Transport Workers' Federation, said taxes account for a large share of fuel prices. The middle class is being made to pay for post-election spending, he said. He added that grocery prices had already increased by 20-25% and warned that transport operators could face difficulties if fares were not revised in line with rising costs.

The impact is also being felt in households. Poonam Kumari, a homemaker from Rupaspur, said her monthly grocery bill had gone up by 20-25%. She now plans meals in advance, soaks lentils overnight to save cooking gas and reduces unnecessary travel. Whatever I used to save, it all goes into daily expenses now, she said. Another resident, Nidhi Kanchan of Kankarbagh, said she had to wait 10-12 days for her last LPG cylinder refill and had started using less cooking oil to make household supplies last longer.

While authorities maintain there is no shortage of LPG and attribute the rise in bookings to panic buying, many families say the increasing cost of fuel and essential goods is making it harder to manage household expenses.

Headline	ONGC chairman calls on AP CM, discusses energy project		
Publication	Bizz Buzz	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

ONGC chairman calls on AP CM, discusses energy project

<https://www.bizzbuzz.news/industry/energy/ongc-chairman-calls-on-ap-cm-discusses-energy-project-1393234>

ONGC Limited chairman Arun Kumar Singh called on Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and discussed the company's ongoing projects

ONGC discusses Andhra energy expansion plans

5 June 2026

Amaravati: ONGC Limited chairman Arun Kumar Singh called on Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and discussed the company's ongoing projects and future plans in the state.

During the meeting at the Secretariat, Singh briefed the chief minister on ONGC's operations. They also discussed the company's efforts towards strengthening the energy sector in Andhra Pradesh and its expansion plans in the state, an official release said.

Nayara completes Vadinar turnaround

"Singh met Naidu and briefed him on the (ONGC's) company's ongoing operations in Andhra Pradesh, including natural gas and crude oil exploration activities in the Krishna-Godavari Delta Basin, besides outlining future expansion plans in the state," the release said.

Naidu reviewed the revenue generated through ONGC projects, employment opportunities created by them and their impact on the local economy.

Global Oil Prices Dip as Israel-Lebanon Ceasefire Offers Glimmer of Hope

The CM stressed the need for closer coordination between the state government and ONGC to facilitate the speedy implementation of projects.

Naidu assured full support from the government for initiatives aimed at enhancing energy security as part of the state's development agenda.

"ONGC should utilise its Corporate Social Responsibility funds for the development of villages in areas where oil and natural gas extraction activities are being carried out," the CM said.

Responding to the chief minister, Singh said ONGC is providing advanced cancer treatment equipment to hospitals in Kakinada and Guntur as part of its CSR initiatives.

Headline	Crude oil crisis to continue & trade deficit to widen: Govt to Parl panel		
Publication	Deccan Herald	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Crude oil crisis to continue & trade deficit to widen: Govt to Parl panel

<https://www.deccanherald.com/india/crude-oil-crisis-to-continue-trade-deficit-to-widen-govt-to-parl-panel-4028049>

CEA warns trade deficit to widen amid West Asia turmoil

New Delhi: The crude oil crisis is likely to persist, and the trade deficit is expected to widen, Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) V Anantha Nageswaran said in a presentation to a parliamentary standing committee on Thursday.

Deposing before the Standing Committee on Finance, Nageswaran said that with 20% of global oil passing through the Strait of Hormuz, any disruption drives India's import bill up by \$30-40 billion for every 10% surge in oil prices. This leads to pressure on the rupee, fuels inflation, and strains the balance of payments. The CEA also warned that disruptions in crude oil production are expected to prolong.

The West Asia crisis, the CEA said, represents both a significant supply shock and a potential demand shock. Despite the grim outlook, indicators up to April 2026 suggest that domestic demand and overall economic activity in India have remained relatively resilient. However, supply-side price pressures are beginning to surface in wholesale inflation, while the Met's forecast of monsoon rainfall at 90% poses upside risks to the inflation outlook.

The government also noted that India's merchandise and overall trade deficit widened in FY2026, and warned that the trend, potentially with wider deficits, is likely to continue in FY2027.

It said policy measures undertaken will help contain supply-side disruptions, create safety nets and maintain macroeconomic stability. Successful trade agreements, including progress on India-US and India-EU trade, are expected to support exports and capital flows. Yet, prevailing global uncertainty continues to weigh on capital flow dynamics.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, panel chairperson Bhartruhari Mahtab said that despite the challenges, India's economy is holding firm. While there are still certain headwinds, I would say India's economy is emerging in a stronger position, he said.

Headline	E85 fuel to sell at ₹20/litre discount to drive ethanol adoption: Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri		
Publication	ET Energyworld	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	6 Jun 2026		

E85 fuel to sell at ₹20/litre discount to drive ethanol adoption: Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/e85-fuel-to-sell-at-20/litre-discount-to-drive-ethanol-adoption-oil-minister-hardeep-singh-puri/131540474>

The government plans to expand E85 dispensing facilities nationwide, targeting 500 stations by year-end and 5,000 by 2027.

New Delhi: State-run oil companies will sell E85 fuel a blend of 85 per cent ethanol and 15 per cent petrol at a discount of 20 per litre to offset the biofuel's lower energy content, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Friday after inaugurating an E85 dispensing facility at a Delhi petrol pump.

The government plans to roll out E85 fuel in phases, with 500 fuel stations targeted by the end of this year and 5,000 by the end of 2027 across India, Puri said.

Indian Oil already has a network of 400 fuel stations that can dispense E100 fuel, or pure ethanol with no mix of petrol, across Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu.

Ethanol's energy content is about one-third lower than that of petrol. To compensate for this, E85 users will receive a 20 per litre discount compared with E20, the regular fuel blend sold across the country that contains 20 per cent ethanol and 80 per cent petrol.

The E20 blend will continue to be available at all fuel stations, as most vehicles currently on Indian roads can use blends of up to 20 per cent ethanol.

In recent days, Maruti Suzuki and Hero MotoCorp have each launched one vehicle model capable of running on E85 fuel.

The simultaneous rollout of compatible vehicles and fuel dispensing infrastructure will help accelerate E85 adoption, Puri said, adding that there was a pretty compelling case for shifting to E85 because it would be cheaper, lower emissions and reduce dependence on fuel imports. Comments

All Comments

Join the community of 2M+ industry professionals.

Subscribe to Newsletter to get latest insights & analysis in your inbox.

Headline	India Launches E85 Fuel To Boost Cleaner Mobility, Cut Crude Oil Dependence		
Publication	ETV Bharat	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

India Launches E85 Fuel To Boost Cleaner Mobility, Cut Crude Oil Dependence

<https://www.etvbharat.com/en/bharat/india-launches-e85-fuel-to-boost-cleaner-mobility-cut-crude-oil-dependence-enn26060506991>

Officials say E85 fuel generates near-zero particulate matter emissions, making it a potential solution to address rising urban air pollution levels, reports Surabhi Gupta.

New Delhi: In a major push towards cleaner transportation and energy self-reliance, India on Friday launched E85 fuel, a high ethanol-blended petrol containing 80-85 per cent ethanol, marking a significant step in the country's flex-fuel mobility roadmap.

Launching the fuel in the national capital, Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri described the initiative as a transformative move aimed at promoting cleaner mobility, enhancing energy security and reducing India's dependence on imported crude oil.

The government is currently evaluating a range of policy measures to accelerate the adoption of Flex-Fuel Vehicles (FFVs), including road tax concessions, pricing incentives, consumer awareness campaigns and the expansion of fuel storage and dispensing infrastructure.

Former Deputy Commissioner of the Delhi Transport Department and transport expert Anil Chhikara told ETV Bharat, "It is a good initiative. Manufacturers have to create robust fuel lines and fuel systems to withstand challenges of water and moisture in the fuel system."

Chhikara noted that the electronic programming needed to be more diversified. "Further, confidence by petroleum companies is to be shared with the public. If commercial incentives are worked out, then small farmers through corporate farming can earn much high than conventional farming. Furthermore, the state government should also explore the molasses factories in villages so employment within rural vicinity can be ensured. This system will enhance GDP without foreign exchange dependency," he added.

In a major policy endorsement, the NITI Aayog has classified ethanol-based flex-fuel vehicles, including those running on E85, as zero-emission vehicles. Officials said E85 fuel generates near-zero particulate matter emissions, making it a potential solution to address rising urban air pollution levels.

As part of the nationwide rollout plan, E85 has been identified as the mono-fuel standard for FFVs under Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) specifications. The government plans to establish 50-100 FFV-ready fuel stations across the Delhi-NCR and Mumbai-Pune-Nagpur corridors in the first phase. The network is expected to expand to around 500 outlets by the end of 2026 and nearly 5,000 outlets across major cities by the end of 2027.

The Centre is also considering special identifiers for flex-fuel vehicles and fuel stations, the availability of E85 testing fuel and targeted awareness campaigns to improve consumer acceptance.

Calling the initiative more than just a fuel transition, Puri said the move would help create a complete ecosystem for cleaner mobility, stronger energy security and greater self-reliance.

The minister had earlier said E85 would be substantially cheaper than conventional petrol for vehicles compatible with the fuel, potentially making flex-fuel vehicles more attractive to consumers while lowering the country's fossil fuel import bill.

The launch of E85 forms a key pillar of India's broader energy transition strategy, which seeks to boost domestic biofuel production, support farmers, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen the country's long-term energy security.

Headline	Indian companies willing to deepen presence in Venezuela, Oil Minister Puri says		
Publication	Eflip	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Indian companies willing to deepen presence in Venezuela, Oil Minister Puri says

<https://eflip.in/indian-companies-willing-to-deepen-presence-in-venezuela-oil-minister-puri-says/>

Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri called on Venezuela's Acting President Delcy Rodriguez on June 4 and reaffirmed India's strong support for Venezuela's energy reconstruction, noting that Indian companies are ready to deepen their presence in the South American nation.

The details were shared by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas in a press statement.

It highlighted that Puri called on Rodriguez along with the senior officials of the Ministry and Chairpersons of various Public Sector Oil companies. Both leaders discussed opportunities for building an enduring energy partnership between the two countries.

During the meeting, the Minister noted that India and Venezuela share a natural partnership rooted in a long-standing friendship between the two countries.

He reaffirmed India's strong support for Venezuela's energy reconstruction, adding that Indian companies are ready to deepen their presence in Venezuela. Recognizing Venezuela's key role in India's energy diversification strategy, he conveyed India's keenness to deepen its energy trade with Venezuela, the statement said.

As per the Ministry, acknowledging India as a reliable partner of Venezuela, the Acting President welcomed Indian companies to actively participate in Venezuela's reformed oil and gas sector.

She highlighted the complementarities that exist between India and Venezuela in the energy sector and invited an Indian delegation to visit Venezuela to explore opportunities for enhanced collaboration.

Venezuela, home to the world's largest proven oil reserves, is a traditional supplier of crude oil to India. India's sophisticated refining sector is uniquely equipped to process Venezuela's heavy crude.

As geopolitical and supply disruptions impacted crude oil imports from the Gulf, India is engaging with Venezuela as a strategic partner for its energy diversification. Venezuela is among the largest crude oil suppliers to India in April and May 2026, a reflection of the future potential. India's average monthly imports from Venezuela increased from 64.027 TMT during FY 2025-26 to 1,047.148 TMT April-May of FY 2026-27, the statement said.

It further noted that Indian Public Sector Companies also have an established presence in Venezuela's upstream sector, since 2008, demonstrating their long-term commitment. India's total investment in Venezuela's oil sector stands at approximately \$1 billion in the San Cristobal and Petrocarabobo-1 projects located in the Orinoco Belt.

Published on June 5, 2026

Leave a comment

Headline	Oil India strikes natural gas in Andaman offshore block for second time, boosts exploration hopes		
Publication	Fortune India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Oil India strikes natural gas in Andaman offshore block for second time, boosts exploration hopes

<https://www.fortuneindia.com/business-news/second-natural-gas-discovery-by-oil-in-andaman-offshore-block-boosts-exploration-prospects/141777>

The Oil India Ltd (OIL) has made its second natural gas discovery in the Andaman offshore region, reinforcing hopes that the frontier basin could emerge as a significant hydrocarbon-producing area in the coming years.

The latest discovery was made at the Vijayapuram-3 exploratory well, located about 15 kilometres off the east coast of the Andaman Islands in a water depth of 355 metres, Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Friday.

It marks the second successful gas-bearing well drilled by OIL in the block, following the natural gas find at Vijayapuram-2 in September 2025.

Of the three exploratory wells drilled so far under the company's ongoing Andaman exploration campaign, two have now confirmed the presence of hydrocarbons, substantially improving the basin's exploration outlook, the company said.

Puri described the development as another positive development in India's efforts to strengthen domestic energy security through increased exploration in offshore basins.

"Initial production testing of the well at a depth of 1900 plus meters in the Eocene formation has established the presence of natural gas through continuous flaring, he said in an X post.

"Under the Samudra Manthan Mission (National Deep Water Exploration Mission) announced by Hon'ble PM @narendramodi Ji on Independence Day 2025, large number of deepwater & Ultra deepwater exploration wells are planned in our offshore basins to fully exploit our hydrocarbon reserves," the minister said in the post.

This presence of natural gas will help the country in taking forward the exploration ambitions in coordination with global deepwater exploration experts, he said.

According to the company, initial production testing carried out at a depth of over 1,900 metres in the Eocene formation established the presence of natural gas through continuous flaring.

Following perforation, the well recorded a rapid pressure build-up and commenced production, indicating encouraging reservoir characteristics.

The back-to-back gas discoveries are being viewed as a major milestone for India's offshore exploration efforts, particularly in the relatively underexplored Andaman Basin.

Industry observers believe the findings could pave the way for intensified exploration and appraisal activities aimed at unlocking the region's hydrocarbon potential.

OIL said the latest discovery serves as an important indicator of a working petroleum system and could point to the presence of additional hydrocarbon accumulations within the basin.

Following the earlier Vijayapuram-2 discovery, OIL initiated an extensive appraisal programme, including reprocessing of existing seismic data and acquisition of nearly 600 square kilometres of additional 3D seismic data.

The company said data processing and interpretation are currently underway and would guide future appraisal drilling activities.

With two successful gas discoveries from three exploratory wells, the Andaman offshore region is increasingly emerging as one of India's most promising frontiers for future oil and gas exploration.

Rank

Company Name

Reliance Industries

LIC

Indian Oil Corporation

State Bank of India

ONGC

[View Full List](#)

Responding to Puri's post, the company said, "Oil India remains committed to advancing exploration through technological excellence and unlocking the nation's hydrocarbon potential for a secure energy future. PTI SN NN

Frequently Asked Questions

What has Oil India discovered in the Andaman offshore block?

Oil India Ltd (OIL) has made its second natural gas discovery at the Vijayapuram-3 exploratory well in the Andaman offshore region, reinforcing exploration hopes.

Where was Oil India's latest natural gas discovery made?

The latest discovery was made at the Vijayapuram-3 exploratory well, located about 15 kilometres off the east coast of the Andaman Islands in 355 metres water depth.

Why is Oil India's second gas discovery in Andaman significant?

It reinforces hopes that the Andaman Basin could become a significant hydrocarbon-producing area, strengthening India's domestic energy security through increased offshore exploration.

The FAQs are AI-generated, and Fortune India is not responsible for its content or any associated copyright issues.

Headline	09 Venezuela, a big energy source, comes calling India is bolstering its energy security by deepening ties with Venezuela, a top crude oil supplier. Discussions between PM Modi and Venezuel... Times of India · 05 Jun, 02:55 AM Read more →		
Publication	InkBrief News	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

09 Venezuela, a big energy source, comes calling India is bolstering its energy security by deepening ties with Venezuela, a top crude oil supplier. Discussions between PM Modi and Venezuel... Times of India · 05 Jun, 02:55 AM Read more →

<https://inkbrief.in/article/venezuela-a-big-energy-source-comes-calling-976900>

India is bolstering its energy security by deepening ties with Venezuela, a top crude oil supplier. Discussions between PM Modi and Venezuela's acting President focused on long-term energy contracts and cooperation in critical minerals, tech, and agriculture. This move diversifies India's oil sources amidst global supply chain challenges.

Read full article

Headline	Crude oil falls 2 pc in futures trade amid weak global cues		
Publication	MSN India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Crude oil falls 2 pc in futures trade amid weak global cues

<https://www.msn.com/en-in/news/other/crude-oil-falls-2-pc-in-futures-trade-amid-weak-global-cues/ar-AA24P0LH>

New Delhi, Jun 4 (PTI) Crude oil prices dropped 2 per cent to Rs 9,061 per barrel in futures trade on Thursday amid weak trends in the international markets.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange, the most-traded June contract declined Rs 179, or 1.94 per cent, to Rs 9,061 per barrel in a business turnover of 12,444 lots, snapping a three-day rally. Crude oil prices eased in the domestic futures market after snapping three sessions of gains, after Israel and Lebanon agreed to a conditional ceasefire, brokerage firm Kotak Neo said. In the international markets, Brent oil futures for August delivery fell 0.61 per cent to USD 97.21 per barrel, and West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude slipped 0.57 per cent to USD 95.47 per barrel. The decline came after a conditional ceasefire agreement between Israel and Lebanon, which revived hopes for progress in negotiations to resolve the Iran conflict and reopen the Strait of Hormuz, Kotak Neo said. Meanwhile, Israeli defence minister Israel Katz said the military will continue its ground operations in southern Lebanon, hours after Tel Aviv and Beirut agreed to implement a US-backed ceasefire to end hostilities. Market participants also kept a close watch on continued risks around the Strait of Hormuz, which serves as the key transit route for nearly one-fifth of global crude trade, it added. PTI HG SHM SHM

Headline	Ethanol push: Oil Minister Puri expects E85 to beat E20 in adoption on cheaper price point		
Publication	MSN India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	6 Jun 2026		

Ethanol push: Oil Minister Puri expects E85 to beat E20 in adoption on cheaper price point

<https://www.msn.com/en-in/news/other/ethanol-push-oil-minister-puri-expects-e85-to-beat-e20-in-adoption-on-cheaper-price-point/ar-AA24W2b4>

Edited by: NDTV Business Desk, Author: Sesa Sen, Altaf Hussain E85, or petrol blended with 85% ethanol, will find greater adoption as compared

to E20 due to its cheaper pricing point, according to Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri. Highlighting the significance of E85 fuel as a market-driven initiative, Puri on Friday said the government has neither set production targets nor mandated automobile manufacturers to roll out E85-compatible vehicles. The transition is being propelled by industry participation, consumer demand, growing ecosystem readiness, besides its cheaper price, Puri noted, while speaking to NDTV Profit. The fuel was launched earlier on Friday, with officials noting that it will be cheaper by around Rs 20 per litre as compared to E20. The expansion of E85 fuel is part of a broader exercise to promote cleaner and more affordable mobility options, Puri said, while noting that automakers themselves see significant potential in the segment and are increasingly introducing both two-wheeler and four-wheeler models capable of running on E85 fuel. Drawing a contrast with earlier ethanol-blending initiatives, the minister said fuel retailers had previously established dispensing infrastructure before vehicle manufacturers were ready with compatible models. This time, however, both the fuel supply ecosystem and the automobile industry are progressing in tandem, he said. According to Puri, the availability of E85 fuel is being aligned with the rollout of compatible vehicles. He said, considering the growing interest in E85 fuel, the government plans to expand the network of dispensing stations from around 50 at present to 500 by the end of the year, a move aimed at boosting availability, improving accessibility and supporting wider adoption of the fuel. The minister said the government will periodically review the progress of the initiative and assess market response as the ecosystem develops.

Headline	Crude oil prices above \$100 a barrel: How can it impact your monthly budget?		
Publication	Mint	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	6 Jun 2026		

Crude oil prices above \$100 a barrel: How can it impact your monthly budget?

<https://www.livemint.com/money/crude-oil-prices-above-100-a-barrel-how-can-it-impact-your-monthly-budget-11780563571743.html>

Higher crude oil prices can impact the monthly budget directly with higher daily commuting costs, costlier vacation flight tickets, higher bills for grocery purchases, and expensive dining out.

The indirect impact can come from higher prices of finished goods made using crude oil derivatives.

At the start of the US-Iran war, crude oil prices spiked above \$100 a barrel. Since then, depending on the news flow, prices have risen above and dipped below \$100/barrel. However, for most of the duration since the war started, the crude oil prices have stayed above \$100/barrel. In this article, we will understand how the high crude oil prices can impact your monthly budget.

Hike in fuel prices During the initial phase of the US-Iran war, even though crude oil prices spiked above \$100/barrel, the Indian oil marketing companies (OMCs) did not hike domestic prices of fuel. It seemed the war would be over quickly, and the crude oil prices would revert to where they were before the war started. However, the war has now continued for more than 3 months, and crude oil prices have continued to stay higher.

As a result, oil marketing companies (OMCs) have started hiking the prices of fuels like petrol, diesel, CNG, aviation turbine fuel (ATF), and LPG cylinders. The prices of petrol were hiked four times in May: 15 May (3/litre), 19 May (0.90/litre), 23 May (0.87/litre), and 25 May (2.61/litre)

For retail customers, while OMCs have announced some fuel price hikes, they still continue to incur losses on the sale of petrol and diesel. So, whether there will be more price hikes to cover the losses remains to be seen. For commercial and industrial customers, hotels/restaurants, airlines, etc., the fuel price hikes have been higher.

Higher fuel prices: Impact on monthly budget With the OMCs passing on some fuel price hikes to the customers, the cost of travel has gone up. If you use your personal vehicle for commuting, you are already paying more for refuelling than you did earlier. You will have to allocate more money in your monthly budget for your daily commute.

Higher fuel prices increase the cost of transporting goods (food grains and others) from one place to another. The food producers/transporters pass on these fuel price hikes to end customers. As a result, you are paying more for groceries and other products.

From March to May 2026, the commercial LPG (19 Kg cylinder) saw monthly price hikes, with the largest in May. As a result of these price hikes, a commercial LPG cylinder that cost around 1,700 in New Delhi in February now costs more than 3,000 in June. Restaurants have passed on these price hikes to customers by revising their menu prices upwards.

If you are a foodie who dines out frequently, eating out is going to be expensive for you. You will have to either allocate more money from your monthly budget towards dining out or reduce the frequency of dining out. The domestic LPG customers have been spared, with a lower price hike of 60 per cylinder.

Vacation travel has become more expensive The OMCs have passed on some of the impact of higher fuel prices to airlines by hiking the ATF prices. The airlines, in turn, passed on the higher costs, due to higher ATF prices and other expenses, to their customers through higher flight ticket prices.

April and May are usually busy travel months as many families plan their annual vacations during this time, as schools are closed for summer vacation. However, the higher flight ticket prices upset the vacation budgets of many families. As a result, some families either took a shorter vacation or even postponed or cancelled it.

Many flights to the Middle East were cancelled due to war and airspace closures in the region. As a result, some people had to change their international vacation plans to other destinations, such as Southeast Asia, or take a domestic vacation within India.

Higher prices of goods Crude oil derivatives (petrochemicals) are used as raw materials in the manufacturing of many products. For example, polyester, nylon, and spandex are used in making garments, carpets, bags, etc. Similarly, plastic

products such as water bottles and food containers require petrochemicals as inputs. Paints used for houses, offices, and automobiles use petrochemicals.

With crude oil prices spiking, the cost of manufacturing all the finished products that use crude oil derivatives has risen. Most manufacturers have passed on the higher costs, either fully or partially, to end customers by increasing product prices. So, when you go out to buy any of these products, be ready to shell out more money than before.

Higher cost of imports due to a depreciating rupee Crude oil forms one of India's biggest imports. With higher crude oil prices, the fiscal deficit is expected to increase. As a result of higher crude oil prices, FPI selling, and other factors, the Indian rupee has been depreciating and hitting new all-time lows regularly.

A depreciating rupee makes imports of all goods expensive. The higher cost is passed on to consumers in the form of higher prices. So, if you are planning to buy an imported mobile, laptop, or any other gadget, you will have to shell out more money due to the rupee depreciation.

Even if a product, such as an electronic or consumer durable item, is manufactured in India, some of its components may be imported. The manufacturer has to pay a higher amount for imported components due to the depreciation of the Indian rupee. Thus, whether the finished product or its components are imported, the rupee depreciation increases their costs for customers.

Impact of higher crude oil prices on the monthly budget Higher crude oil prices impact consumers in several ways, directly and indirectly. The direct impact is higher travel costs, whether for a daily office commute or a family leisure vacation. The daily impact is with higher food prices, whether you buy groceries and cook at home or dine out.

The indirect impact is through crude oil derivatives, which serve as raw materials for many finished goods. Also, higher crude oil prices put pressure on the Indian rupee, leading to its depreciation, which in turn makes imported products or their components costlier. Thus, higher crude oil prices can have a significant impact on the monthly budget. An individual can mitigate the impact by increasing the budget and allocating more money for various spending categories or rebalancing by reducing spending in other categories, wherever possible.

Gopal Gidwani is a freelance personal finance content writer with 15+ years of experience. He can be reached on LinkedIn.

Headline	Natural gas surges 4.57% on June 3 as crude oil slumps to \$92.17		
Publication	Money Nomical	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Natural gas surges 4.57% on June 3 as crude oil slumps to \$92.17

<https://moneynomical.com/natural-gas-surges-4-57-on-june-3-as-crude-oil-slumps-to-92-17/4699/>

Commodity markets split sharply on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, with natural gas posting the session's biggest gain while crude oil suffered steep losses.

Natural gas delivered the standout move across global commodity markets on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, climbing USD 0.15 or 4.57% to settle at USD 3.36. The gain stood as the sharpest percentage move of the session, placing the fuel firmly at the top of the day's commodity leaderboard even as crude oil posted the steepest absolute decline.

Gold advanced for the session, adding USD 39.40 or 0.88% to close at USD 4,506.30 per troy ounce. Translated to approximate MCX terms using prevailing exchange rates, that equates to roughly Rs 1,20,241 per 10 grammes. Silver moved broadly in step with gold, rising USD 0.60 or 0.81% to USD 74.29 per troy ounce, with its approximate MCX equivalent coming to around Rs 19,806 per kilogramme.

Crude oil was the clearest point of pressure across the complex on Wednesday. WTI crude fell USD 3.85 or 4.01% to settle at USD 92.17 per barrel, while Brent crude dropped USD 3.47 or 3.55% to USD 94.34. WTI recorded the heavier percentage loss of the two benchmarks, though both contracts shed well over three per cent on the day, marking a notable broad retreat in oil prices.

Natural gas and copper sat on opposing ends of the day's narrative for energy and metals. While natural gas surged as noted, copper edged modestly higher, gaining USD 0.04 or 0.63% to settle at USD 6.55 per pound, adding to the quiet positive tone seen in precious metals through the session.

Agricultural commodities closed in negative territory. Wheat declined 5.50 cents or 0.94% to settle at USX 581.75 per bushel, while corn posted a more pronounced loss of 7.75 cents or 1.80% to close at USX 423.75 per bushel. Corn's decline was the larger of the two grain moves in percentage terms, though both contracts ended the session in the red.

Surveying the full scorecard for Wednesday, June 3, 2026, the commodity complex presented a divided picture. Gold, silver, natural gas, and copper all closed higher, while WTI crude, Brent crude, wheat, and corn finished the session with losses. Four commodities gained and four declined, leaving the day broadly split rather than trending uniformly in either direction. The most dramatic swings came from natural gas on the upside and WTI crude on the downside, the two anchoring either extreme of a session that offered little consensus across asset classes.

Headline	Crude oil prices steady near \$95 a barrel		
Publication	News Arena India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Crude oil prices steady near \$95 a barrel

<https://newsarenaindia.com/economy/crude-oil-prices-steady-near-95-a-barrel/79109>

Crude oil prices eased but remained steady near the \$95 a barrel mark on Friday after a 2.8 per cent drop earlier in the week, as US President Donald Trump signalled progress in peace talks with Iran.

West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude hovered below \$93 a barrel during early trade.

The pullback followed Trump's indication that negotiations with Tehran were advancing, raising hopes that a broader agreement could eventually ease disruptions to energy flows through the Strait of Hormuz. However, the situation remains fragile, with fresh escalations and attacks on oil facilities in Kuwait and Oman forcing the two nations to temporarily shut down crude extraction operations.

According to shipping industry journal Lloyd's List, Iran's crude oil exports dropped nearly 84 per cent in May compared with the previous month.

Exports were also 87 per cent lower than the 12-month average up to the end of April.

Analysts noted that Iran has been relying on smaller oil tankers and a shadow fleet of older vessels to ship crude, as larger Very Large Crude Carriers (VLCCs) face a higher risk of interception by US forces.

The US naval blockade of Iran began on April 13 and remains in place as part of Washington's strategy to pressure Tehran into accepting American demands.

Headline	ONGC Signs 5-Year MoU to Advance India's First Geothermal Power Project at Ladakh's Puga Valley		
Publication	PSU Connect	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

ONGC Signs 5-Year MoU to Advance India's First Geothermal Power Project at Ladakh's Puga Valley

<https://www.psuconnect.in/memorandum-of-understanding/ongc-signs-5-year-mou-to-advance-indias-first-geothermal-power-project-at-ladakhs-puga-valley>

ONGC extends partnership in Ladakh for India's first geothermal power plant at Puga Valley, marking a major clean energy milestone at 14,000 ft.

New Delhi: In a landmark development for India's renewable energy sector, the ONGC Energy Centre has signed a renewed five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC) and the Union Territory Administration of Ladakh to advance the country's first geothermal power project at Puga Valley.

The agreement marks a significant milestone in India's clean energy roadmap, strengthening efforts to harness geothermal resources from one of the world's most promising high-altitude geothermal provinces.

1 MW Pilot Plant to Anchor India's Geothermal Future

The proposed project envisions a 1 MWe pilot geothermal power plant, designed to demonstrate the viability of large-scale geothermal energy production in India.

Located at an altitude exceeding 14,000 feet, Puga Valley presents extreme engineering challenges, including harsh climatic conditions and difficult terrain. Despite this, ONGC Energy Centre has already achieved a breakthrough by successfully drilling India's first geothermal well in the region and generating steam sufficient for power production.

This positions India among a select group of nations actively developing geothermal energy as a reliable, round-the-clock renewable power source.

Join PSU Connect on WhatsApp

A Strategic Push Toward Net Zero Goals

The Puga geothermal initiative is expected to play a key role in:

Enhancing energy security in the Himalayan region

Reducing dependence on conventional fossil fuels

Supporting sustainable infrastructure development

Creating local employment and economic opportunities

The project also aligns closely with India's broader climate commitments and the national vision of achieving net-zero emissions, reinforcing the push toward diversified renewable energy sources.

High-Level Participation in MoU Signing

The renewed MoU was formally signed by senior officials including:

Shri Rudra Goud P.T., IAS, Administrative Secretary, Power Development and New & Renewable Energy Department, UT Ladakh

Shri Romil Singh Donk, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Leh

Shri Sunil Kumar, Director General, ONGC Energy Centre

Their participation underscores strong institutional alignment between the central government, UT administration, and technical energy bodies.

Why This Project Matters

Unlike solar and wind energy, geothermal power offers a stable baseload energy supply available 24/7 regardless of weather conditions. If successfully scaled, the Puga Valley project could serve as a blueprint for geothermal development across India's Himalayan and volcanic regions.

Experts believe this initiative could mark the beginning of a new renewable energy category in India's energy mix, complementing solar, wind, and hydro power.

Conclusion

The extended collaboration between ONGC Energy Centre and Ladakh authorities signals more than just a pilot project; it represents India's entry into next-generation renewable energy innovation. If successful, Puga Valley may become the cornerstone of India's geothermal energy future and a symbol of high-altitude engineering excellence.

Headline	How ONGC Is Driving BRICS Collaboration on Carbon Capture Technologies		
Publication	PSU Connect	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

How ONGC Is Driving BRICS Collaboration on Carbon Capture Technologies

<https://www.psuconnect.in/psu-news/how-ongc-is-driving-brics-collaboration-on-carbon-capture-technologies>

ONGC organized the BRICS Side Event on Advancements in CCUS Technologies under India's BRICS 2026 Chairship, bringing together policymakers, researchers, and industry leaders to discuss carbon capture, utilization, and storage solutions.

New Delhi, June 5, 2026: State-owned energy major ONGC successfully organized the BRICS Side Event on "Advancements in Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) Technologies" as part of India's BRICS Chairship 2026, bringing together policymakers, industry leaders, researchers, and technical experts from BRICS member nations.

The event served as a key platform for discussions on emerging technologies, policy frameworks, financing mechanisms, and collaborative opportunities across the entire CCUS value chain. Participants explored how carbon capture technologies can play a pivotal role in achieving climate objectives while ensuring energy security and industrial competitiveness.

The deliberations focused on five critical areas of the CCUS ecosystem, including policy, finance and regulatory frameworks, advancements in carbon dioxide capture technologies, innovations in CO utilization, transport and geological storage solutions, and CO-based Enhanced Hydrocarbon Recovery (CO-EHR).

Join PSU Connect on WhatsApp

Experts emphasized that CCUS is increasingly becoming an essential component of global decarbonization strategies, particularly for hard-to-abate sectors such as oil and gas, steel, cement, and chemicals. The technology enables the capture of carbon emissions from industrial facilities and power plants, preventing them from entering the atmosphere while creating opportunities for utilization and long-term storage.

The discussions highlighted the importance of supportive policy frameworks, cross-border collaboration, and investment in research and development to accelerate large-scale deployment of CCUS projects across BRICS economies.

As one of the world's fastest-growing energy markets, India has been actively exploring advanced carbon management technologies to balance economic growth with environmental sustainability. The event reflected the country's commitment to fostering international cooperation on climate solutions while advancing energy transition objectives.

Participants also examined the potential of CO-based Enhanced Hydrocarbon Recovery, a technology that can increase oil and gas production from mature reservoirs while simultaneously storing captured carbon underground.

The summit concluded with a shared recognition among BRICS nations that Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage will be a critical enabler for strengthening energy security, supporting industrial growth, enhancing competitiveness, and meeting long-term climate goals. Stakeholders underscored the need for continued collaboration to accelerate innovation and scale up deployment of CCUS technologies across member countries.

The event further reinforced India's leadership role during its BRICS Chairship and highlighted ONGC's commitment to advancing low-carbon technologies and sustainable energy solutions.

Headline	ONGC Energy Centre, Ladakh Administration extend pact for India's first Geothermal Power Project		
Publication	PSU Watch	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

ONGC Energy Centre, Ladakh Administration extend pact for India's first Geothermal Power Project

<https://psuwatch.com/newsupdates/ongc-energy-centre-ladakh-administration-extend-pact-for-indias-first-geothermal-power-project>

The ONGC Energy Centre has signed an MoU with the Union Territory Administration of Ladakh and the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council to extend their collaboration for another five years

Published on

New Delhi: The ONGC Energy Centre has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Union Territory Administration of Ladakh and the Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council to extend their collaboration for another five years for the development of India's first geothermal power project at Puga Valley in Ladakh.

Follow The PSUWatch Channel on WhatsApp

The agreement, signed on June 4, seeks to advance geothermal energy development in the Himalayan region through the establishment of a 1 MWe pilot geothermal power plant. Located at an altitude of over 14,000 feet, Puga Valley is considered one of the world's most promising geothermal provinces and is expected to serve as the foundation for commercial-scale geothermal power generation in India.

The project has already achieved a significant milestone with the successful drilling of India's first geothermal well by the ONGC Energy Centre. According to the organisation, the well has generated sufficient steam for sustainable power production despite the region's challenging terrain and extreme weather conditions.

The breakthrough marks a major step in India's efforts to harness geothermal energy and places the country among a select group of nations pursuing geothermal resources as a dependable, round-the-clock renewable energy source.

The Puga geothermal project is expected to strengthen energy security in the Himalayan region, reduce reliance on conventional fuels, support sustainable development and generate economic opportunities for local communities. The initiative is also aligned with the vision of Narendra Modi to promote alternative energy resources and supports India's long-term net-zero commitments.

Follow PSU Watch on LinkedIn

The MoU has been signed by Rudra Goud P. T., Administrative Secretary, Power Development and New & Renewable Energy Department, UT Ladakh; Romil Singh Donk, Deputy Commissioner, Leh; and Sunil Kumar on behalf of their respective organisations.

The renewed partnership is expected to accelerate India's geothermal energy ambitions and contribute to diversifying the country's renewable energy portfolio.

is India's Business News centre that places the spotlight on PSUs, Bureaucracy, Defence and Public Policy. ? Click to join our channel now: . Prefer LinkedIn? Follow PSU Watch on . Click to stay connected on and stay updated.)

Headline	Crude Oil Futures Gain on Strong Spot Demand		
Publication	Rediff	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Crude Oil Futures Gain on Strong Spot Demand

<https://money.rediff.com/news/market/crude-oil-futures-gain-on-strong-spot-demand/48291820260605>

Crude oil futures prices rose on Friday, driven by firm spot demand and increased participant positions. MCX saw a Rs 15 gain, while WTI & Brent crude also climbed.

New Delhi, Jun 5 (PTI) Crude oil prices on Friday rose by Rs 15 to Rs 8,857 per barrel in futures trade, as participants increased their positions following firm spot demand.

On the Multi Commodity Exchange, crude oil for June delivery traded higher by Rs 15, or 0.17 per cent, at Rs 8,857 per barrel in 4,806 lots.

Analysts said the rise of bets by participants kept crude oil prices higher in futures trade.

Globally, West Texas Intermediate crude was trading 0.28 per cent higher at USD 92.78 per barrel, while Brent crude rose 0.05 per cent to USD 95.08 per barrel in New York.

Headline	Flex fuel to cost ₹20/ litre cheaper than E20 petrol: Oil Minister		
Publication	The Hindu Business Line	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Flex fuel to cost ₹20/ litre cheaper than E20 petrol: Oil Minister

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/flex-fuel-to-cost-20-litre-cheaper-than-e20-petrol-oil-minister/article71066441.ece>

E85 is a high-ethanol blended fuel comprising 8085 per cent ethanol and 1419 per cent petrol

Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Friday that the retail selling price of flex fuel, the E85 variant that has a higher blend of ethanol, will be around 20 cheaper than the E20 petrol variant.

I think we have consciously structured the pricing to ensure that consumers are adequately compensated by making E85 approximately 20 per litre cheaper than E20, the Oil Minister said while launching the E85 variant at an Indian Oil Corporation (IOCL)-run retail outlet.

Currently, the E85 variant is priced at 82.12 a litre in Delhi against 102.12 a litre of E20 blended petrol. The rollout commences across 48 public sector OMC retail outlets (ROs) in the country, enabling flex-fuel vehicle users to access this cleaner fuel.

E85 is a high-ethanol blended fuel comprising 8085 per cent ethanol and 1419 per cent petrol, specifically designed for use in flex-fuel vehicles. The initiative aims to facilitate the adoption of flex-fuel vehicles (FFVs), which are capable of operating on ethanol blends from E20 to E100, without restricting consumers to a single blend.

The Minister explained that the newly launched variant, which has 85 per cent ethanol and 15 per cent petrol, will be available at fuel retail outlets (ROs) with clearly displayed signage.

E85 is a different category. At fuel bunks, a board will say very clearly that only for E85 compliant cars only. You will buy E85 as you want to contribute to lessen fuel import bills, save the environment, and enhance farmer's income. I believe within a few weeks we will have about 50 to 100 ethanol dispensing stations in Delhi-NCR, Pune, Mumbai, and Nagpur, etc. By 2026 end, we will have 500 and by 2027 end we will have 5,000 dispensing stations, Puri emphasised.

The Minister emphasised that several countries, particularly Brazil have successfully leveraged flex fuel vehicles and are an intrinsic part of their energy dynamics. India is gradually moving in that direction.

Puri also noted that the push towards ethanol has led to a rise in the production capacity to around 1,900 crore litres of ethanol against a requirement of roughly 1,150 crore litres to meet the E20 petrol blending mandate.

If one out of two cars which are manufactured from now onwards and which is very easy to do. If they are E85 compliant, then we will have a situation where another 318 crore litres of ethanol can be consumed. For 20 per cent ethanol blending, we required around 1,150 crore litres ethanol. The capacity installed is 1,800-1,900 crore litres. Today, it is absolutely clear that the debate of energy security Vs food security was baseless, he explained.

Headline	Natural Gas Discovery Off Andaman Islands Boosts India's Energy Security		
Publication	The Researchers	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	6 Jun 2026		

Natural Gas Discovery Off Andaman Islands Boosts India's Energy Security

<https://www.theresearchers.us/2026/06/05/andaman-natural-gas-discovery/>

India's efforts to strengthen domestic energy production have received a major boost with the discovery of natural gas off the east coast of the Andaman Islands.

The find, made by state-owned Oil India Limited (OIL), is being viewed as a significant milestone in the exploration of the largely untapped Andaman Basin and could play an important role in enhancing the country's long-term energy security.

Discovery in the Andaman Sea

Oil India recently confirmed the presence of natural gas in an exploratory offshore well drilled in the Andaman Sea. The discovery was made at the Sri Vijayapuram-2 (Vijayapuram-2) well, located around 17 kilometres from the shoreline on the eastern coast of the Andaman Islands. The well was drilled in water depths of about 295 metres and reached a target depth of approximately 2,650 metres.

Initial production testing conducted between depths of 2,212 and 2,250 metres established the presence of natural gas. Laboratory analysis of gas samples showed methane content of around 87 per cent, confirming the hydrocarbon discovery. The find marks one of the most significant breakthroughs in India's offshore exploration programme in recent years.

Congratulations @OilIndiaLimited

An ocean of energy opportunities reinforced in the Andaman Sea!

Very happy to report the presence of natural gas in Sri Vijayapuram-3 an exploratory well drilled by Oil India Ltd. 15 km off the east coast of the Andaman Islands at a water pic.twitter.com/j6QvWqZkFx

Hardeep Singh Puri (@HardeepSPuri) June 5, 2026

Growing Confidence in the Andaman Basin

The discovery reinforces long-standing geological assessments that the Andaman Basin may hold substantial hydrocarbon resources. The basin lies within a larger petroleum-rich belt stretching from Myanmar in the north to Indonesia in the south, where several commercially successful gas fields have already been developed.

Exploration activities by Oil India and the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) have intensified in the region under India's Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP). The latest find is expected to encourage further drilling and seismic studies across the basin.

Fuelling the Future: Natural Gas Found at Sri Vijayapuram-3, 15 km Off Andaman Coast Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri

The find by Oil India Limited underscores the Andaman Sea's significant energy potential' and represents a successful outcome in pic.twitter.com/DEO3DNpoO1

RT_India (@RT_India_news) June 5, 2026

Strategic Importance for India

India remains heavily dependent on imports for its energy requirements, importing a large share of its crude oil and a significant portion of its natural gas demand. Any commercially viable domestic gas discovery has the potential to reduce import dependence, improve energy security, and strengthen the country's economic resilience.

Energy experts believe that while the current discovery is encouraging, additional appraisal drilling and reservoir studies will be required to determine the size of the gas reserves and assess their commercial viability. The process of developing offshore infrastructure and bringing the resource into production could take several years.

Recent Progress in Exploration

The latest announcement follows a series of encouraging developments in the Andaman offshore block. Oil India recently reported natural gas presence in another exploratory well in the same region, indicating growing hydrocarbon potential across the basin. These discoveries are strengthening confidence that the Andaman Sea could emerge as an important future source of domestic energy.

Looking Ahead

While commercial production remains some distance away, the discovery represents a significant step forward in India's quest for energy self-reliance. If further exploration confirms sizeable reserves, the Andaman Basin could become a key contributor to India's natural gas supply in the coming decades.

The discovery also highlights the increasing importance of offshore exploration as India seeks to meet rising energy demand while reducing dependence on imported fuels. As appraisal and development activities continue, the Andaman Basin is expected to remain a focal point of India's energy strategy.

Headline	Oil India's Andaman Discovery: Real Value or Exploration Hype?		
Publication	Whalesbook	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

Oil India's Andaman Discovery: Real Value or Exploration Hype?

<https://www.whalesbook.com/news/English/energy/Oil-Indias-Andaman-Discovery-Real-Value-or-Exploration-Hype/6a2311d1775d982ca6c9d867>

Oil India has confirmed a second natural gas find at its Vijayapuram-3 well in the Andaman offshore basin.

While management frames this as a win for domestic energy security, the economic viability of this deepwater frontier remains unproven. With two successful wells out of three attempts, investors must weigh the long-term potential against the significant capital expenditure required to bring remote, high-pressure subsea reserves to market.

Used by 10,000+ active investors

Select the stocks you want to track in real time.

Receive instant updates directly to WhatsApp.

The Economic Reality of Frontier Exploration

The confirmation of hydrocarbon presence at the Vijayapuram-3 well suggests a geological petroleum system is at play within the Andaman Basin, but proximity to discovery does not equate to commercial extraction. While the market often reacts positively to drilling success, the transition from exploration to production in the Andaman region faces extreme topographical and logistical hurdles. Unlike established fields in the Krishna-Godavari basin, these offshore assets require complex subsea infrastructure that could weigh heavily on future capital expenditure ratios.

Comparing Against Regional Peers

When juxtaposed with ONGC's operations in mature blocks, Oil India's aggressive pivot toward the Andaman region appears to be a high-stakes bet on long-term resource replacement. Market participants should note that the company's price-to-earnings multiple has historically been suppressed by the volatile nature of exploration-heavy portfolios. While these finds represent a technical success under the Samudra Manthan Mission, they do not immediately alter the firm's near-term earnings per share. Peer analysis indicates that similar deepwater ventures by regional energy players often suffer from multi-year gestation periods before contributing meaningfully to bottom-line profitability.

The Forensic Bear Case

The optimism surrounding these results masks significant structural risks. First, the cost of subsea development in the Andaman Sea is inherently higher than onshore assets due to the depth and isolation of the region. Investors should be wary of potential margin compression if the company accelerates its 3D seismic acquisition program without a corresponding increase in gas output pricing. Furthermore, past project execution in India's offshore sectors has frequently been marred by delays in regulatory approvals and infrastructure rollouts. Given the technical complexity of the Eocene formation, the risk of technical challenges or lower-than-anticipated flow rates remains a distinct possibility that could undermine the project's internal rate of return.

Future Outlook and Strategic Direction

Moving forward, the primary metric for stakeholders will be the conversion rate of these exploratory wells into commercially viable production blocks. With additional seismic data currently being processed, the company is positioning itself for a multi-phase appraisal cycle. Brokerage consensus suggests that while these discoveries validate the geological thesis of the region, the market will likely remain cautious until a comprehensive development plan, including cost-benefit analysis and tie-in strategy, is formalized. The company must prove it can manage the capital intensity of this frontier basin without sacrificing its healthy dividend profile.

Quarterly results, bulk deals, concall updates and major announcements delivered in real time.

Headline	PM Modi, Venezuela's Rodríguez Discuss Energy Partnership, Critical Minerals		
Publication	bhashatimes	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	5 Jun 2026		

PM Modi, Venezuela's Rodríguez Discuss Energy Partnership, Critical Minerals

<https://bhashatimes.com/en/india/modi-rodriquez-energy-partnership-venezuela>

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Venezuela's acting President Delcy Rodríguez held talks in New Delhi on Thursday, exploring a long-term energy partnership alongside collaboration in pharmaceuticals and critical minerals.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Venezuela's acting President Delcy Rodríguez held talks at Hyderabad House on Thursday, discussing the forging of a long-term energy partnership between the two nations. This marks Rodríguez's first visit to India since she became the interim head of the Venezuelan government.

The two leaders also explored collaboration in pharmaceuticals and the critical minerals sector. The Indian side raised the issue of repatriating oil dividends owed to ONGC Videsh Ltd, which has equity participation in two oil exploration projects in Venezuela but has been unable to bring back more than \$500 million in dividends.

Modi said in a social media post that they discussed the expansion of cooperation in energy, critical minerals, technology, agriculture and healthcare. Rodríguez stated that Venezuela views India as a preferred partner. Venezuela holds the world's largest proven crude oil reserves and has become India's third largest oil supplier, after Russia and the United Arab Emirates.

The Indian government is aggressively seeking new sources of crude oil for energy security, and Venezuela features prominently in those plans. Payments for energy purchases will be handled according to companies' preferences. Rodríguez is scheduled to visit Reliance Industries' Jamnagar refinery in Gujarat, which has a capacity of 1.24 million barrels per day and is currently the main buyer of Venezuela's heavy crude.