



ONGC News as on 12 July 2026 (Print & Online)

TECH QUERY



GURUMURTHY K, M. research bureau

I have bought KPIT Technologies shares at ₹608. What is the outlook?

K S Dhami

KPIT Technologies (₹562): The stock has been knocked down badly in the last couple of years. The price has tumbled over 70 per cent from a high of around ₹1,928 (July 2024). The strong fall below ₹600 last week has brought renewed pressure. Resistance is at ₹620. As long as the stock trades below it, the outlook will remain negative. Support is around ₹500. A break below it will see the stock tumbling towards ₹300 in the coming months.

Since there is no scope for a price rise, exit the stock and accept the loss. Always have a stop-loss in the first place whenever you enter any trade. That will help in minimising the loss. It will also help to avoid getting stuck in a wrong position for a long time.

Is it a good time to buy Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) shares now long-term? Please advise

Anil Kuyilath

ONGC (₹245): The stock has very crucial supports in the ₹230-₹200 region. From a long-term perspective, there are good chances for the share price to go up again to ₹350 over the next one year. From a multi-year perspective, say for a five year period, there is potential to see ₹520 on the upside. You can buy the stock in three tranches. Buy 40 per cent of the intended amount now at current levels. Buy another 40 per cent at ₹230 and the balance at ₹220. Keep a stop-loss at ₹155. Trail the stop-loss up to ₹280 when the price goes up to ₹330. Revise the stop-loss higher to ₹340 and ₹430 when the price touches ₹420 and ₹490 respectively. Exit the stock at ₹520.

What is the technical outlook for Indraprastha Medical Corporation?

Rahamath M, Coimbatore

Indraprastha Medical Corporation (₹380): The stock is struggling to get a sustained rise past ₹440 since the beginning of this year. That keeps alive the danger of the price declining below the crucial support level of ₹345. If this break happens, the price can fall to ₹300-₹295 thereafter. A strong and sustained rise above ₹440 is needed to strengthen the bullish case. Only then the upside will open up for a fresh rally to ₹730. For now, it is better to

stay out of this stock. You can consider entering this stock after the breakout above ₹440 happens. In that case, you can keep a stop-loss at ₹320 and play for the target of ₹730. For every ₹100 rise in the share price, move your stop-loss also up by ₹100.

I have bought Everest Kanto Cylinder shares at ₹154. What is the outlook?

Nikesh

Everest Kanto Cylinder (₹115): The trend is down since December 2024. There is no concrete sign of a bullish trend reversal. Important resistance is at ₹140. A break above it will give some breather and take the stock price higher to ₹180-₹185. This will be an initial sign of a trend reversal. Ideally, a rise above ₹185 will only turn the outlook convincingly bullish for a rise to ₹250. But failure to rise past ₹140 from here can keep the stock under pressure. In that case, the downside will remain open to see ₹85 and even lower. Since the rise to ₹180 does not look very certain from here, it is not advisable to accumulate at current levels. So, it is better to exit the stock and accept the loss.

* Send your queries to techtrial@thehindu.co.in

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Page : 5

ve ASSAM

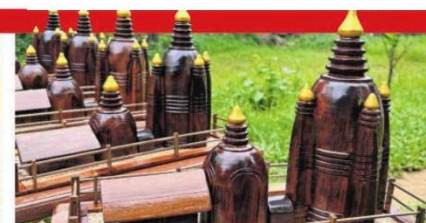
PANKAJ Raidongia took the bold decision to quit a cushy corporate job in Bengaluru and return home to Assam when the world was battling the Covid-19 pandemic. The risk paid off. In less than five years, he has built a reputation as a promising wood sculptor while inspiring others to take up woodcarving.

Born in the Bakata Nemuguri village in upper Assam's Sivasagar district, Raidongia fell in love with drawing and painting as a child. While in high school in the mid-1990s, he often travelled 24 km to Moran town in neighbouring Dibrugarh district to take art lessons from Anuj Duwara, an alumnus of the Government College of Art and Crafts in Guwahati. After Class 12, Raidongia enrolled at the same college and graduated in sculpture. He then moved to New Delhi for a shoe designing course before taking up a visual merchandiser's job at a multinational company. Over the next 12 years, he designed store layouts, window displays and product arrangements at malls in Mumbai, Ahmedabad and Bengaluru.

During the first Covid-19 lockdown, when public movement was restrict-

He left his cushy corporate job to start afresh and build a name as a wood sculptor, writes **Prasanta Mazumdar**

CARVING OUT A WHOLE NEW LIFE



Pankaj Raidongia carving a wooden piece (left); his finished crafts on display (right) | EXPRESS

ed, he felt the urge to do something on his own, though returning to Assam was not yet on his mind. He resumed drawing and began posting his sketches and creative display designs online, where they received positive feedback.

"The idea of returning to Assam and doing something independently took shape during the second Covid-19 lockdown. I was bored with my city apartment life. I also always struggled to find the right kind of raw materials at my workplace. Eventually, after

discussing it with my wife Polli, we returned home," says Raidongia.

Bamboo and cane crafts were common in his native village. Locals made Assamese "japi" (traditional wide-brimmed conical hat), baskets and items using bamboo and cane.

In 2021-22, he launched his entrepreneurial venture, "Parambh", to preserve, promote and modernise these crafts. He encouraged about a dozen local youths to work with him. Initially, he shared his designs with villagers, who made the products for

him. The venture gained momentum only after a few YouTubers featured his products.

"Although my helpers are not formally trained, they are passionate about woodwork. A couple of them worked as carpenters before. They prepare the wood pieces before I carve them at my small workshop at home. They earn about ₹15,000 each per month," says Raidongia.

He enjoys working with driftwood - trees, branches or wooden debris carried downstream by rivers.

He buys driftwood from people, and sometimes they approach him directly.

According to Raidongia, ordinary wood is more susceptible to termite infestation, reducing its durability. Driftwood, on the other hand, retains only its skeletal structure after prolonged immersion, making it more durable. "In the case of driftwood, nature gives you the shape. All you have to do is use your creativity. You don't have to cut down trees and thus, you save nature. It also takes less work," Raidongia explains.

He primarily carves statues and mementoes.

One of his most appreciated works was a statue of legendary singer, songwriter and filmmaker Bhupen Hazarika. Following Zubeen Garg's passing, he carved a statue of the singer-musician as a tribute. Photos of the work went viral on social media, earning admiration and generating orders. "A pall of gloom had descended on Assam after Zubeen Da's untimely death and we were all emotional. We had given our best effort when we carved his statue," says Raidongia. While statues command good prices, most of his orders are for mementoes. Organisations such as student bodies, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, and Oil India Limited, commission them as gifts for guests at functions.

SUCCESS STORY

Meghalaya Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs flags off Shillong Leg of 135th IndianOil Durand Cup trophy tour

EOI CORRESPONDENT

SHILLONG, JULY 11: Wailadmiki Shylla, Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of Meghalaya, welcomed the Trophy Tour of the 135th IndianOil Durand Cup to Shillong on Saturday, as the football-loving state received the tournament's three iconic trophies following their ceremonial flag-off by President of India Droupadi Murmu at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre in New Delhi earlier this month.

The ceremony was also attended by Lieutenant General Mohit Wadhwa SM, General Officer Commanding, 101 Area; Air Marshal Devendra P. Hirani, YSM VSM, Senior Air Staff Officer, Eastern Air Command; Major General D.K. Singh SM VSM, General Officer Commanding, Bengal Sub Area and Vice Chairman,

Durand Cup Organising Committee; Major General Jai Singh Bainsla SM, Additional Director General, Assam Rifles, Isawanda Laloo IAS, Secretary, Sports and Youth Affairs Department, Government of Meghalaya, Idashisha Nongrang IPS, Director General of Police, Meghalaya, John F. Kharshling, Working President, Meghalaya State Olympic Association and Hamletson Dohling, President, Meghalaya Football Association, along with senior civil and military officials, representatives of participating clubs and members of the football fraternity.

The ceremony celebrated Meghalaya's rich footballing heritage while formally inaugurating the Trophy Tour's journey through the first of the tournament's five host cities. The programme featured a



presentation on the rich legacy of the Durand Cup, a special screening of the President of India's Trophy Unveiling and Flag-off Ceremony held earlier this month at Rashtrapati Bhavan, a choir performance by the 15-member Khmih Creative Society, the ceremonial

showcase of the tournament's three iconic trophies, the Durand Cup, the President's Cup and the Simla Trophy and an exchange of mementoes between the dignitaries before the trophy convoy was flagged off.

Mr Shylla said, "Football is not merely a game in

Meghalaya, it is part of our identity. It unites communities, inspires our youth and brings immense pride to our State. We are grateful to the Indian Armed Forces for giving Meghalaya the opportunity to host the Durand Cup for the third consecutive year, and we

hope that Shillong will one day have the privilege of hosting the Durand Cup Final."

The Minister later formally flagged off the Meghalaya leg of the Trophy Tour, marking the commencement of the tournament's public engagement programme in the state ahead of the 135th IndianOil Durand Cup.

Lieutenant General Wadhwa said, "There are cities that host football, and there are cities that live football."

Shillong proudly belongs to the latter. The passion, knowledge and unwavering support of football fans here create an atmosphere admired throughout India's football fraternity. Meghalaya has become an integral part of the Durand Cup journey, and we are delighted to return to Shillong once again and reaffirm the city's place as one of the tournament's key destinations."

The Great Ethanol Swindle

ACUTE ANGLE

Anand
Neelakantan

Author of *Asura*,
Ajaya series, *Vanara*
and *Bahubali* trilogy



One has to appreciate the creative ways the government finds to extract money from the pockets of common people. The ethanol-blended petrol E10-E20, which is set to become E30 soon, is one of the magical tricks that the mandarins in the air-conditioned corridors of New Delhi have pulled on the unsuspecting public. They call ethanol-blended petrol a matter of physical prudence. They call it import substitution and green transition. It is a genius move if you own an ethanol blending factory. For everyone else, it is a disaster. There has been a great public relations exercise by the concerned parties to justify this E20 and E30 push. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and the PSUs it controls argue that ethanol possesses an exceptionally high Research Octane Number of 108.5 compared to regular petrol's 84.4. In other words, they are giving us 95-octane petrol. According to official notes from trials conducted by the Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) and the Indian Oil Corporation, this higher octane improves anti-knock properties, enhances acceleration, and increases volumetric efficiency due to a high latent heat of

vaporisation, which cools the intake manifold. Furthermore, they cite life-cycle emission reductions of up to 30 per cent in carbon monoxide and hydrocarbon particulates. Having worked in the industry for close to a quarter of a century, I can vouch for all of these. There is also a huge foreign exchange gain of over ₹1.6 lakh crore a year.

Like statistics, science can be used to tell some convenient truths while hiding many inconvenient ones. Ethanol is a powerful solvent and is highly hygroscopic. It actively draws moisture directly from the atmosphere. When this water-saturated fuel sits in a tank, it triggers a chemical phenomenon known as phase separation. The water and ethanol bind together, forming a heavy, highly acidic layer that sinks to the bottom of the fuel tank. In laboratory tests conducted by independent tribologists, this acidic mixture causes severe pitting corrosion in aluminium carburettor bodies and traditional steel tanks.

Furthermore, ethanol degrades the polymer chains of standard elastomers. In older legacy fleets, and even in newer vehicles, it causes nitrile rubber fuel lines, fuel pump diaphragms, and O-rings to swell, harden, and crack. In layman's terms, it means that if your vehicle was manufactured before 2023, you are in for a lot of nasty surprises. The physics of combustion is equally damaging. As ethanol has roughly 33 per cent lower energy density than neat petrol, fuel consumption increases significantly. While controlled ARAI laboratory tests on rollers claim a modest two to six per



cent drop in fuel efficiency compared to E10, real-world data from consumer surveys show that nearly half of legacy vehicle owners report severe mileage drops. High-ethanol fuel blends (like E30) affect engine temperatures in modern turbocharged cars. This can cause severe "engine knock", that is, a violent, unpredictable explosion inside the engine that can shatter piston rings and damage cylinder heads. This significantly increases the frequency and severity of Low-Speed Pre-Ignition (LSPI)—a violent, stochastic autoignition event that causes destructive end-gas knock, shattering piston rings, and damaging cylinder heads. Another issue is rapidly shifting policies. Following the April 2023 mandate, automobile manufacturers were legally required to upgrade material specifications so that new

vehicles sold in India could run on E20 fuel. Consumers adjusted, paying higher vehicle acquisition costs. Now, the Bureau of Indian Standards has already notified fuel standards for E22 to E30 blends. If the government suddenly forces E30 onto the pumps to meet aggressive agricultural blending targets, a vehicle purchased just this year that was built strictly to meet the E20 compliance norms becomes instantly vulnerable. The material engineering and electronic calibrations designed to withstand 20 per cent ethanol are not rated for 30 per cent. By shifting the goalposts mid-game, the state effectively retrofits obsolescence onto brand new assets, leaving recent buyers with no choice but to pump a non-compliant, damaging blend into their engines.

Now comes the insult to injury. Neither the insurers nor the

vehicle manufacturers are ready to share the burden with the customer. When these corrosive blends inevitably dissolve the fuel pump or ruin the engine, where does the victim turn? The automobile manufacturers wash their hands of the matter, pointing to the fine print in their manuals. The fuel available in the market changes every few months at the whims of bureaucrats. Sometimes, E20, E22, E30, and so on. In other words, none of the vehicle engine warranties is technically valid, and you are at the mercy of the vehicle manufacturer the moment you have poured the government-approved fuel of the day. Even if you buy E22 or E30-guaranteed fuel today, the fuel available tomorrow could be E40 or anything in between or beyond.

The insurance companies loudly proclaim that using ethanol-blended fuel will not invalidate a motor insurance policy outright, knowing full well that their standard clauses explicitly exclude gradual wear and tear and consequential damage. The policy remains technically valid, but the moment a claim is filed for an ethanol-rotted fuel line or an LSPI-damaged piston, the corporate trap snaps shut. The claim is denied because the corrosion induced by your ethanol fuel is normal wear and tear. The cost of all this damage is passed on to us. The profit is all for the corporations to make.

The millions of delivery riders, daily wagers, and middle-class commuters who keep this country moving were never invited to the negotiation table. They are ignored and expected to

bear the burden without complaint. The common man is paying the exact same exorbitant, heavily taxed price per litre, but he is buying diluted energy. It is a state-sanctioned pickpocketing. The government saves billions in foreign exchange, the massive sugar conglomerates, and distillery barons line their pockets with guaranteed state-backed pricing, the vehicle manufacturers get away, and insurance companies make merry. The ordinary driver pays more money to travel shorter distances. And this will result in more demand for imported fuel and more bleeding of precious foreign exchange.

The common man in India is already suffocating under a mountain of financial extractions. He pays a 15-year upfront road tax just to register a vehicle, navigates an endless gauntlet of toll plazas on broken roads, and bears a crushing weight of central and state duties levied on every single drop of fuel. When adjusted for purchasing power parity, Indians pay some of the highest fuel prices in the world. To slip a damaging, inefficient fuel blend into the pumps under the guise of national progress, while stripping away manufacturing accountability and insurance protection, is a profound betrayal of trust.

A bicycle is a wonderful choice, as it protects the environment, your health, and precious foreign exchange for our beloved country. But since it doesn't fatten cronies' pockets, it may not be patriotic enough. So, like most things in the country, let our vehicles be 'Ram bharse' too.

mail@asura.co.in

E20 transition: India's ethanol blending programme is worth defending — not because it is perfect, but because it is practical



KUSHAN MITRA

In a country that imports most of its crude, faces recurring global oil shocks, and is trying to clean up transport emissions without disrupting millions of motorists, ethanol is not a silver bullet. It is a bridge: imperfect, necessary, and increasingly important.

The current debate has become noisy, emotional, and in some cases politically convenient. Motorists are right to complain about mileage, about the lack of choice, and about the feeling that a major fuel transition has been imposed on them faster than the market has adapted. But those valid concerns should not obscure the larger point: ethanol blending helps India reduce its exposure to imported oil, and that matters every time geopolitics sends crude prices upward.

That argument has become even stronger after the recent uncertainty in West Asia, including the tensions that affected the Strait of Hormuz. India's dependence on imported crude means that any disruption there can feed directly into domestic fuel prices. Without ethanol blending, the retail petrol price would likely have been significantly higher, painful even. In that sense, ethanol is not just a policy choice; it is a hedge against the volatility of the global oil market.

For Indian motorists, that is the core of the case. Fuel is not merely a commodity in India. It is a daily cost, a budget line, and for many households, a source of financial stress. Any mechanism that softens crude shocks deserves serious credit. Ethanol blend-



ing does exactly that by replacing a portion of imported petrol with a domestically produced fuel. It does not eliminate dependence on crude, but it does dilute it. That is a meaningful gain in a country as exposed as India.

The other important question is whether ethanol makes sense from an agricultural and industrial point of view. Here too, the answer is yes, particularly if the policy is executed with balance which I believe it is.

India today is food-grain surplus, not food-grain scarce like we were in the 1960s, the green revolution, modern farming techniques as well as the next generation of seeds has transformed Indian farming. After meeting public distribution requirements and buffer stock needs, the country still has significant volumes of grain that can be monetised in more productive ways. If that surplus can be converted into fuel, then it ceases to be a burden on storage and becomes a source of value. One also has to be keep in mind, that because of MSP promises to farmers, Indian grain is often not competitive in global markets.

This is where the use of rice, broken grain, and maize becomes strategical-

ly important. There is nothing inherently wrong with using surplus food grain for ethanol if food security is protected first. In fact, a well-managed ethanol economy can become a tool for agricultural price support, especially when it creates an additional, reliable buyer for farm output. That can be a lifeline in years of glut, when price collapses are as damaging to farmers as droughts are.

Maize deserves special mention because it offers a better balance between fuel production and resource use. Compared with water-intensive crops such as sugarcane, maize is far less demanding on water resources. That matters greatly in India, where groundwater stress is a chronic problem and agriculture is under pressure to do more with less. A stronger maize-for-ethanol ecosystem can support crop diversification, reduce dependence on water-heavy feedstocks, and create a healthier market for farmers who need predictable demand.

That is why the rise in maize-based ethanol should be seen as a positive development, not a compromise. And it has led to a material change for maize

farmers in Bihar and Odisha who have seen incomes triple. It also broadens the raw material base for India's ethanol programme so that the entire system is not excessively dependent on sugar or rice. In policy terms, diversification is strength. In agricultural terms, it is resilience.

The next stage of the ethanol story is even more important: second-generation ethanol. This is where the real long-term sustainability case begins. Technologies that convert municipal waste, agricultural residue, bamboo, and even seaweed into ethanol are important because they reduce the food-versus-fuel tension that always shadows first-generation biofuels. Instead of drawing from edible grain alone, 2G ethanol uses biomass that would otherwise be wasted, burned, or left underutilised.

Bamboo and seaweed may sound futuristic, but they are precisely the kinds of feedstocks that can make India's biofuel ecosystem more durable over time. They widen the resource base, reduce pressure on farmland, and give the country more ways to produce liquid fuel domestically. If first-generation ethanol is the bridge, then 2G ethanol is the road that bridge leads to.

Still, the criticism of ethanol blending cannot simply be waved away. The mileage issue is real, even if it is often exaggerated. Ethanol contains less energy than petrol, so a reduction in fuel efficiency is expected. But the size of that drop is generally modest, and in real-world Indian driving conditions, mileage is already influenced by traffic, idling, road quality, driving style, weather, and vehicle maintenance. A neat laboratory number often tells only part of the story.

That matters because Indian motorists do not drive in perfect conditions. They drive in traffic-heavy, stop-start, highly variable environments. A small efficiency change at the fuel level can get lost in the larger noise of daily usage.

CONTINUED ON >> PI

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Page : 1, 2

India's ethanol blending programme is worth...

That is why the debate should be more honest. Ethanol does not magically improve mileage, but the downside is often smaller in practice than the outrage suggests.

There is also a simple economic argument. If lower ethanol blends such as E10 were more widely available, the fuel would likely remain competitively attractive even after accounting for a mild efficiency penalty. In other words, the cost advantage of a cheaper domestic blend can outweigh the mileage loss. That is especially true when crude prices are high and when India's tax and import exposure make petrol vulnerable to external shocks. The consumer does

not necessarily lose in the arithmetic; often, the larger saving is in price stability rather than pure kilometres per litre.

This is why it is misleading to treat ethanol as though it must outperform petrol on every metric to justify its existence. No fuel is perfect. Petrol is imported and geopolitically vulnerable. Diesel is pollution-intensive, particularly for nitrogen oxides and particulates. Electricity is cleaner but still uneven in terms of charging access, battery cost, and grid integration.

And that is not factoring in the dependence on Chinese imports for EVs, something that was brutally demonstrated last year when China stopped exports of neodymium rare-earth permanent magnets used on EV motors. Hydrogen remains promising, but despite a decade of progress, green hydrogen still

has not been produced at the scale and cost needed to become a mass transport fuel. The reality is that every option has trade-offs.

India's challenge is more complex than most countries because it must balance energy security, affordability, emissions reduction, and vehicle fleet realities all at once. That is why the current outrage around ethanol blending can feel misplaced. The question is not whether ethanol is flawless. It is whether India can afford not to use a domestic fuel buffer in a world where oil is volatile and expensive. On that count, the answer is no.

What India should do now is not abandon ethanol blending, but refine it. Keep strengthening supply chains. Expand feedstock diversity. Give motorists clearer information about fuel compatibility. Preserve choice,

including E0 options where viable, and E0 100-Octane fuels such as XP100 from IndianOil are available in major metropolitan areas. Accelerate 2G technologies so that the programme becomes more sustainable over time. And above all, communicate the basic truth: ethanol is not an ideological project, it is a strategic one. In the end, the case for ethanol blending is a case for realism. India has no perfect fuel, no perfect transition path, and no perfect insulation from global shocks. But it does have biomass, surplus grain, agricultural capacity, and a large existing vehicle fleet. That is enough to make ethanol a sensible part of the answer. Ethanol is not just a fuel policy, it is national strategy.

The writer is Director and the Printer & Publisher of The Pioneer

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IndianOil's Petrochemical Units Earn Global and National Recognition for Manufacturing Excellence and Sustainability

Reinforcing its commitment to world-class manufacturing and sustainable operations, IndianOil has achieved two prestigious recognitions for its petrochemical business.



While the HDPE (High Density Polyethylene) Unit at Panipat Naphtha Cracker (IndianOil's 1st Refinery integrated Steam Cracker Complex) secured the First Position globally in the Hostalen Global Benchmarking Survey 2025, the Linear Alkyl Benzene (LAB) Unit (IndianOil's 1st Petrochemical Unit) at Gujarat Refinery became the first refinery/petrochemical plant in India to receive the CII GreenCo Silver Certification. The certificates were presented to Mr Arvind Kumar, Director (Refineries), IndianOil, by Mr Subhjit Sarkar, Executive Director (Operations) along with members of the Refineries Headquarters – Technical (Petrochemicals) team. Congratulating both units (Team PNC & Gujarat), Mr Arvind Kumar commended the team for its commitment to operational excellence, quality, and sustainability. He encouraged the teams to continue setting new benchmarks in manufacturing performance, reliability, and responsible operations. Panipat HDPE Unit sets global benchmark: The HDPE Unit at Panipat Naphtha Cracker secured the No. 1 global ranking in the Hostalen Global Benchmarking Survey 2025, conducted by technology licensor LyondellBasell for Hostalen HDPE plants worldwide.

The Great Ethanol Swindle

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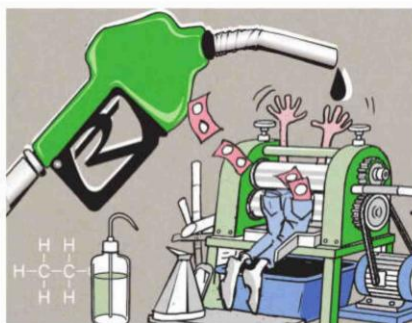


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Ethanol programme saved Rs 1.90 lakh cr in forex since 2014-15, says Govt amid row over E20 fuel

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI, JULY 11: The Union government on Friday defended the ethanol-blended petrol programme amid concerns over engine damage and mileage loss in vehicles using ethanol-blended fuel, saying the scheme has helped the sugar economy, boosted farmers' incomes and saved the country over Rs 1.90 lakh crore in foreign exchange since 2014-15.

Addressing a conclave organised by the Grain Ethanol Manufacturers Association (GEMA), joint secretary in the Food Ministry Ashwani Srivastava said ethanol has become central to the agricultural economy by creating new markets for surplus crops and reducing

India's dependence on imported crude oil. Ethanol-blended petrol (EBP) programme has resulted in saving of more than Rs 1.90 lakh crore of foreign exchange with the substitution of more than 310 lakh tonnes of crude oil from ethanol supply in 2014-15 up to 2026. Besides, it has also led to a net CO2 reduction of approximately 930 lakh tonne, he said. Srivastava said the EBP programme, which began with sugarcane-based ethanol, has ensured timely payments to cane growers and made the sugar industry more financially viable, with arrears owed to sugarcane farmers now at their lowest level ever.

According to the joint secretary, between 2014-15 and 2020-21, the Centre

disbursed about Rs 14,600 crore in subsidies to sugar mills, including export subsidies to clear surplus stock. However, no such export subsidy has been required since 2021-22, as mills now divert surplus sugar towards ethanol production, he said. Srivastava said maize has emerged as the largest feedstock for ethanol production, accounting for 47 per cent of supplies to oil marketing companies in 2024-25 and 36 per cent so far in the current supply year, up from traditional sugarcane-based feedstock. This has helped maize farmers get better realisation for their crop, he said.

The joint secretary also said India's ethanol production capacity has grown from about 21 crore

litres in 2013-14 to around 2,000 crore litres currently. With crude oil prices rising amid the Middle East crisis, the 20 per cent ethanol blending has helped save foreign exchange, substituting more than 310 lakh metric tonnes of crude oil since 2014-15 and cutting net CO2 emissions by about 930 lakh metric tonnes, he said. Srivastava also referred to a recent Cabinet decision to reduce the permissible broken-grain content in rice supplied under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana from 25 per cent to 10 per cent. He said the additional broken rice generated during milling would be available in the open market for industrial use, including ethanol

production, while ensuring better-quality rice for over 50 crore PDS beneficiaries.

According to him, the government's push for flex-fuel vehicles (FFVs), capable of running on ethanol blends from E20 to E100, along with the planned roll-out of E85 fuel, will give consumers flexibility and further support the ethanol blending programme. Meanwhile, GEMA president C K Jain said the ethanol programme was approved only after extensive research and was not a hurried decision. Jain said research on the E20 blend was carried out over four years, from 2014 to 2018, during which vehicles were driven 200,000 km on conventional fuel and another 200,000 km after switching to E20.

INTERIM DEAL BUCKLES

US-Iran: War of words returns

ASSOCIATED PRESS

DUBAI: US and Iranian leaders traded further threats on Saturday as the interim deal to end the war buckles under repeated crossfire in the Middle East.

President Donald Trump upped threats of further missile attacks against Iran in a string of comments on his Truth Social that came after senior US officials demanded that Iran make a public statement saying the Strait of Hormuz is open and that ships crossing the vital corridor won't be attacked.

Trump also made the comments after the funeral of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei saw open calls for the US leader's killing.

Later Saturday, Iranian Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei vowed that Iranians would continue to avenge the killing of his father, Ali Khamenei, who was mourned in funeral events throughout Iran this week. He said in remarks carried by state television that such revenge "is the will of our nation and must certainly be carried out."

So far, Tehran has not submitted to US demands over the Strait of Hormuz, instead insisting that the route remain under its control and that it be allowed to charge ships moving through it.

There had been multiple days of US airstrikes targeting Iran, as well as Iranian retaliatory fire targeting nations across the Middle East. Those strikes had been sparked by Iran attacking three ships in the strait earlier this week.

On Truth Social on Friday, Trump declared the ceasefire over but said the US would continue negotiations. Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi travelled to Oman for more talks on Saturday, a



FILE PHOTO

TAKEAWAYS

- » So far, Tehran has not submitted to US demands over the Strait of Hormuz, instead insisting that the route remain under its control and that it be allowed to charge ships moving through it
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day after Qatari mediators separately traveled to Iran to meet with officials amid the regional strikes.

A thousand "missiles are Locked and Loaded and aimed at the Islamic Republic of Iran, with thousands more to immediately follow, should the Iranian Government act on its threat," Trump wrote on his website.

The US president said he was responding to threats "to assassinate, or attempt to assassinate" him. During Khamenei's funeral, mourners repeatedly held

Continued on P4

US-Iran

posters or banners calling for him to be killed along with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The Iran war's opening moments on February 28 saw an airstrike that killed Khamenei, 86. Iran only buried Khamenei this week following a dayslong funeral ceremony that saw his body taken to cities in both Iran and Iraq.

Trump added in his post that the US military would "completely decimate and destroy all areas of Iran — PRAISE BE TO ALLAH!"

Trump, repeatedly during the war and its uneasy ceasefire, has invoked the name of God in Arabic, as well as threatened to destroy Iran's very civilisation. The Council on American-Islamic Relations, a nationwide advocacy group, has in the past criticised Trump's "deranged mocking of Islam."

US officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity to describe to reporters the state of play with Iran, said the resump-

tion of strikes this week came after what they described as a rogue faction of Iranian hardliners trying to sabotage the ceasefire between Tehran and Washington.

However, Iran has insisted its theocracy is unified after the war under the country's new supreme leader.

The US officials said Friday that Trump is giving US negotiators limited time to reach a deal with Iran but, in a sign of the challenges ahead, they underscored that the president had a wide range of options if talks fall apart.

Moments before the US officials spoke, however, Tehran's diplomat at the United Nations told reporters that any activity in the Strait of Hormuz, including its opening or demining operations, "rests exclusively with Iran."

Qatari mediators separately travelled to Iran to meet with officials on Friday, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei said.

Iran has said the strait must now be under its sole control and that vessels should begin paying fees to Tehran — even though the world has for decades considered it an international waterway. About a fifth of all traded oil and natural gas passed through the strait before the war began.

Iran's grip on the strait during the conflict led to a global energy crisis, though oil prices have sharply dropped since wartime highs of USD 120 a barrel.

After the US wrapped up its latest strikes on Thursday, more attacks reportedly hit Iran, leaving questions about who else may be targeting the Islamic Republic.

Israel didn't claim them, meaning the Gulf Arab states may have launched them, likely as a means to deter Iran from attacking them again. Iran on Thursday retaliated for US strikes by targeting Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait and Qatar.

The strikes in Iran over two days killed at least 17 people and wounded 115 others, Iranian Health Ministry spokesperson Hossein Kermanpour said.

Across the Strait of Hormuz on Saturday, Araghchi is scheduled to meet with his counterpart in Oman.

Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan told his country's state broadcaster TRT that he believed "a solution can be reached" this weekend between Iran and Oman, which lie on opposite sides of the narrow waterway.

However, Araghchi on Saturday accused the US of violating

the interim deal by ending waivers allowing Iran to sell crude oil on the open market in US dollars. Washington did that in response to the attacks on ships in the strait.

"Reality check: There can only be mutual compliance," Araghchi wrote on X.

The US continues to urge mariners to travel on a southern route through Oman's territorial waters to avoid Iranian waters and the commands of its paramilitary Revolutionary Guard. That has angered Tehran and sparked the attacks in the strait.

The US officials also told journalists that any deal on Iran's nuclear programme would require Tehran to turn over its stockpile of highly enriched uranium. That's something Iran has repeatedly refused.

If the US does not reach a deal with Iran to turn over its nuclear material, it has military options to ensure that it remains buried underground forever, the officials said. They did not detail those options.

The uranium, enriched to near weapons-grade levels, is believed to be at nuclear sites the US bombed in 2025.

Iran long has insisted its nuclear program is peaceful, despite the International Atomic Energy Agency saying the Islamic Republic is the only country in the world to enrich uranium so highly without a weapons programme.

The officials also insisted that they would never reach a nuclear deal with Iran if it did not first stop its attacks on ships in the Strait of Hormuz.

GAS FROM COAL BED METHANE BLOCKS

RIL Plans Development of 2nd CBM Asset to Boost Gas Output

To start exploration work in its eastern Sohagpur block in Madhya Pradesh

Kalpna Pathak

Mumbai: Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) is preparing to begin exploration work in its eastern Sohagpur block in Madhya Pradesh, as the company looks to augment gas production from its coal bed methane blocks, said people familiar with the development. CBM is natural gas stored in coal seams, extracted by drilling wells into coal seams and used as compressed natural gas for various domestic and industrial purposes.

RIL has coal bed methane blocks in Sohagpur, spanning roughly 1,000 sq km across two separate concessions or licence areas, Sohagpur West and Sohagpur East blocks, each covering about 500 sq km. The company has so far concentrated development on the western block, which industry executives describe as the more

geologically prolific of the two. With the western asset largely developed and delivering steady output, RIL will begin with a test-phase investment estimated in the range of ₹300-400 crore, aimed at establishing proof of concept before scaling up.

Queries emailed to RIL did not elicit a response till press time.

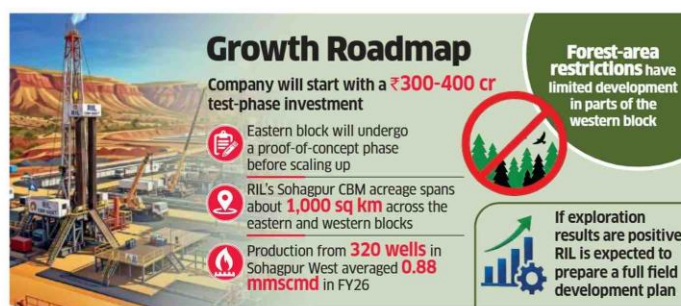
"RIL is producing CBM from block SP (West), with over 320 wells contributing to an average output of 0.88 million metric standard cubic metres per day in FY 2025-26, a 9.8% Y-o-Y increase. In the block SP

(West), multilateral horizontal well (MLW) programmes (first of its kind in India) have been successfully implemented reversing the field decline," RIL said in its annual report for 2025-26.

"Some part of RIL's western block is constrained by forest-area restrictions, so not much can be done there. Therefore, the company is planning exploration of the eastern block," an industry executive familiar with the company's plans said on condition of anonymity, adding that the groundwork and planning for the block are currently under-

way but on-ground development activity has not yet commenced. Should early results prove encouraging, the company is expected to expand investment and move toward formalising a field development plan for the block.

In its annual report for 2025-26, RIL said it will prioritise sustaining existing production, expanding its CBM output and pursuing disciplined exploration to support future resource additions, a strategy that now appears to include a cautious, phased entry into the eastern Sohagpur concession.



IEA sees India's natural gas demand dropping 8% in 2026

Rishi Ranjan Kala
New Delhi

India's natural gas demand is expected to fall roughly 8 per cent y-o-y in 2026, with the fertilizer sector likely to post the steepest decline, as the West Asia conflict and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz almost choked off half of the liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports from the region.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) in its latest Q3 2026 gas market report anticipates that the world's fourth largest LNG importer's natural gas demand is likely to decline around 8 per cent y-o-y in 2026.

However, the IEA pointed out that despite a significant softening in gas demand, India's weak domestic gas production kept LNG imports up on the year.

SOFTENING DEMAND

The West Asia conflict has significantly altered, albeit temporarily, India's LNG consumption dynamics, and supply sources. For instance, in February 2026, the IEA projected India's total natural gas consumption to hit 103 billion cubic meters per year by 2030.

"This represents a nearly 7 per cent annual average growth rate between 2023 and 2030, far in excess of the previous five years' CAGR of less than 2 per cent," it had said.

Between January and April 2026, India's natural gas demand declined 4 per cent y-o-y, reflecting strong price sensitivity across key consuming sectors. Demand trends diverged by end use.

"Fertilizer production recorded the largest absolute decline, falling more than 0.4 bcm or 7 per cent y-o-y, despite its designation as critical to agricultural productivity and food security under the Natural Gas (Supply Regulation) Order 2026, issued by



the government in early March 2026, shortly after the de facto closure of the Hormuz, IEA pointed out.

PETROCHEM DOWN

Petrochemical output also contracted sharply, by 21 per cent y-o-y. By contrast, gas use in the residential and commercial sectors — mainly city gas distribution for compressed natural gas (CNG) in transport and piped natural gas (PNG) for households and small industry — increased around 12 per cent y-o-y.

The IEA projected that Asia's natural gas demand is expected to decline by 0.5 per cent in 2026 as higher LNG prices spur gas-to-coal switching in power sector and lead to lower operating rates across gas- and energy intensive industries.

The IEA noted that India's domestic gas production remains on a declining trend, recording 22 consecutive months of year-on-year contraction since July 2024 and falling 4 per cent y-o-y in 2026.

Against this backdrop, LNG imports totalled around 11 bcm over the period, up 1 per cent y-o-y despite the West Asia supply disruption, it added.

Monthly inflows were volatile, with strong deliveries in January, followed by declines in March (down 16 per cent y-o-y) and April (down 7 per cent y-o-y) amid the onset of the Middle East supply disruption, before rebounding in May (up 7 per cent y-o-y), it pointed out.

Bounce may fade

CRUDE CHECK. Traders can consider selling

Akhil Nallamuthu
bl. research bureau

Oil prices snapped a four-week decline, as there was a recovery last week. Brent crude oil futures on the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) (\$76/barrel) and crude oil futures in the domestic market (₹6,814/barrel) gained 5.4 per cent and 3.7 per cent respectively.

BRENT FUTURES (\$76)

Brent crude futures rebounded on the back of the support at \$71. While it made a high of \$80.59 on Wednesday, the price slipped in the following sessions.

Thus, the resistance at \$80 holds true.

If the contract breaks out of \$80, it can extend the rally to \$86. However, the broader bias remains bearish and the recovery is likely to be capped.

There is a good chance for Brent crude futures to resume the decline from the current level of \$76 and test the support at \$71.

MCX Crude Oil (₹6,814)

Crude oil futures (July) found support at ₹6,400 and it bounced



off this level last week. It made a high of ₹7,296 on Wednesday before moderating and wrapping up the week at ₹6,814.

The chart shows that the price band of ₹7,300-7,500 is a notable barrier. Only a breakout of ₹7,500 can turn the outlook positive. In this case, crude oil futures can rally to the ₹8,000-8,100 resistance band, where the 50-day moving average lies.

The price action shows that the broader bias is negative and there is a good chance for crude oil futures to decline from the current level. The price can drop to ₹6,400. If this is invalidated, the contract can decline to ₹5,800.

Trade strategy: Short crude oil futures if the price inches up to ₹7,150. Target and stop-loss can be ₹6,400 and ₹7,500 respectively.

Online

Headline	ओएनजीसी ने बाल भवन को प्रदान की भौतिक सुविधाएं		
Publication	Abit Far	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ओएनजीसी ने बाल भवन को प्रदान की भौतिक सुविधाएं

<https://abitar.com/ongc-provided-physical-facilities-to-bal-bhavan/>

सीएसआर के तहत दिये कंप्यूटर, इन्वर्टर, फर्नीचर, स्टील अलमारी, साउंड सिस्टम, संगीत वाद्य यंत्र, फोल्डिंग बैड और रजाई गद्दे

देहरादून, सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की अग्रणी ऊर्जा कंपनी ऑयल एंड नेचुरल गैस कॉर्पोरेशन (ओएनजीसी) ने कॉर्पोरेट सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व (सीएसआर) के तहत उत्तराखंड में शिक्षा, स्वास्थ्य, महिला सशक्तिकरण के साथ स्वच्छता के क्षेत्र में सकारात्मक सहयोग कर रही है। इसी परिप्रेक्ष्य में ओएनजीसी ने गैर-सरकारी संस्था गंगा फाउंडेशन के सहयोग से उत्तराखंड बाल कल्याण परिषद के द्वारा संचालित बाल भवन रायपुर देहरादून को भौतिक सुविधाएं हेतु 8 कंप्यूटर प्रिंटर एवं फर्नीचर, 8 स्टील अलमारियां, साउंड सिस्टम, संगीत वाद्ययंत्र, ध्वनि विस्तारक यंत्र, रजाई गद्दे, फोल्डिंग बैड, 2 स्टील के बक्से, इन्वर्टर, प्रोजेक्टर एवं कार्यालय फर्नीचर उपलब्ध कराया है।

बाल भवन परिसर में आयोजित एक गरिमामय समारोह के दौरान उपरोक्त सामग्री ओएनजीसी के महाप्रबंधक(आईआर) पवन कुमार सैनी और गंगा फाउंडेशन के अध्यक्ष अजय सिंह द्वारा क्षेत्रीय पार्षद प्रशांत डोभाल की उपस्थिति में बाल भवन की महासचिव श्रीमती आशा पैन्थली, पूर्व वरिष्ठ उपाध्यक्ष जगदीश बाबला, उपाध्यक्ष मोहन खत्री, कार्यालय सहायक वाई. एस. रावत को सौंपी गई।

कार्यक्रम में ऑनलाइन माध्यम से जुड़े ओएनजीसी के प्रधान मानव संसाधन सेवाएं नीरज कुमार शर्मा, इंचार्ज सीएसआर विशाल शर्मा ने कहा कि ओएनजीसी उत्तराखंड में शिक्षा, महिला सशक्तिकरण, स्वास्थ्य के साथ साथ जनहितार्थ कार्यों में सकारात्मक भूमिका निभा रहा है। कार्यक्रम में निदेशक (माध्यमिक शिक्षा) उत्तराखंड विनोद सिमल्टी ने कहा ओएनजीसी की इस पहल का स्वागत किया, उन्होंने कहा कि शिक्षा से वंचित बच्चों को बाल भवन के माध्यम से मुख्यधारा में लाने का यह प्रयास सराहनीय है और ओएनजीसी ने भौतिक संसाधन उपलब्ध करा कर सकारात्मक कार्य किया। इस मौके पर महाप्रबंधक(आईआर) पवन कुमार सैनी ने कहा कि ओएनजीसी ने वर्ष 2003 में 75 लाख की लागत बाल भवन का निर्माण कराया ताकि राज्य के नौनिहालों को अच्छी शिक्षा के साथ व्यवहारिक ज्ञान भी मिल सके, जिसमें बाल भवन अपने उद्देश्य को सफलता पूर्वक आगे बढ़ रहा है।

इस अवसर पर पार्षद प्रशांत डोभाल ने कहा कि ओएनजीसी सामाजिक सरोकार के क्षेत्र में कई उल्लेखनीय कार्य कर रही है, इसी के परिपेक्ष में बाल भवन को दी गयी यह सामग्री समावेशी शिक्षा के लिए अनुकरणीय है। बाल भवन की महासचिव श्रीमती आशा पैन्थली ने आभार व्यक्त करते हुए कहा कि ओएनजीसी की यह मदद से बच्चों को शिक्षा में सार्थकता के साथ आगे बढ़ने का मौका मिलेगा।

इस मौके पर पूर्व वरिष्ठ उपाध्यक्ष एवं पर्यावरणविद् जगदीश बाबला ने ओएनजीसी का आभार व्यक्त करते हुए कहा कि बाल भवन को मिली इन सामग्री से गरीब और निर्धन छात्र-छात्रों के सर्वांगीण विकास के साथ पठन-पाठन के स्तर में गुणात्मक सुधार आएगा। इस अवसर पर ओएनजीसीयन एल. मोहन लखेड़ा ने उपस्थित बच्चों को ऊर्जा क्षेत्र व ओएनजीसी की कार्यप्रणाली से अवगत कराया।

इस अवसर पर गंगा फाउंडेशन के संस्थापक अध्यक्ष अजय सिंह, जगदीश बाबला, सौरभ ढौंडियाल, जगदीश रावत, वाई एस रावत, मोहन खत्री, एल मोहन लखेड़ा, पार्षद प्रशांत डोभाल, ए.एम. सेमवाल, किरन खंडूड़ी, कविता दत्ता, विजयलक्ष्मी रावत, सुषमा आर्य, शगुप्ता परवीन, रमेश खत्री आदि मौजूद रहे।

Headline	Five days on, ONGC yet to trace gas leak source near Sivasagar's Geleki oilfield		
Publication	Assam Tribune	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

Five days on, ONGC yet to trace gas leak source near Sivasagar's Geleki oilfield

<https://assamtribune.com/assam/five-days-on-ongc-yet-to-trace-gas-leak-source-near-sivasagars-geleki-oilfield-1614152>

Experts dig 12-foot pits but fail to locate leak source as villagers report burning eyes, skin irritation

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Jorhat, July 11: The underground gas leak at ONGC's Geleki oilfield in Assam's Sivasagar district entered its fifth consecutive day on Saturday, with the state-owned oil major yet to identify the source of the emission despite intensive efforts.

The leak, first reported at Bishnupur Adarsha Gaon under Geleki, has now spread to multiple locations, raising fresh concerns over public safety and prompting authorities to advise residents against lighting any fire because of the escaping gas.

Despite the deployment of technical experts from multiple ONGC departments, efforts to trace and contain the leak have so far failed to identify its source.

"Currently, we are trying to find the source of the leak as we have several oil wells nearby. We are constantly checking wellheads but so far we have found no pipeline linked to the leak," an ONGC official involved in the operation said.

The official said teams had excavated pits up to 10-12 feet deep in the affected area but were yet to locate either the source of the gas emission or any connected pipeline.

"Yesterday's rainfall has posed a challenge as the pits we had dug have now filled with rainwater," the official added.

What initially surfaced at a broiler farm owned by local resident Basanta Duara was later detected in a nearby oil pit and has since been observed emerging from agricultural fields, indicating that the leak has spread beyond its original location.

"We are living in an environment filled with fear, anxiety and uncertainty. We have not been able to sleep or eat properly because we have been instructed not to light gas stoves or any fire," said Basanta Duara.

He alleged that the gas was now emanating from several locations spread across nearly a kilometre from the original site.

"Since the leak began, many people have experienced burning sensations in their eyes and on their skin. There has been no relief support or compensation so far," Duara claimed.

The continuing leak has fuelled concerns among villagers, who questioned the delay in identifying the source despite the deployment of specialised technical teams.

On Friday, the Assam Jatiyatabadi Yuva Chatra Parishad (AJYCP) demanded immediate intervention by ONGC to ensure the safety of local residents and protect their livelihoods, warning of a public agitation if the issue remains unresolved.

Responding to concerns over health advisories and compensation, the ONGC official said the company was monitoring the situation.

"The management will definitely look after public grievances," the official said.

With the leak entering its fifth day and no indication of when it will be brought under control, uncertainty continues to grip Bishnupur Adarsha Gaon and neighbouring areas.

Headline	ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	Bilkul Bazaar	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru

<https://bilkulbazaar.com/ongc-to-develop-1-75-mmt-strategic-petroleum-reserve-at-mangaluru/>

Bilkul Bazaar New Delhi State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has received in-principle approval from its Board of

Directors to develop a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru as a project of national importance, in line with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG).

The proposed facility will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the Mangaluru Strategic Petroleum Reserve and will include associated infrastructure, ONGC said in a regulatory filing.

In addition, the Board directed the company to take up with the government the issue of broadening commercial utilisation opportunities for the strategic petroleum reserve, along with the necessary regulatory support.

According to an analysis by Khaleej Times, India is stepping up efforts to strengthen its strategic petroleum reserves and diversify energy cooperation after the disruption caused by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz during the Iran conflict, through which nearly one-fifth of the world's energy supplies pass.

The report noted that India already permits commercial utilisation of a portion of its strategic crude storage facilities at Mangaluru, Padur and Visakhapatnam, which together have a storage capacity of 5.33 million metric tonnes (MMT).

These facilities are managed by the government-owned Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd.

It added that Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) an ONGC subsidiary operates a 300,000 barrels-per-day refinery in Mangaluru.

Half of the existing 1.5 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru has been leased to MRPL, while the remaining capacity is leased to Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

The analysis further said that during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE earlier this year, ADNOC announced plans to expand its crude oil storage in India to as much as 30 million barrels and also explore crude storage at Fujairah as part of India's strategic reserve programme.

According to the report, India is also planning to build an additional 4 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha and a new 2.5 MMT facility at Padur in Karnataka. ONGC has not disclosed the estimated cost or timeline for the proposed 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve expansion at Mangaluru.

Headline	ONGC plans to set up 1.75-MT oil reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	Bizz Buzz	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC plans to set up 1.75-MT oil reserve at Mangaluru

<https://www.bizzbuzz.news/industry/energy/ongc-plans-to-set-up-175-mt-oil-reserve-at-mangaluru-1397180>

State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) on Friday said its board has given in-principle approval to develop a 1.75 million tonne strategic petroleum

Industrial crude oil storage tanks facility

10 July 2026 IST

New Delhi: State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) on Friday said its board has given in-principle approval to develop a 1.75 million tonne strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru, expanding India's emergency crude oil storage capacity. The project, along with associated facilities, will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the Mangaluru strategic petroleum reserve, the company said in a stock exchange filing. Without giving financial details or the timelines of the project, ONGC said its board also authorised the company to engage with the central government on expanding commercial utilisation of the facility, subject to the required regulatory support. India's strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) programme was launched to strengthen the country's energy security.

Headline	ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	Bollywood Country	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru

<https://bollywoodcountry.com/ongc-to-develop-175-mmt-strategic-petroleum-reserve-at-mangaluru--20260711180404>

New Delhi, July 11 (IANS) State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has received in-principle approval from its Board of Directors to develop

a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru as a project of national importance, in line with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG).

The proposed facility will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the Mangaluru Strategic Petroleum Reserve and will include associated infrastructure, ONGC said in a regulatory filing.

In addition, the Board directed the company to take up with the government the issue of broadening commercial utilisation opportunities for the strategic petroleum reserve, along with the necessary regulatory support.

According to an analysis by Khaleej Times, India is stepping up efforts to strengthen its strategic petroleum reserves and diversify energy cooperation after the disruption caused by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz during the Iran conflict, through which nearly one-fifth of the world's energy supplies pass.

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The analysis further said that during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE earlier this year, ADNOC announced plans to expand its crude oil storage in India to as much as 30 million barrels and also explore crude storage at Fujairah as part of India's strategic reserve programme.

According to the report, India is also planning to build an additional 4 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha and a new 2.5 MMT facility at Padur in Karnataka. ONGC has not disclosed the estimated cost or timeline for the proposed 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve expansion at Mangaluru.

Headline	ONGC to build 1.75 MT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangalore		
Publication	Business Standard	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to build 1.75 MT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangalore

https://www.business-standard.com/industry/news/ongc-to-build-1-75-mt-strategic-petroleum-reserve-at-mangalore-126071001186_1.html

ONGC has approved a 1.75 MT strategic petroleum reserve in Mangaluru, expanding India's emergency oil storage capacity amid heightened global supply risks

The West Asia crisis has intensified concerns over India's ability to withstand global oil supply disruptions (Photo: Reuters)

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has approved developing a strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) in Mangaluru at a capacity of 1.75 million tonnes (mt) as a project of national importance, the company said in an exchange filing on July 9.

Its board of directors has also directed broad commercial utilisation at the upcoming facility, in consultation with the government.

Commercial utilisation at an SPR usually involves leasing storage space and trading the commodity.

The war in West Asia has intensified concern over India's ability to withstand disruption in global oil supply. Expansion in the storage capacity of SPRs is aimed at strengthening India's ability to navigate challenges in this respect. Business Standard has reported that India is moving ahead with a major expansion of its SPR network, with five projects planned -- in Chandikhol (Odisha), Bina (Madhya Pradesh), Bikaner, Mangaluru, and Padur (Karnataka).

India operates three strategic oil storage facilities at Mangaluru (1.5 mt), Padur (2.5 mt), and Visakhapatnam (1.33 mt). These rock cavern-based facilities are owned and operated by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd (ISPRL), a special-purpose company established by the government to maintain emergency crude-oil stocks, to be used during wars, geopolitical disruption, and major supply shocks.

The Mangaluru SPR, developed in the first phase of India's strategic petroleum-reserve programme, is the country's first such facility to partner a foreign national oil company. Under an agreement signed in 2018, the United Arab Emirates' Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (Adnoc) leases about 0.75 mt of storage capacity in the 1.5 mt Mangaluru cavern from ISPRL.

The arrangement gives Adnoc a commercial storage base close to one of its key export markets, allowing it to sell part of the stored crude oil to Indian refiners under commercial agreements. The pact also gives the government the right to access the crude oil during a national emergency, in accordance with the terms of the agreement. The model helps India generate revenue while ensuring that crude oil remains physically available in the country.

While the International Energy Agency (IEA) recommends countries maintain emergency oil stocks equivalent to at least 90 days of net imports, India has a storage capacity covering only about 9.5 days. By comparison, other Asian economies have built significantly larger buffers, with China holding stocks equivalent to roughly 90 days and Japan maintaining reserves of around 200 days.

India has consistently lagged behind others in spending for strategic petroleum reserves. Budget documents show that in 2025-26, the government spent only about one-sixth the allocation for creating strategic crude-oil storage infrastructure. The government had allocated 5,876 crore in the FY26 Budget for strategic oil reserves, but only 1,039 crore was utilised during the year (based on revised estimates). In the FY27 Budget, the allocation for this has been reduced sharply to 200 crore.

Headline	ONGC To Build 1.75 MT Strategic Oil Reserve In Mangalore		
Publication	Business World	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	12 Jul 2026		

ONGC To Build 1.75 MT Strategic Oil Reserve In Mangalore

<https://www.businessworld.in/article/ongc-to-build-1-75-mt-strategic-oil-reserve-in-mangalore-614230>

ONGC is going to build an oil storage facility in Mangalore. This storage place will be able to hold 1.75 million tons of oil. This will help India store oil in case of an emergency.

The company says this oil storage facility will help ensure India has oil when it has trouble obtaining it from other countries. ONGC will ask the government whether it can use this storage facility for business purposes, if needed for the country.

India is an oil user and imports a lot of oil from other countries. So India is working with countries like the UAE and Japan to make sure it has oil stored away. This is because India had trouble securing oil when issues arose in the Strait of Hormuz. The Strait of Hormuz is an important route for oil to be shipped.

The government already allows some business use of the oil storage places in Mangalore, Padur and Vizag. These places can hold up to 5.33 million tons of oil. Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd is responsible for these locations.

Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals, which is a part of ONGC, has a refinery in Mangalore. It can process 300,000 barrels of oil per day. This company has already rented out half of the oil storage place in Mangalore. The rest of the storage place is rented out to Abu Dhabi National Oil Co from the UAE.

When Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited the UAE, Abu Dhabi National Oil Co said it wants to increase the amount of oil it stores in India. The company wants to store up to 30 million barrels of oil in India. The UAE is also thinking about storing oil in Fujairah as part of India's plan to store oil.

India is also planning to build oil storage facilities. One will be in Chandikhol in Odisha. It will be able to hold 4 million metric tons of oil. Another one will be in Padur, in India, and it will be able to hold 2.5 million metric tons of oil. ONGC and India are working on these oil storage facilities to ensure India has oil.

Headline	ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	City Air News	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru

<https://www.cityairnews.com/content/ongc-to-develop-175-mmt-strategic-petroleum-reserve-at-mangaluru>

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has received in-principle approval from its Board of Directors to develop a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru as a project of national importance, in line with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG).

New Delhi, July 11 (IANS) State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has received in-principle approval from its Board of Directors to develop a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru as a project of national importance, in line with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG).

The proposed facility will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the Mangaluru Strategic Petroleum Reserve and will include associated infrastructure, ONGC said in a regulatory filing.

In addition, the Board directed the company to take up with the government the issue of broadening commercial utilisation opportunities for the strategic petroleum reserve, along with the necessary regulatory support.

According to an analysis by Khaleej Times, India is stepping up efforts to strengthen its strategic petroleum reserves and diversify energy cooperation after the disruption caused by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz during the Iran conflict, through which nearly one-fifth of the world's energy supplies pass.

The report noted that India already permits commercial utilisation of a portion of its strategic crude storage facilities at Mangaluru, Padur and Visakhapatnam, which together have a storage capacity of 5.33 million metric tonnes (MMT).

These facilities are managed by the government-owned Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd.

It added that Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) -- an ONGC subsidiary -- operates a 300,000 barrels-per-day refinery in Mangaluru.

Half of the existing 1.5 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru has been leased to MRPL, while the remaining capacity is leased to Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

The analysis further said that during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE earlier this year, ADNOC announced plans to expand its crude oil storage in India to as much as 30 million barrels and also explore crude storage at Fujairah as part of India's strategic reserve programme.

According to the report, India is also planning to build an additional 4 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha and a new 2.5 MMT facility at Padur in Karnataka. ONGC has not disclosed the estimated cost or timeline for the proposed 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve expansion at Mangaluru.

Headline	ONGC board approves iplan for 1.75-million-tonne strategic oil reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	Daily Excelsior	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC board approves iplan for 1.75-million-tonne strategic oil reserve at Mangaluru

<https://www.dailyexcelsior.com/ongc-board-approves-iplan-for-1-75-million-tonne-strategic-oil-reserve-at-mangaluru/>

State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) on Friday said its board has given in-principle approval to develop a 1.75 million tonne strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru, expanding India's emergency crude oil storage capacity.

The project, along with associated facilities, will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the Mangaluru strategic petroleum reserve, the company said in a stock exchange filing.

Without giving financial details or the timelines of the project, ONGC said its board also authorised the company to engage with the central government on expanding commercial utilisation of the facility, subject to the required regulatory support.

India's strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) programme was launched to strengthen the country's energy security by maintaining emergency crude oil stockpiles that can be drawn down during supply disruptions or sharp spikes in global oil prices. The reserves are in addition to the operational inventories maintained by oil marketing companies and refiners.

In the first phase of the programme, India built underground rock caverns with a combined capacity of about 5.33 million tonnes at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, Mangaluru in Karnataka and Padur in Karnataka. The facilities are operated by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd (ISPRL), a special purpose vehicle under the Oil Industry Development Board.

The government has also approved a second phase of the SPR programme, including the expansion of the Padur facility and development of a new strategic reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha, aimed at significantly increasing India's emergency crude storage capacity.

India, the world's third-largest crude oil importer and consumer, imports more than 88 per cent of its crude oil requirements, making strategic reserves an important part of its energy security strategy amid geopolitical tensions and volatility in global oil markets.

Headline	ONGC to boost India's oil buffer as energy security gains fresh focus		
Publication	Daily Hunt (Mobile)	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to boost India's oil buffer as energy security gains fresh focus

<http://m.dailyhunt.in/news/india/english/the+telegraph-epaper-thtigrph/ongc+to+boost+indias+oil+buffer+as+energy+security+gains+fresh+focus-newsid-n719201097>

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has approved an expansion of India's strategic oil reserves, highlighting the Modi government's renewed push to strengthen energy resilience following the shock of the Iran war.

The board of the country's largest oil-and-gas producer okayed the plans to add 1.75 million tonnes (about 13 million barrels) of capacity in Mangalore, Karnataka, to national crude reserves, according to a filing with the bourses. The company, however, did not disclose the cost and timeline of the project.

When complete, the project will increase holdings managed by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserve Ltd, the public sector entity that oversees the stockpiles.

At present, ISPRL has underground caverns at three sites on the east and west coasts that total 5.33 million tonnes. In addition, two more sites are being built to add a further 6.5 million tonnes of space.

India is the third largest importer and consumer of crude oil and natural gas and the near-total closure of the Strait of Hormuz during the Iran war triggered an energy crisis, as domestic companies were forced to look for alternatives outside of Persian Gulf, a major sourcing region for India.

India's current strategic stockpiles are a fraction of its 5.2 million barrels per day refining capacity.

The government wants reserves of crude, and liquefied natural and petroleum gas, to be large enough to meet as much as a month of domestic demand. To that end, the authorities have backed public-private partnerships to reduce the cost burden for the state, while also asking state-run producers and refiners to expand commercial reserves, and help build out strategic stockpiles.

Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd, a subsidiary of ONGC, operates a 300,000 barrels per day refinery in Mangalore. It has already leased half of the 1.5 MT Mangalore SPR, while the remaining capacity is leased to Abu Dhabi National Oil Co of the United Arab Emirates.

The new project is of "national importance", ONGC said in the filing on Friday, adding that it would also develop associated facilities at the site in accordance with directives from the ministry of petroleum and natural gas.

Headline	India approves plan to expand strategic oil reserves		
Publication	ET Energyworld	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

India approves plan to expand strategic oil reserves

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/india-approves-plan-to-expand-strategic-oil-reserves/132324748>

India, the world's third-largest importer of oil and the second-largest buyer of liquefied petroleum gas, has faced major disruptions due to

restrictions on the Strait of Hormuz during the conflict between the United States and Iran.

New Delhi has previously been criticised by both the United States and Europe for its purchase of Russian oil, with critics arguing that it bankrolled Moscow's war against Kyiv. India's largest state-run oil and gas producer has approved plans to develop a 1.75 million metric tonne strategic petroleum reserve, as New Delhi seeks to bolster energy security after being hit hard during the West Asia war.

India, the world's third-largest importer of oil and the second-largest buyer of liquefied petroleum gas, has faced major disruptions due to restrictions on the Strait of Hormuz during the conflict between the United States and Iran.

Advt State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) in a stock exchange filing Thursday said its board of directors had "accorded an in-principle approval for the development of 1.75 MMT capacity strategic petroleum reserves as a project of national importance" in the southern Mangalore region.

Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri told AFP last week that India was aggressively pursuing new avenues of domestic production.

"We are putting fiscal resources into oil and gas exploration in a very big way -- with a \$10 billion programme," he said.

India is a modest producer in global terms.

Domestic crude production in 2025-2026 was 25.98 million metric tonnes, according to the oil ministry.

That meets just 10 percent of India's crude needs, equivalent to roughly 522,000 barrels per day (bpd) -- a figure well below its production peak of just more than 900,000 bpd in 2011.

India survived the energy crunch by expanding its crude suppliers from 27 to 41 countries, including Iran, Venezuela, greater purchases from Russia and several African nations.

New Delhi has previously been criticised by both the United States and Europe for its purchase of Russian oil, with critics arguing that it bankrolled Moscow's war against Kyiv.

Headline	ONGC Gets Nod for 1.75 MMT Oil Reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	Entrepreneur Outreach	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC Gets Nod for 1.75 MMT Oil Reserve at Mangaluru

<https://www.entrepreneuroutreach.com/industries/ongc-gets-nod-for-175-mmt-oil-reserve-at-mangaluru>

Article Industries ONGC receives in-principle approval to develop a 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru.

New Delhi, July 11 (IANS) State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has received in-principle approval from its Board of Directors to develop a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru as a project of national importance, in line with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG).

The proposed facility will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the Mangaluru Strategic Petroleum Reserve and will include associated infrastructure, ONGC said in a regulatory filing.

In addition, the Board directed the company to take up with the government the issue of broadening commercial utilisation opportunities for the strategic petroleum reserve, along with the necessary regulatory support.

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According to an analysis by Khaleej Times, India is stepping up efforts to strengthen its strategic petroleum reserves and diversify energy cooperation after the disruption caused by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz during the Iran conflict, through which nearly one-fifth of the world's energy supplies pass.

The report noted that India already permits commercial utilisation of a portion of its strategic crude storage facilities at Mangaluru, Padur and Visakhapatnam, which together have a storage capacity of 5.33 million metric tonnes (MMT).

Maruti Suzuki Commissions 1 MWh Battery Storage at Kharkhoda

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It added that Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) -- an ONGC subsidiary -- operates a 300,000 barrels-per-day refinery in Mangaluru.

Half of the existing 1.5 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru has been leased to MRPL, while the remaining capacity is leased to Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

The analysis further said that during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE earlier this year, ADNOC announced plans to expand its crude oil storage in India to as much as 30 million barrels and also explore crude storage at Fujairah as part of India's strategic reserve programme.

According to the report, India is also planning to build an additional 4 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha and a new 2.5 MMT facility at Padur in Karnataka. ONGC has not disclosed the estimated cost or timeline for the proposed 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve expansion at Mangaluru.

Headline	United Drilling Tools Ltd deploys premium connection casing pipes for Oil India Ltd		
Publication	Equity Bulls	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

United Drilling Tools Ltd deploys premium connection casing pipes for Oil India Ltd

<https://www.equitybulls.com/category.php?id=372698>

United Drilling Tools Ltd. (UDTL) (BSE - 522014, NSE - UNIDT), a leading manufacturer and prominent supplier in India of specialized, high-technology equipment for the oil and gas sector, today announced that it has successfully supplied and deployed its "premium connection" casing pipes for Oil India Limited (OIL). The successful field performance marks UDTL's entry into the premium casing and tubing segment, a high-value part of the oilfield equipment market that has, until now, been served largely by a few global and domestic suppliers.

Under a Development order from Oil India Limited, UDTL has supplied 7-inch premium production casing totalling 5,000 metres which have been successfully installed and put to use in a gas well at Assam. Oil India is expected to issue a formal confirmation of the successful utilisation of the Company's premium connection technology at its fields.

A breakthrough into premium connections

Most oil and gas wells use casing pipes joined by standard, industry-grade threads certified to American Petroleum Institute (API) standards, a segment in which UDTL has been an established supplier for decades. Premium connections are a more advanced type metal-to-metal seal to remain completely leak-proof and gas-tight even in the most demanding wells, those with very high pressure, high temperature or corrosive conditions, and in deep or highly deviated wells. This successful deployment establishes UDTL as a proven Indian manufacturer of premium connections, moving the company beyond its traditional API-graded product range.

A large and growing market

India's premium casing and tubing market is currently valued at approximately 2,600 crore, with a regular annual requirement of around 1.2 lakh tonnes. About half of this demand comes from national oil companies and the balance from private explorers and oilfield service providers. Growing deepwater exploration and increasingly complex drilling conditions continue to push demand toward premium, gas-tight connections. As a domestic manufacturer, UDTL is well-placed to meet this need in line with the Government of India's "Make in India" push for indigenous energy equipment and reduced import dependence.

New doors open - with both national and private oil companies

The successful use of UDTL's premium connections pipe and tubing in Oil India wells will open this huge market of INR 2,600 crore to UDTL which will significantly enhance the Company's revenue and profitability by enabling it to secure a meaningful share of this large market. Having proven its capability with one national oil company, UDTL intends to pursue approvals and tenders with Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) as well. The milestone also paves the way for India's private exploration majors, including Vedanta (Cairn Oil & Gas), Reliance Industries, Adani and Welspun Exploration as well as international oilfield service providers operating in the country.

Mr. Jyoti Kumar Singh, General Manager - Sales and Marketing, United Drilling Tools Limited said "This is a defining milestone for United Drilling Tools. We are proud that our premium connections have performed successfully in the field at Oil India, establishing us as a credible Indian manufacturer in a segment long served by a handful of global suppliers. This achievement opens a substantial new growth avenue for the company, across both national and private oil companies and, over the coming years, we believe it has the potential to add a scale of business comparable to our existing operations, while supporting the nation's goal of self-reliance in critical energy infrastructure."

Shares of United Drilling Tools Limited was last trading in BSE at Rs. 228.35 as compared to the previous close of Rs. 232.75. The total number of shares traded during the day was 781 in over 34 trades.

Headline	ONGC says floating jetty collapsed while pontoon height was being raised Goa News		
Publication	G Plus India News	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC says floating jetty collapsed while pontoon height was being raised | Goa News

<https://gplusindianews.com/ongc-says-floating-jetty-collapsed-while-pontoon-height-was-being-raised-go-a-news/>

Days after ONGC 's floating jetty collapsed because of adverse weather, the public sector undertaking's officials said that the incident happened while the height of the pontoon jetty was being enhanced to further improve its safety. The executive director of ONGC Advanced Training Institute (ATI0) in a statement said that the connecting gangway remained unaffected and is intact. The impact was confined to a portion of the pontoon that was undergoing enhancement works during a period of severe adverse weather and cyclonic sea conditions, said ONGC's statement. The Betul floating jetty is being developed by ONGC as part of its Sagar Setu project to facilitate water-based movement. ONGC officials claimed that the jetty was made temporarily operational during India Energy Week (IEW) 2026 after necessary safety considerations. The floating jetty is located away from the mouth of river Sal, towards the ONGC ATI campus. Officials said an inspection was conducted by the sub-divisional magistrate and a team, and a report has been called for. ONGC said that it has initiated all necessary measures. The pontoon is being secured, the site has been made safe, and a detailed technical assessment is under way. Corrective engineering measures are being implemented, and the affected portion will be restored in accordance with expert recommendations, said ONGC. ONGC said that the ongoing works will be completed after incorporating all necessary technical measures, and the project will be fully commissioned only after ensuring compliance with all prescribed safety and operational standards. The Sagar Setu is an 8-m-wide floating jetty with elevators and a staircase, a gangway, and a top waiting lounge for VIPs. It was built to facilitate sea-route transport and was used during India Energy Week to ferry VIPs and delegates from resorts.

Headline	ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	Hi India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru

<https://hiindia.com/ongc-to-develop-1-75-mmt-strategic-petroleum-reserve-at-mangaluru/>

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has received in-principle approval from its Board of Directors to develop a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru as a project of national importance, in line with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG). The proposed facility will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the Mangaluru Strategic Petroleum Reserve and will include associated infrastructure, ONGC said in a regulatory filing. In addition, the Board directed the company to take up with the government the issue of broadening commercial utilisation opportunities for the strategic petroleum reserve, along with the necessary regulatory support. According to an analysis by Khaleej Times, India is stepping up efforts to strengthen its strategic petroleum reserves and diversify energy cooperation after the disruption caused by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz during the Iran conflict, through which nearly one-fifth of the world's energy supplies pass. The report noted that India already permits commercial utilisation of a portion of its strategic crude storage facilities at Mangaluru, Padur and Visakhapatnam, which together have a storage capacity of 5.33 million metric tonnes (MMT). These facilities are managed by the government-owned Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd. It added that Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) an ONGC subsidiary operates a 300,000 barrels-per-day refinery in Mangaluru. Half of the existing 1.5 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru has been leased to MRPL, while the remaining capacity is leased to Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC). The analysis further said that during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE earlier this year, ADNOC announced plans to expand its crude oil storage in India to as much as 30 million barrels and also explore crude storage at Fujairah as part of India's strategic reserve programme. According to the report, India is also planning to build an additional 4 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha and a new 2.5 MMT facility at Padur in Karnataka. ONGC has not disclosed the estimated cost or timeline for the proposed 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve expansion at Mangaluru.

Headline	ओएनजीसी ने बाल भवन के बच्चों के लिए दिए कंप्यूटर, इनवर्टर और फर्नीचर		
Publication	Hindustan	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ओएनजीसी ने बाल भवन के बच्चों के लिए दिए कंप्यूटर, इनवर्टर और फर्नीचर

<https://www.livehindustan.com/national/story-ongc-supports-child-development-in-uttarakhand-with-educational-resources-201783767459056.html>

ओएनजीसी ने सीएसआर पहल के तहत गंगा फाउंडेशन के साथ मिलकर उत्तराखंड बाल कल्याण परिषद के बाल भवन रायपुर के बच्चों के लिए आठ कंप्यूटर, प्रिंटर, फर्नीचर और अन्य जरूरी सामान प्रदान किया है। इस कार्यक्रम में ओएनजीसी के अधिकारी और क्षेत्रीय पार्षद उपस्थित रहे। बाल भवन का निर्माण 2003 में ओएनजीसी ने किया था।

देहरादून, वरिष्ठ संवाददाता। ओएनजीसी ने सीएसआर पहल के तहत गंगा फाउंडेशन के सहयोग से उत्तराखंड बाल कल्याण परिषद की ओर से संचालित बाल भवन रायपुर के बच्चों के पठन-पाठन और सर्वांगीण विकास के लिए आठ कंप्यूटर, प्रिंटर, इनवर्टर, प्रोजेक्टर, फर्नीचर, स्टील अलमारियां, साउंड सिस्टम, संगीत वाद्ययंत्र, रजार्ई-गद्दे और फोल्डिंग बेड दिए हैं। बाल भवन परिसर में आयोजित समारोह में ओएनजीसी के महाप्रबंधक (आईआर) पवन कुमार सैनी और गंगा फाउंडेशन के अध्यक्ष अजय सिंह ने क्षेत्रीय पार्षद प्रशांत डोभाल की मौजूदगी में यह सामग्री दी। ऑनलाइन जुड़े ओएनजीसी के प्रधान मानव संसाधन सेवाएं नीरज कुमार शर्मा और इंचार्ज सीएसआर विशाल शर्मा ने इसे जनहितार्थ कार्यों का हिस्सा बताया।

माध्यमिक शिक्षा निदेशक विनोद सिमल्टी ने इस पहल की सराहना की। वर्ष 2003 में ओएनजीसी ने 75 लाख की लागत से इस बाल भवन का निर्माण कराया था। कार्यक्रम में एल. मोहन लखेड़ा ने बच्चों को ऊर्जा क्षेत्र की जानकारी दी। इस दौरान बाल भवन की महासचिव आशा पैन्थूली, पूर्व वरिष्ठ उपाध्यक्ष जगदीश बाबला, उपाध्यक्ष मोहन खत्री, कार्यालय सहायक वाईएस रावत, संजय ढौंडियाल, जगदीश डाबला, जगदीश रावत, उदय गौड़, ए.एम. सेमवाल, किरन खंडूड़ी, विजयलक्ष्मी रावत, सुषमा आर्य, शगुप्ता परवीन और रमेश खत्री मौजूद रहे।

Headline	ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	IANS Live	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru

<https://ianslive.in/ongc-to-develop-175-mmt-strategic-petroleum-reserve-at-mangaluru--20260711180404>

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has received in-principle approval from its Board of Directors to develop a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru as a project of national importance, in line with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG).

News photo licensing

The proposed facility will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the Mangaluru Strategic Petroleum Reserve and will include associated infrastructure, ONGC said in a regulatory filing.

Government policy news

In addition, the Board directed the company to take up with the government the issue of broadening commercial utilisation opportunities for the strategic petroleum reserve, along with the necessary regulatory support.

According to an analysis by Khaleej Times, India is stepping up efforts to strengthen its strategic petroleum reserves and diversify energy cooperation after the disruption caused by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz during the Iran conflict, through which nearly one-fifth of the world's energy supplies pass.

The report noted that India already permits commercial utilisation of a portion of its strategic crude storage facilities at Mangaluru, Padur and Visakhapatnam, which together have a storage capacity of 5.33 million metric tonnes (MMT).

These facilities are managed by the government-owned Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd.

It added that Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) -- an ONGC subsidiary -- operates a 300,000 barrels-per-day refinery in Mangaluru.

Half of the existing 1.5 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru has been leased to MRPL, while the remaining capacity is leased to Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

The analysis further said that during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE earlier this year, ADNOC announced plans to expand its crude oil storage in India to as much as 30 million barrels and also explore crude storage at Fujairah as part of India's strategic reserve programme.

According to the report, India is also planning to build an additional 4 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha and a new 2.5 MMT facility at Padur in Karnataka. ONGC has not disclosed the estimated cost or timeline for the proposed 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve expansion at Mangaluru.

Headline	होर्मुज संकट के बाद भारत की बड़ी तैयारी: ONGC बनाएगी करोड़ों बैरल का रणनीतिक तेल भंडार, ऊर्जा सुरक्षा होगी और मजबूत		
Publication	IND 24	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

होर्मुज संकट के बाद भारत की बड़ी तैयारी: ONGC बनाएगी करोड़ों बैरल का रणनीतिक तेल भंडार, ऊर्जा सुरक्षा होगी और मजबूत

<https://www.ind24.tv/national/india-strategic-oil-reserve-ongc-mangaluru-hormuz-energy-security>

ईरान युद्ध के दौरान होर्मुज जलडमरूमध्य में आई बाधाओं से सबक लेते हुए भारत ने रणनीतिक तेल भंडारण क्षमता बढ़ाने का बड़ा फैसला लिया है। नए भंडार बनने से आपूर्ति संकट के समय देश की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा को अतिरिक्त मजबूती मिलेगी।

ईरान युद्ध के दौरान होर्मुज जलडमरूमध्य में उत्पन्न व्यवधान ने वैश्विक ऊर्जा आपूर्ति की संवेदनशीलता को एक बार फिर उजागर कर दिया। इसी अनुभव से सबक लेते हुए भारत ने अपनी रणनीतिक पेट्रोलियम भंडारण क्षमता बढ़ाने की दिशा में महत्वपूर्ण कदम उठाया है। देश की प्रमुख तेल एवं गैस कंपनी ओएनजीसी ने कर्नाटक के मंगलूरु में 1.75 मिलियन टन, यानी लगभग 1.3 करोड़ बैरल क्षमता वाला नया रणनीतिक पेट्रोलियम भंडार विकसित करने की योजना की घोषणा की है। इस पहल का उद्देश्य किसी भी अंतरराष्ट्रीय संकट या आपूर्ति बाधा की स्थिति में देश की ऊर्जा आवश्यकताओं को सुरक्षित बनाए रखना है।

मंगलूरु में बनेगा नया रणनीतिक तेल भंडार

ओएनजीसी की योजना के तहत बनने वाला नया रणनीतिक तेल भंडार भारत की ऊर्जा अवसंरचना को मजबूत करेगा। कंपनी ने संकेत दिया है कि इस परियोजना को राष्ट्रीय हित के अनुरूप विकसित किया जाएगा और इसके व्यावसायिक उपयोग की अनुमति भी केंद्र सरकार से मांगी जाएगी। रणनीतिक भंडार का महत्व केवल आपातकालीन परिस्थितियों तक सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि इससे तेल बाजार में अस्थिरता के दौरान भी देश को बेहतर प्रबंधन का विकल्प मिलेगा।

ओडिशा और पादुर में भी विस्तार की तैयारी

भारत सरकार भविष्य की ऊर्जा जरूरतों को ध्यान में रखते हुए रणनीतिक भंडारण क्षमता का व्यापक विस्तार करने की योजना पर भी काम कर रही है। प्रस्तावित योजना के तहत ओडिशा के चांदीखोल में लगभग 4 मिलियन टन तथा कर्नाटक के पादुर में 2.5 मिलियन टन क्षमता वाले नए रणनीतिक तेल भंडार विकसित किए जाएंगे। इन परियोजनाओं के पूरा होने के बाद भारत की कुल रणनीतिक भंडारण क्षमता में उल्लेखनीय वृद्धि होगी, जिससे आयात पर निर्भरता के बावजूद आपूर्ति जोखिम कम किया जा सकेगा।

होर्मुज जलडमरूमध्य क्यों है भारत के लिए अहम

भारत दुनिया का तीसरा सबसे बड़ा कच्चा तेल आयातक और उपभोक्ता देश है। वैश्विक स्तर पर परिवहन होने वाले लगभग 20 प्रतिशत कच्चे तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस का मार्ग होर्मुज जलडमरूमध्य से होकर गुजरता है। ईरान युद्ध के दौरान इस समुद्री मार्ग में आई बाधाओं ने अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में तेल आपूर्ति और कीमतों पर असर डाला था। ऐसे में भारत ने स्पष्ट संकेत दिया है कि भविष्य में किसी भी भू-राजनीतिक संकट का प्रभाव कम करने के लिए रणनीतिक भंडारण क्षमता को प्राथमिकता दी जाएगी।

ऊर्जा आत्मनिर्भरता की दिशा में मजबूत कदम

विशेषज्ञों का मानना है कि रणनीतिक पेट्रोलियम भंडार केवल आपातकालीन ईंधन भंडारण का साधन नहीं, बल्कि राष्ट्रीय ऊर्जा सुरक्षा का महत्वपूर्ण स्तंभ हैं। इससे वैश्विक बाजार में अचानक कीमतें बढ़ने, युद्ध, समुद्री मार्ग अवरुद्ध होने या आपूर्ति बाधित होने जैसी परिस्थितियों में देश के पास पर्याप्त तेल उपलब्ध रहेगा। सरकार की यह रणनीति ऊर्जा आत्मनिर्भरता को मजबूत करने के साथ-साथ उद्योग, परिवहन और आम उपभोक्ताओं के हितों की भी रक्षा करेगी।

Headline	ONGC to Develop 1.7 Million-Tonne Strategic Crude Oil Reserve in Karnataka		
Publication	India Business and Trade	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to Develop 1.7 Million-Tonne Strategic Crude Oil Reserve in Karnataka

<https://www.indiabusinesstrade.in/ongc-to-develop-1-7-million-tonne-strategic-crude-oil-reserve-in-karnataka/>

The new Mangaluru facility will strengthen India's energy security and add nearly three days of crude oil storage capacity.

Key Highlights

ONGC will develop a 1.7 million-tonne (MT) strategic crude oil reserve in Mangaluru, Karnataka.

The project has been approved by ONGC's board following directions from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

The new facility will add crude oil storage equivalent to nearly three days of India's oil requirement.

India currently has 5.3 MT of strategic crude reserves across Mangaluru, Padur and Visakhapatnam under Phase-I.

The government is also expanding strategic petroleum reserves under Phase-II with new storage facilities in Odisha and Karnataka.

New Delhi: State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has approved the development of a 1.7 million-tonne (MT) strategic crude oil reserve at Mangaluru in Karnataka, as India moves to strengthen its energy security against future global supply disruptions.

The proposal was cleared by ONGC's board following directions from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. The company described the project as one of national importance and will also develop the associated infrastructure required for the storage facility.

The new underground reserve will increase India's emergency crude oil storage capacity by nearly three days of national crude oil consumption. The move comes as geopolitical tensions and global energy supply uncertainties continue to highlight the importance of maintaining strategic petroleum reserves.

Under Phase-I of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) programme, India created 5.3 million tonnes of underground crude oil storage across Mangaluru (1.5 MT) Padur (2.5 MT) in Karnataka and Visakhapatnam (1.3 MT) in Andhra Pradesh. These reserves are managed by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserve Limited (ISPRL).

The government is also implementing Phase-II of the SPR programme, which includes an additional 6.5 million tonnes of storage capacity at Chandikhol in Odisha and Padur in Karnataka.

ONGC's board has also approved a proposal to seek regulatory changes that would allow broader commercial utilisation of the strategic reserve while ensuring the government retains priority access during any national energy emergency.

According to government estimates, India currently maintains crude oil, petrol and diesel stocks sufficient for around 74 days , including approximately nine days of strategic crude reserves stored in underground facilities.

Headline	ONGC to Develop 1.75 MMT Strategic Petroleum Reserve in Mangaluru		
Publication	Indian Community	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to Develop 1.75 MMT Strategic Petroleum Reserve in Mangaluru

<https://indian.community/news/ongc-to-develop-1-75-mmt-strategic-petroleum-reserve-in-mangaluru/>

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has obtained in-principle approval from its Board of Directors to establish a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) in Mangaluru. This project aligns with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) and is deemed of national importance. The proposed facility, an extension of the Mangaluru Strategic Petroleum Reserve, will encompass necessary infrastructure, as per ONGC's regulatory filing.

The Board has instructed ONGC to engage with the government regarding expanding commercial utilization opportunities for the strategic petroleum reserve, alongside seeking essential regulatory backing. India's efforts to fortify its strategic petroleum reserves and enhance energy cooperation have intensified post the disruption caused by the Strait of Hormuz blockade during the Iran conflict. This strategic waterway facilitates the transit of nearly one-fifth of the world's energy supplies.

India presently allows commercial utilization of a segment of its strategic crude storage facilities in Mangaluru, Padur, and Visakhapatnam, with a combined storage capacity of 5.33 million metric tonnes (MMT). These facilities are overseen by the government-owned Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd. Additionally, Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL), an ONGC subsidiary, operates a refinery with a capacity of 300,000 barrels per day in Mangaluru.

Half of the existing 1.5 MMT strategic petroleum reserve in Mangaluru has been leased to MRPL, while the remaining capacity is leased to Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC). ADNOC, during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE, announced intentions to expand its crude oil storage in India up to 30 million barrels and explore crude storage at Fujairah as part of India's strategic reserve program. India is also planning to construct an additional 4 MMT strategic petroleum reserve in Chandikhol, Odisha, and a new 2.5 MMT facility in Padur, Karnataka. ONGC has not disclosed the estimated cost or timeline for the proposed 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve expansion in Mangaluru.

Indian Community Editorial Team

The Indian Community Editorial Team curates, verifies, and publishes stories that matter to Indians worldwide. From culture and community to business and innovation, our mission is to spotlight voices, ideas, and events that bring our global community closer together.

Headline	India's ONGC plans to build 13 million bbl national strategic oil reserve		
Publication	Indian Defence Research Wing	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

India's ONGC plans to build 13 million bbl national strategic oil reserve

<https://idr.w.org/indias-ongc-plans-to-build-13-million-bbl-national-strategic-oil-reserve/>

India's Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC.NS), opens new tab will build a 1.75 million metric ton (about 13 million barrels), strategic petroleum reserve in Mangalore in southern India, the company said in a stock exchange filing late on Thursday.

India, the world's third biggest oil importer and consumer, was hit hard by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz during the Iran war. About a fifth of the world's energy supplies pass through the waterway.

India is enhancing its energy cooperation with countries, including the United Arab Emirates and Japan, to strengthen its emergency stockpile.

ONGC, India's top oil exploration company, would seek the federal government's permission for commercial use of the storage to be built in the national interest, it said in the filing.

New Delhi already allows commercial use of a part of its strategic storage built at three locations Mangalore, Padur and Vizag in southern India to store up to 5.33 MT of crude.

These storage facilities are managed by the government-owned Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd.

ONGC has not specified the cost and time for completion of the new SPR facility at Mangalore.

India's current strategic stockpiles are a fraction of its 5.2 million barrels per day refining capacity.

Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL.NS), opens new tab, a subsidiary of ONGC, operates a 300,000 bpd refinery in Mangalore. It has already leased half of the 1.5 MT Mangalore SPR, while the remaining capacity is leased to Abu Dhabi National Oil Co. of the United Arab Emirates.

During Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE earlier this year, ADNOC announced plans to increase crude oil storage in India to up to 30 million barrels.

ADNOC also announced that the UAE would explore potential crude storage at Fujairah as part of India's strategic reserve.

India also plans to build about 4 MT of strategic storage at Chandikhol in the eastern state of Odisha and a new 2.5 MT facility at Padur in southern India.

Headline	ONGC to Build 1.75 Million Tonne Strategic Petroleum Reserve in Mangalore to Boost India's Energy Security		
Publication	Indian Master Minds	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to Build 1.75 Million Tonne Strategic Petroleum Reserve in Mangalore to Boost India's Energy Security

<https://indianmasterminds.com/news/ongc-mangalore-strategic-petroleum-reserve-energy-security-216531/>

ONGC to Build 1.75 Million Tonne Strategic Petroleum Reserve in Mangalore to Boost India's Energy Security

Mangalore: The Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) is set to strengthen India's energy security with the development of a new 1.75 million tonne (12.83 million barrels) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) facility at Mangalore.

The new project will increase the total strategic petroleum storage capacity in Mangalore to 3.25 million tonnes (23.8 million barrels), making it a significant addition to India's emergency crude oil storage infrastructure.

ONGC announced the development through a regulatory filing on July 9, stating that the project has been classified as a project of national importance under the directives of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

The upcoming strategic reserve will be developed alongside the existing 1.5 million tonne underground crude oil cavern at Mangalore, which is operated by the Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL).

With this expansion, Mangalore will become a stronger hub for strategic crude oil storage, helping India manage potential disruptions in global oil supplies.

Unlike previous strategic storage projects where commercial storage infrastructure was largely developed by public sector oil marketing companies, ONGC will finance this new SPR facility through its own capital investment.

Read also: ONGC Signs MoU with CUDD Pressure Control USA to Strengthen Blowout Control and Well Safety

The development of the new reserve comes at a time when global energy markets are facing increased uncertainty due to geopolitical tensions and possible disruptions in crude oil supply chains.

Strategic petroleum reserves act as a safeguard by ensuring availability of crude oil during emergencies such as:

Recent concerns around the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most important oil transit routes, have further highlighted the need for stronger energy security mechanisms.

India is among the world's largest crude oil importers and consumers, importing more than 88% of its crude oil requirements from global markets.

To reduce vulnerability during supply shocks, the Government of India has been exploring expansion of strategic reserves for both:

The objective is to maintain sufficient energy supplies for domestic requirements during major international disruptions.

ONGC will independently finance the new Mangalore SPR project through its own investment resources.

The company has not yet announced detailed information regarding:

Further details are expected as the project moves forward.

Mangalore is considered a strategically important location for petroleum storage due to its coastal connectivity and proximity to major energy infrastructure.

The expansion of SPR capacity in the region will provide India with additional flexibility in managing crude oil supplies and strengthen the country's ability to respond to global energy challenges.

The project is expected to play an important role in ensuring uninterrupted energy availability for India's growing economy.

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) is India's largest oil and natural gas exploration and production company. A Maharatna public sector enterprise , ONGC plays a key role in India's energy sector by exploring, producing and supplying hydrocarbons while supporting the nation's energy security goals through strategic investments and infrastructure development.

Headline	ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	Investment Guru India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru

<http://investmentguruindia.com/newsdetail/ongc-to-develop-1-75-mmt-strategic-petroleum-reserve-at-mangaluru189848>

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has received in-principle approval from its Board of Directors to develop a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru as a project of national importance, in line with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG)

The proposed facility will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the Mangaluru Strategic Petroleum Reserve and will include associated infrastructure, ONGC said in a regulatory filing.

In addition, the Board directed the company to take up with the government the issue of broadening commercial utilisation opportunities for the strategic petroleum reserve, along with the necessary regulatory support.

According to an analysis by Khaleej Times, India is stepping up efforts to strengthen its strategic petroleum reserves and diversify energy cooperation after the disruption caused by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz during the Iran conflict, through which nearly one-fifth of the world's energy supplies pass.

The report noted that India already permits commercial utilisation of a portion of its strategic crude storage facilities at Mangaluru, Padur and Visakhapatnam, which together have a storage capacity of 5.33 million metric tonnes (MMT).

These facilities are managed by the government-owned Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd.

It added that Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) -- an ONGC subsidiary -- operates a 300,000 barrels-per-day refinery in Mangaluru.

Half of the existing 1.5 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru has been leased to MRPL, while the remaining capacity is leased to Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC)

The analysis further said that during Prime Minister Narendra Modi 's visit to the UAE earlier this year, ADNOC announced plans to expand its crude oil storage in India to as much as 30 million barrels and also explore crude storage at Fujairah as part of India's strategic reserve programme.

According to the report, India is also planning to build an additional 4 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha and a new 2.5 MMT facility at Padur in Karnataka. ONGC has not disclosed the estimated cost or timeline for the proposed 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve expansion at Mangaluru.

Headline	ONGC To Develop 1.75 MMT Strategic Oil Reserve In Karnataka		
Publication	KNN India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC To Develop 1.75 MMT Strategic Oil Reserve In Karnataka

<https://knnindia.co.in/news/newsdetails/sectors/energy/ongc-to-develop-175-mmt-strategic-oil-reserve-in-karnataka>

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has approved the development of a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru in Karnataka, marking the first instance of the country's largest oil explorer funding such a facility.

ONGC To Develop 1.75 MMT Strategic Oil Reserve In Karnataka

The company's board has granted in-principle approval for the Phase-I expansion of the Mangaluru reserve project, along with associated infrastructure, in line with directions from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. Details regarding project cost and timelines have not been disclosed.

Strengthening Energy Security

The move comes amid heightened geopolitical uncertainty and volatility in global oil markets, reinforcing the importance of strategic reserves in ensuring uninterrupted energy supply. India, the world's third-largest crude oil importer, depends on imports for over 88 per cent of its oil requirements.

Strategic petroleum reserves (SPR) are maintained as emergency stockpiles to cushion against supply disruptions or sharp price fluctuations.

Expansion of Existing Infrastructure

The proposed facility will be developed as an extension of the existing strategic reserve at Mangaluru and will add 1.75 MMT to the country's storage capacity. India currently maintains about 5.33 MMT of strategic crude storage across facilities at Visakhapatnam, Mangaluru and Padur, managed by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd (ISPRL).

The government has also approved a second phase of expansion, including additional capacity at Padur and a new facility at Chandikhol in Odisha.

Commercial Use and Partnerships

ONGC has indicated that it will engage with the government to explore broader commercial utilisation of the facility, subject to regulatory approvals. The Mangaluru site already hosts crude stored by the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company under arrangements that allow partial commercial use while retaining strategic access.

Outlook

Recent global developments, including disruptions in key oil transit routes, have highlighted the vulnerability of supply chains for import-dependent economies. The expansion of India's strategic petroleum reserves is part of ongoing efforts to enhance energy security while supporting rising domestic demand.

Headline	ONGC says floating jetty collapsed while pontoon height was being raised		
Publication	MSN India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC says floating jetty collapsed while pontoon height was being raised

<https://www.msn.com/en-in/news/india/ongc-says-floating-jetty-collapsed-while-pontoon-height-was-being-raised/ar-AA27EOfu>

Days after ONGC's floating jetty collapsed because of adverse weather, the public sector undertaking's officials said that the incident happened while the height of the pontoon jetty was being enhanced to further improve its safety.

The executive director of ONGC Advanced Training Institute (ATI0) in a statement said that the connecting gangway remained unaffected and is intact. The impact was confined to a portion of the pontoon that was undergoing enhancement works during a period of severe adverse weather and cyclonic sea conditions, said ONGC's statement.

The Betul floating jetty is being developed by ONGC as part of its Sagar Setu project to facilitate water-based movement. ONGC officials claimed that the jetty was made temporarily operational during India Energy Week (IEW) 2026 after necessary safety considerations.

The floating jetty is located away from the mouth of river Sal, towards the ONGC ATI campus. Officials said an inspection was conducted by the sub-divisional magistrate and a team, and a report has been called for.

ONGC said that it has initiated all necessary measures. The pontoon is being secured, the site has been made safe, and a detailed technical assessment is under way. Corrective engineering measures are being implemented, and the affected portion will be restored in accordance with expert recommendations, said ONGC.

ONGC said that the ongoing works will be completed after incorporating all necessary technical measures, and the project will be fully commissioned only after ensuring compliance with all prescribed safety and operational standards.

The Sagar Setu is an 8-m-wide floating jetty with elevators and a staircase, a gangway, and a top waiting lounge for VIPs. It was built to facilitate sea-route transport and was used during India Energy Week to ferry VIPs and delegates from resorts.

Headline	ONGC to develop 1.7 MT strategic oil reserve in Mangaluru		
Publication	MSN India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to develop 1.7 MT strategic oil reserve in Mangaluru

<https://www.msn.com/en-in/money/markets/ongc-to-develop-1-7-mt-strategic-oil-reserve-in-mangaluru/ar-AA27FTPz>

Atul Mathur NEW DELHI: State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) will develop a 1.7 million tonne (MT) strategic crude oil reserve

in Mangaluru in Karnataka, as India looks to strengthen its energy security against future supply disruptions amid an increasingly uncertain global geopolitical situation.

The company, in a regulatory filing, said its board met late on Thursday and approved the proposal to develop the strategic reserve and associated facilities as a project of national importance, following directions from the ministry of petroleum and natural gas.

Under Phase-I, India developed 5.3 MT of strategic crude reserves across three underground facilities -- Mangaluru (1.5 MT), Padur (2.5 MT) in Karnataka and Visakhapatnam (1.3 MT) in Andhra Pradesh -- to safeguard the country against global supply disruptions. The capacity is estimated to meet about 9.5 days of the country's crude oil requirement. The reserves are managed by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserve Limited (ISPRL), a special purpose vehicle set up by the Centre.

The govt is expanding the strategic petroleum reserves by adding 6.5 million tonnes (MMT) of crude oil storage in Chandikhol in Odisha and Padur in Karnataka under Phase-II of the ISPRL programme. The new reserve proposed by ONGC will add storage equivalent to nearly three days of the country's crude oil requirement.

As per govt, India maintains crude oil, petrol and diesel stocks sufficient for nearly 74 days, including about nine days' worth of strategic reserves stored in underground caverns, besides stocks held at ports, refineries, pipelines, terminals and depots.

The ONGC board has also asked the company to approach central govt to broaden commercial utilisation of the strategic reserve by seeking necessary regulatory provisions. Govt has already permitted partial commercial use of its existing underground strategic petroleum reserves to reduce storage costs. It, however, retains the first right to use all stored oil during a national energy emergency, an official said.

Drawing lessons from the recent disruptions in energy supplies arising from the West Asia crisis, petroleum minister Hardeep Singh Puri earlier this month said there was a need to build more storage and that India had intensified outreach to bilateral partners to expand its strategic reserve capacity.

UAE's Abu Dhabi National Oil Co (ADNOC) signed an agreement with ISPRL in May to increase its crude oil storage in India to 30 million barrels (about 4.1 million tonnes), from the existing 5.9 million barrels.

Headline	ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	Mangalorean	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru

<https://www.mangalorean.com/ongc-to-develop-1-75-mmt-strategic-petroleum-reserve-at-mangaluru/>

ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru

New Delhi: State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has received in-principle approval from its Board of Directors to develop a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru as a project of national importance, in line with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG).

The proposed facility will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the Mangaluru Strategic Petroleum Reserve and will include associated infrastructure, ONGC said in a regulatory filing.

In addition, the Board directed the company to take up with the government the issue of broadening commercial utilisation opportunities for the strategic petroleum reserve, along with the necessary regulatory support.

According to an analysis by Khaleej Times, India is stepping up efforts to strengthen its strategic petroleum reserves and diversify energy cooperation after the disruption caused by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz during the Iran conflict, through which nearly one-fifth of the worlds energy supplies pass.

South Asians & Diaspora

The report noted that India already permits commercial utilisation of a portion of its strategic crude storage facilities at Mangaluru, Padur and Visakhapatnam, which together have a storage capacity of 5.33 million metric tonnes (MMT).

These facilities are managed by the government-owned Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd.

It added that Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) an ONGC subsidiary operates a 300,000 barrels-per-day refinery in Mangaluru.

Half of the existing 1.5 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru has been leased to MRPL, while the remaining capacity is leased to Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

The analysis further said that during Prime Minister Narendra Modis visit to the UAE earlier this year, ADNOC announced plans to expand its crude oil storage in India to as much as 30 million barrels and also explore crude storage at Fujairah as part of Indias strategic reserve programme.

According to the report, India is also planning to build an additional 4 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha and a new 2.5 MMT facility at Padur in Karnataka. ONGC has not disclosed the estimated cost or timeline for the proposed 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve expansion at Mangaluru.

Headline	ONGC board gives nod for 1.75 mn tonne oil reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	Millennium Post	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC board gives nod for 1.75 mn tonne oil reserve at Mangaluru

<https://www.millenniumpost.in/business/ongc-board-gives-nod-for-175-mn-tonne-oil-reserve-at-mangaluru-667754>

State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) on Friday said its board has given in-principle approval to develop a 1.75 million tonne strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru, expanding India's emergency crude oil storage capacity.

The project, along with associated facilities, will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the Mangaluru strategic petroleum reserve, the company said in a stock exchange filing.

Without giving financial details or the timelines of the project, ONGC said its board also authorised the company to engage with the central government on expanding commercial utilisation of the facility, subject to the required regulatory support.

India's strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) programme was launched to strengthen the country's energy security by maintaining emergency crude oil stockpiles that can be drawn down during supply disruptions or sharp spikes in global oil prices. The reserves are in addition to the operational inventories maintained by oil marketing companies and refiners.

In the first phase of the programme, India built underground rock caverns with a combined capacity of about 5.33 million tonnes at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, Mangaluru in Karnataka and Padur in Karnataka. The facilities are operated by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd (ISPRL), a special purpose vehicle under the Oil Industry Development Board.

The government has also approved a second phase of the SPR programme, including the expansion of the Padur facility and development of a new strategic reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha, aimed at significantly increasing India's emergency crude storage capacity.

Headline	ONGC Mangalore SPR: 1.75 MMT reserve approvals next		
Publication	Multibagg AI	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	12 Jul 2026		

ONGC Mangalore SPR: 1.75 MMT reserve approvals next

<https://www.multibagg.ai/market-pulse/articles/ongc-mangalore-spr-capacity-approval-cmrgotqu8006rnw0j7ptsl0sm>

ONGC's plan to expand India's strategic petroleum reserves is trending across investor forums and energy-focused social feeds after the company disclosed a fresh build-out at Mangalore.

What ONGC has disclosed so far

ONGC said it will build a 1.75 million metric ton national strategic petroleum reserve at Mangalore in southern India. The disclosure came through a stock exchange filing, which is why it quickly drew attention in market discussions. The company described the project as being of national importance in the filing referenced in social posts. ONGC's board has given in-principle approval for development of the storage facility along with associated infrastructure. The filing also signals the project will be developed in line with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. Several posts highlight that the project will add capacity to stockpiles overseen by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd (ISPRL). Commentary also notes that the filing did not provide a cost or timeline for completion. The key next step flagged by ONGC is engaging the federal government for approvals linked to how the facility may be used.

Why Mangalore is at the centre of the plan

The new strategic storage is planned for Mangalore, Karnataka, a location repeatedly described as strategically important on India's western coastline. Social chatter points out ONGC already owns land at Mangaluru, which is being cited as a practical advantage for execution. The new cavern is positioned as an addition to existing SPR infrastructure in the country. The context shared online frames the decision as part of a push to strengthen resilience after supply shocks and geopolitical uncertainty. In posts quoting media reports, the project is discussed as a response to the Iran war shock that highlighted the limits of existing reserves. The Mangalore site is also already part of India's current SPR network, which is why an expansion there is being tracked closely. Users are comparing the incremental capacity to the current total and discussing how much additional cover the new storage might provide. The central idea across posts is that Mangalore expands emergency crude availability on the west coast.

Capacity impact and the barrel-equivalent being cited

ONGC's planned facility is sized at 1.75 million metric tonnes (MMT) of crude storage capacity. Posts circulating the news estimate this addition equates to roughly 12.8 million barrels of storage capacity. India's existing strategic petroleum reserves total 5.33 MMT across three sites, according to the shared background material. Those three locations are Visakhapatnam at 1.33 MMT, Mangalore at 1.5 MMT, and Padur at 2.5 MMT. With ONGC's 1.75 MMT build, the current 5.33 MMT baseline is widely being described as rising by about one-third. Some social summaries describe the post-expansion total as about 7.08 MMT, using a simple addition to the current figure. Discussion threads also separate this ONGC-led build from ISPRL's second-phase expansion plans already underway. The overall focus in investor conversations is that the incremental storage is meaningful, but still far from the large international benchmarks that are sometimes referenced in posts.

Commercial use: why government permission matters

ONGC said it would seek the federal government's permission for commercial use of the storage to be built in national interest. That statement has become a focal point in discussions because it hints the cavern could be used beyond emergency stockpiling, subject to approvals. Several commenters interpret this as a potential avenue for revenue generation, but the filing itself only states permission would be sought. Media excerpts shared on social channels also say the investment recovery mechanism is not publicly defined yet. In that context, commercial utilisation is being viewed as one possible lever, but not a confirmed model. The distinction matters because strategic reserves are typically managed for emergency response, while commercial storage is operated for trading and supply chain needs. Posts also compare this project with the PPP approach used for some other planned reserves, where leasing and trading features are explicitly described. For ONGC's project, the public information in circulation focuses on the need for government approval, not on final commercial terms. Investors are therefore watching for clarity on what commercial use could mean in practice and how any such use would be regulated.

Cost estimates circulating online vs what filings show

A consistent number repeated in posts is an estimated investment of about \$1.6 billion, also cited as around 15,000 crore. Social summaries further split this estimate into roughly 5,000 crore for construction of the underground cavern and about 10,000 crore for crude procurement to fill it. These figures are attributed in shared content to media sourcing and to officials quoted by outlets such as Platts, rather than to ONGC's filing. Bloomberg-linked excerpts being circulated also state that the cost and timeline were not given in the filing. That gap between an official filing and widely shared cost estimates is a key reason the topic continues to trend. Another element debated online is whether ONGC will finance the build from its own balance sheet, which several posts call a first for a government-owned company in this segment. Commenters also note that earlier strategic storage development was not typically funded directly by upstream producers in the same way. The presence of multiple reported numbers, alongside the absence of a filing-level timeline, is keeping attention on future disclosures. The practical investor question being raised is how returns, cost recovery, and accounting treatment will be structured if ONGC is both builder and funder.

India's SPR map: existing sites and planned additions

India's strategic storage system is being discussed with renewed interest as users map how new capacity fits into the national network. ISPRL is the state-owned entity that oversees the stockpiles, and the ONGC project is expected to increase holdings managed through that system when complete. Current capacity totals 5.33 MMT across three sites, and two more sites are being built to add a further 6.5 MMT of space. The government has already approved around 6.5 MMT as part of a second phase of strategic storage development, according to the shared context. That second phase includes a 4 MMT facility at Chandikhol in Odisha and a new 2.5 MMT facility at Padur in southern India. The ONGC-led Mangalore addition is being presented as incremental to this second phase, not a replacement for it. Social posts also mention that India is boosting energy ties with the UAE and Japan to strengthen emergency oil stockpiles, adding an international dimension to the domestic build-out. The table below summarises the capacity figures repeatedly cited in the shared material.

How the ONGC project differs from the PPP approach

A major comparison point online is the PPP model adopted for parts of the second phase of SPR expansion. Posts say the government approved a public-private partnership model in 2021 for Phase 2 expansion at Chandikhol and Padur. They also say Megha Engineering and Infrastructures Ltd won the mandate to build and operate the Padur facility under that framework. In the same material, Megha is described as having secured the contract by seeking the lowest viability gap funding, with the VGF capped at 60% of the project's 5,700-crore cost. Under the described PPP model, the developer can recover its investment by leasing capacity to the government or domestic oil companies, and by trading crude held in the facility with commercial freedom. Against that backdrop, ONGC's Mangalore project is being viewed as institutionally different because it is a government-owned producer investing its own funds. Several posts explicitly call ONGC the first government-owned company to invest its own funds to build out strategic stockpiles in India. The difference matters for investors because PPP projects have a clearer commercial framework in the shared descriptions, while ONGC's cost recovery is described as still unclear. This is why market conversations focus not only on the strategic rationale, but also on how the economics of a state-led build will be formalised.

What investors are watching next

The highest-frequency investor question in social discussions is how ONGC will recover or earn on a reported 15,000 crore outlay if it builds and fills the facility. Posts sharing media sourcing say it is not yet specified whether the cavern will function entirely as a strategic reserve or include a commercial component. That uncertainty ties back to ONGC's statement that commercial use would require federal government permission. Another thread of discussion is the broader pace of India's SPR expansion, with posts noting that additional sites are already under development or planned under Phase 2. Some users also cite a government aim for reserves of crude and other fuels to be large enough to meet as much as a month of domestic demand, which frames the long-term direction. There is also attention on the project being described as a government directive, with ONGC officials quoted in shared material as studying all aspects. The absence of a filing-level timeline is also prompting speculation about sequencing with the Chandikhol and Padur developments. Separately, posts linking the move to geopolitical risk emphasise that supply disruption resilience is the primary objective, not near-term profitability. For markets, the practical trigger points are likely to be clearer disclosures on approvals, timelines, and any formal mechanism for returns or reimbursement.

Headline	ONGC to build 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	Nation Press	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to build 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru

<https://www.nationpress.com/international/ongc-clears-175-mmt-reserve-at-mangaluru>

With the Strait of Hormuz disruption exposing India's energy vulnerability, ONGC's board has greenlit a 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru part of a sweeping national push that also includes new facilities at Chandikhol and Padur. The scale of the buildout, combined with ADNOC's pledge to store up to 30 million barrels in India, signals a structural shift in how New Delhi is approaching crude oil security.

ONGC has received in-principle board approval to develop a 1.75 MMT Strategic Petroleum Reserve at Mangaluru as a national importance project.

The facility will be the Phase-I extension of the existing Mangaluru SPR, with associated infrastructure included.

India's current strategic reserves at Mangaluru , Padur , and Visakhapatnam total 5.33 MMT , managed by ISPRL .

ADNOC has announced plans to expand crude storage in India to up to 30 million barrels , following PM Modi's visit to the UAE .

India is also planning a 4 MMT reserve at Chandikhol, Odisha and a 2.5 MMT facility at Padur, Karnataka .

No cost estimate or timeline for the Mangaluru expansion has been disclosed by ONGC.

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has received in-principle approval from its Board of Directors to develop a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru , designating it a project of national importance in line with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) . The move, disclosed in a regulatory filing on 11 July , marks a significant expansion of India's crude oil storage infrastructure at a time of heightened global energy uncertainty.

What the Project Entails

The proposed facility will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the existing Mangaluru Strategic Petroleum Reserve and will include all associated infrastructure, according to ONGC's filing. The Board also directed the company to engage with the government on broadening commercial utilisation opportunities for strategic petroleum reserves, along with the necessary regulatory support. No cost estimate or construction timeline has been disclosed by ONGC at this stage.

India's Existing SPR Network

India currently operates strategic crude storage facilities at Mangaluru Padur , and Visakhapatnam , with a combined capacity of 5.33 MMT . These facilities are managed by the government-owned Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd (ISPRL) . The existing 1.5 MMT reserve at Mangaluru is split between Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) an ONGC subsidiary operating a 300,000 barrels-per-day refinery in the city and Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) , which leases the remaining capacity.

The Strategic Context: Hormuz and Beyond

India's push to expand reserves comes amid heightened awareness of supply-chain vulnerability. According to analysis cited in reports, the disruption caused by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz during the Iran conflict a chokepoint through which nearly one-fifth of the world's energy supplies pass has accelerated New Delhi's efforts to strengthen its energy security posture and diversify cooperation partners.

Notably, during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE earlier this year, ADNOC announced plans to expand its crude oil storage in India to as much as 30 million barrels and explore crude storage at Fujairah as part of India's strategic reserve programme signalling deepening energy ties between the two nations.

Planned Additions to India's Reserve Capacity

Beyond the Mangaluru expansion, India is reportedly planning to build an additional 4 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha and a new 2.5 MMT facility at Padur in Karnataka . Together, these additions would substantially increase the country's total strategic buffer, reducing import-dependency risk in the event of prolonged global supply disruptions.

As geopolitical pressures on energy trade routes persist, India's accelerating SPR buildout reflects a broader national priority: securing uninterrupted crude supply for its rapidly growing refining and consumption base. The pace of regulatory approvals and funding allocation will be closely watched by energy analysts in the months ahead.

Well below the IEA's 90-day benchmark. The Hormuz disruption has apparently accelerated political will, but approvals are not infrastructure. ONGC's silence on cost and timeline for the Mangaluru expansion is a red flag given the sector's history of delayed capital projects. The ADNOC partnership is strategically useful, but leasing strategic reserve space to a foreign national oil company raises long-term control questions that deserve public scrutiny.

What is the 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve ONGC plans to build at Mangaluru?

Why is India expanding its strategic petroleum reserves now?

What is India's current strategic petroleum reserve capacity?

What role does ADNOC play in India's strategic reserves?

What other strategic petroleum reserve projects is India planning?

Headline	ONGC to develop 1.7 MT strategic oil reserve in Mangaluru		
Publication	News Point	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to develop 1.7 MT strategic oil reserve in Mangaluru

<https://www.newspointapp.com/english/business/ongc-to-develop-17-mt-strategic-oil-reserve-in-mangaluru-toi/articleshow/145048202fe74c06752bcb5aeb665594dedad847>

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) will develop a 1.7 million tonne (MT) strategic crude oil reserve in Mangaluru in Karnataka, as India looks to strengthen its energy security against future supply disruptions amid an increasingly uncertain global geopolitical situation.

The company, in a regulatory filing, said its board met late on Thursday and approved the proposal to develop the strategic reserve and associated facilities as a project of national importance, following directions from the ministry of petroleum and natural gas.

Under Phase-I, India developed 5.3 MT of strategic crude reserves across three underground facilities -- Mangaluru (1.5 MT), Padur (2.5 MT) in Karnataka and Visakhapatnam (1.3 MT) in Andhra Pradesh -- to safeguard the country against global supply disruptions. The capacity is estimated to meet about 9.5 days of the country's crude oil requirement. The reserves are managed by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserve Limited (ISPRL), a special purpose vehicle set up by the Centre.

The govt is expanding the strategic petroleum reserves by adding 6.5 million tonnes (MMT) of crude oil storage in Chandikhol in Odisha and Padur in Karnataka under Phase-II of the ISPRL programme. The new reserve proposed by ONGC will add storage equivalent to nearly three days of the country's crude oil requirement.

As per govt, India maintains crude oil, petrol and diesel stocks sufficient for nearly 74 days, including about nine days' worth of strategic reserves stored in underground caverns, besides stocks held at ports, refineries, pipelines, terminals and depots.

Headline	India Expands Strategic Oil Reserves With New ONGC Storage Plan — Analysis and Market Outlook		
Publication	Nexa Report	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

India Expands Strategic Oil Reserves With New ONGC Storage Plan — Analysis and Market Outlook

<https://nexareport.com/india-expands-strategic-oil-reserves-with-new-ongc-storage-plan/>

Expansion boosts India's oil storage capacity ONGC leads strategic reserve development Investments secure energy futures

Reserves enhance global market stability

The Indian Government's Strategic Oil Reserve Expansion: What It Means for Global Energy Markets

As the global energy landscape continues to shift, one thing is clear: oil will remain a vital component of the world's energy mix for years to come. But in Canada, a region that has historically been a major player in the oil and gas industry, the writing is on the wall or at least it should be. According to the Canadian Energy Research Institute, by 2030, oil demand is expected to peak, and then rapidly decline. This raises a crucial question: what happens to oil majors like Imperial Oil and Suncor Energy when demand for their product begins to dwindle? The answer, in part, lies in India, where the government has just announced a major expansion of its strategic oil reserves with the help of state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).

The Indian government's decision to boost its strategic oil reserves is a response to rising global energy security concerns, particularly in the wake of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. With oil prices surging to record highs, nations are scrambling to ensure they have adequate supplies to meet their domestic needs. India's move is significant, not just for its own energy security but also for the broader impact on global oil markets. As Goldman Sachs analysts noted, India's strategic oil reserves expansion is a positive development for the country's energy security, and we expect it to have a moderating effect on global oil prices. But what exactly does this mean, and how does it fit into the broader narrative of the global energy transition?

What Is Happening

India's strategic oil reserves expansion plan involves the construction of new storage facilities, including a massive 5.6 million tonne tank in the state of Andhra Pradesh. The facility, which is expected to be completed by 2025, will be operated by ONGC, India's largest oil and gas producer. The project is part of the Indian government's broader efforts to boost its energy security, which includes increasing domestic oil production and reducing dependence on imported fuels. According to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, India's oil imports have been rising steadily over the past decade, making it one of the world's largest importers of oil. By boosting its strategic oil reserves, India aims to reduce its reliance on external supplies and ensure a more stable energy future.

The Core Story

The Indian government's strategic oil reserves expansion plan is a classic example of a nation taking proactive steps to ensure its energy security in a rapidly changing world. The decision to partner with ONGC, a state-owned oil and gas producer, highlights the importance of domestic energy production in meeting the country's growing needs. As Sushil Kumar Shinde, former Union Minister for Power, pointed out, India's energy security is critical to its economic growth, and domestic oil production is a key component of that strategy. By investing in new oil storage facilities, India is not only diversifying its energy mix but also reducing its dependence on imported fuels.

Why This Matters Now

The Indian government's strategic oil reserves expansion plan is significant for several reasons. Firstly, it highlights the importance of energy security in a rapidly changing world. As the global energy landscape continues to shift, nations are scrambling to ensure they have adequate supplies to meet their domestic needs. India's move is a positive development for the country's energy security, and we expect it to have a moderating effect on global oil prices, according to Goldman Sachs analysts. Secondly, the plan demonstrates the critical role of domestic energy production in meeting the country's

growing needs. By partnering with ONGC, India is leveraging its domestic resources to ensure a more stable energy future.

Key Forces at Play

Several key forces are driving India's strategic oil reserves expansion plan. Firstly, the country's rapidly growing economy is creating an insatiable demand for energy. According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), India's energy demand is expected to rise by 25% by 2025, driven by growth in industries such as manufacturing and transportation. Secondly, the country's dependence on imported fuels is a major concern, with oil imports accounting for over 80% of India's total energy needs. By boosting its strategic oil reserves, India aims to reduce its reliance on external supplies and ensure a more stable energy future. Lastly, the plan highlights the critical role of state-owned oil and gas producers like ONGC in meeting the country's energy needs.

Regional Impact

India's strategic oil reserves expansion plan has significant regional implications. Firstly, it highlights the importance of energy security in a rapidly changing world, particularly in the context of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. As Morgan Stanley research noted, India's strategic oil reserves expansion is a positive development for the country's energy security, and we expect it to have a moderating effect on global oil prices. Secondly, the plan demonstrates the critical role of domestic energy production in meeting the country's growing needs, which is also a key priority for other nations in the region. Finally, the plan highlights the importance of partnerships between governments and state-owned oil and gas producers, which is a key trend in the global energy industry.

What the Experts Say

According to Sushil Kumar Shinde, former Union Minister for Power, India's energy security is critical to its economic growth, and domestic oil production is a key component of that strategy. Shinde noted that the Indian government's strategic oil reserves expansion plan is a positive development for the country's energy security, and we expect it to have a moderating effect on global oil prices. Ashish Chauhan, CEO of the Bombay Stock Exchange, added that the plan highlights the importance of energy security in a rapidly changing world, particularly in the context of the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

Risks and Opportunities

While India's strategic oil reserves expansion plan is a positive development for the country's energy security, there are also risks and opportunities associated with the plan. Firstly, the plan is heavily dependent on the success of ONGC's domestic oil production, which is facing significant challenges. Secondly, the plan assumes that global oil prices will remain stable, which may not be the case. Finally, the plan highlights the importance of partnerships between governments and state-owned oil and gas producers, which can be complex and challenging to navigate.

What to Watch Next

As India continues to expand its strategic oil reserves, there are several key developments to watch. Firstly, the country's domestic oil production is expected to play a critical role in meeting its growing energy needs. Secondly, the partnership between ONGC and the Indian government is a key trend in the global energy industry, highlighting the importance of state-owned oil and gas producers in meeting the country's energy needs. Finally, the plan's success will be closely watched by other nations in the region, which are also prioritizing energy security in a rapidly changing world.

Headline	ONGC To Develop 1.75 MMT Strategic Petroleum Reserve At Mangaluru		
Publication	Ommcom News	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC To Develop 1.75 MMT Strategic Petroleum Reserve At Mangaluru

<https://ommcomnews.com/business-news/ongc-to-develop-1-75-mmt-strategic-petroleum-reserve-at-mangaluru/>

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has received in-principle approval from its Board of Directors to develop a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru as a project of national importance, in line with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG).

The proposed facility will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the Mangaluru Strategic Petroleum Reserve and will include associated infrastructure, ONGC said in a regulatory filing.

In addition, the Board directed the company to take up with the government the issue of broadening commercial utilisation opportunities for the strategic petroleum reserve, along with the necessary regulatory support.

According to an analysis by Khaleej Times, India is stepping up efforts to strengthen its strategic petroleum reserves and diversify energy cooperation after the disruption caused by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz during the Iran conflict, through which nearly one-fifth of the world's energy supplies pass.

The report noted that India already permits commercial utilisation of a portion of its strategic crude storage facilities at Mangaluru, Padur and Visakhapatnam, which together have a storage capacity of 5.33 million metric tonnes (MMT).

These facilities are managed by the government-owned Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd.

It added that Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) an ONGC subsidiary operates a 300,000 barrels-per-day refinery in Mangaluru.

Half of the existing 1.5 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru has been leased to MRPL, while the remaining capacity is leased to Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

The analysis further said that during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE earlier this year, ADNOC announced plans to expand its crude oil storage in India to as much as 30 million barrels and also explore crude storage at Fujairah as part of India's strategic reserve programme.

According to the report, India is also planning to build an additional 4 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha and a new 2.5 MMT facility at Padur in Karnataka. ONGC has not disclosed the estimated cost or timeline for the proposed 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve expansion at Mangaluru.

Headline	ONGC Eastern Offshore Organises DGMS Workshop on Workplace Safety		
Publication	PSU Connect	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC Eastern Offshore Organises DGMS Workshop on Workplace Safety

<https://www.psuconnect.in/psu-news/ongc-eastern-offshore-organises-dgms-workshop-on-workplace-safety>

ONGC Eastern Offshore Asset organised a DGMS-led safety workshop in Kakinada to promote innovative safety practices and strengthen compliance with the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020.

Kakinada, July 11, 2026: State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has organised a safety workshop at its Eastern Offshore Asset in Kakinada to promote innovative safety practices and reinforce compliance with the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSH) Code, 2020

Held on July 10 under the aegis of the Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) , the workshop brought together senior officials, safety experts and field personnel to strengthen workplace safety standards across ONGC's offshore operations.

The programme was attended by Director of Mines Safety Ashok Kumar , senior DGMS officials, and senior executives and operational personnel from ONGC's Eastern Offshore Asset.

The workshop focused on enhancing awareness of modern safety practices, regulatory compliance and continuous learning to create a safer working environment in the oil and gas sector.

As part of the visit, the DGMS delegation inspected ONGC's Life of Field Services Facility Fire Safety Display-cum-Training Centre , and the Odalarevu Onshore Terminal . The interactions provided an opportunity to review safety infrastructure, engage with employees and exchange best practices for improving operational safety.

ONGC said the initiative reflects its continued commitment to fostering a strong safety culture through collaboration with regulatory authorities and continuous skill development. The workshop also reaffirmed the shared commitment of ONGC and DGMS to enhancing safety excellence across India's oil and gas industry.

Headline	ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	Pro Kerala	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru

<https://www.prokerala.com/news/articles/a1786719.html>

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has received in-principle approval from its Board of Directors to develop a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru as a project of national importance, in line with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG).

The proposed facility will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the Mangaluru Strategic Petroleum Reserve and will include associated infrastructure, ONGC said in a regulatory filing.

In addition, the Board directed the company to take up with the government the issue of broadening commercial utilisation opportunities for the strategic petroleum reserve, along with the necessary regulatory support.

According to an analysis by Khaleej Times, India is stepping up efforts to strengthen its strategic petroleum reserves and diversify energy cooperation after the disruption caused by the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz during the Iran conflict, through which nearly one-fifth of the world's energy supplies pass.

The report noted that India already permits commercial utilisation of a portion of its strategic crude storage facilities at Mangaluru, Padur and Visakhapatnam, which together have a storage capacity of 5.33 million metric tonnes (MMT).

These facilities are managed by the government-owned Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd.

It added that Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) -- an ONGC subsidiary -- operates a 300,000 barrels-per-day refinery in Mangaluru.

Half of the existing 1.5 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru has been leased to MRPL, while the remaining capacity is leased to Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

The analysis further said that during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE earlier this year, ADNOC announced plans to expand its crude oil storage in India to as much as 30 million barrels and also explore crude storage at Fujairah as part of India's strategic reserve programme.

According to the report, India is also planning to build an additional 4 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha and a new 2.5 MMT facility at Padur in Karnataka. ONGC has not disclosed the estimated cost or timeline for the proposed 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve expansion at Mangaluru.

Headline	ONGC to build 1.75 mt strategic oil reserve in Mangaluru, boosting India's energy security		
Publication	Rediff	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to build 1.75 mt strategic oil reserve in Mangaluru, boosting India's energy security

<https://www.rediff.com/business/report/ongc-to-develop-new-strategic-petroleum-reserve-in-mangaluru-amidst-global-supply-concerns/20260711.htm>

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation has greenlit the development of a crucial 1.75 million tonnes strategic petroleum reserve in Mangaluru, a move aimed at bolstering India's energy security amidst escalating global oil supply concerns.

ONGC's board has approved a 1.75 million tonnes (mt) strategic petroleum reserve in Mangaluru, designating it a project of national importance.

The new facility will also explore broad commercial utilisation, including leasing storage space and commodity trading, in consultation with the government.

India aims to expand its SPR network with five new projects in Chandikhol, Bina, Bikaner, Mangaluru, and Padur to enhance energy security.

Despite recommendations for 90 days of net import coverage, India's current SPR capacity covers only about 9.5 days, significantly less than other Asian economies.

Budgetary allocations for strategic crude oil storage infrastructure have seen a sharp reduction, with only a fraction of the allocated funds utilised in FY26 and a further cut in FY27.

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has approved developing a strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) in Mangaluru at a capacity of 1.75 million tonnes (mt) as a project of national importance, the company said in an exchange filing on July 9.

Its board of directors has also directed broad commercial utilisation at the upcoming facility, in consultation with the government.

Commercial utilisation at an SPR usually involves leasing storage space and trading the commodity.

Strengthening India's Energy Security

The war in West Asia has intensified concern over India's ability to withstand disruption in global oil supply.

Expansion in the storage capacity of SPRs is aimed at strengthening India's ability to navigate challenges in this respect.

Business Standard has reported that India is moving ahead with a major expansion of its SPR network, with five projects planned in Chandikhol (Odisha), Bina (Madhya Pradesh), Bikaner, Mangaluru, and Padur (Karnataka).

Current Strategic Reserves and International Comparisons

India operates three strategic oil storage facilities at Mangaluru (1.5 mt), Padur (2.5 mt), and Visakhapatnam (1.33 mt).

These rock cavern-based facilities are owned and operated by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd (ISPRL), a special purpose company established by the government to maintain emergency crude-oil stocks, to be used during wars, geopolitical disruption, and major supply shocks.

The Mangaluru SPR, developed in the first phase of India's strategic petroleum-reserve programme, is the country's first such facility to partner a foreign national oil company.

Under an agreement signed in 2018, the United Arab Emirates' Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (Adnoc) leases about 0.75 mt of storage capacity in the 1.5 mt Mangaluru cavern from ISPRL.

The arrangement gives Adnoc a commercial storage base close to one of its key export markets, allowing it to sell part of the stored crude oil to Indian refiners under commercial agreements.

The pact also gives the government the right to access the crude oil during a national emergency, in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

The model helps India generate revenue while ensuring that crude oil remains physically available in the country.

Budgetary Allocations and Future Outlook

While the International Energy Agency (IEA) recommends countries maintain emergency oil stocks equivalent to at least 90 days of net imports, India has a storage capacity covering only about 9.5 days.

By comparison, other Asian economies have built significantly larger buffers, with China holding stocks equivalent to roughly 90 days and Japan maintaining reserves of around 200 days.

India has consistently lagged behind others in spending for strategic petroleum reserves.

Budget documents show that in 2025-26, the government spent only about one-sixth the allocation for creating strategic crude-oil storage infrastructure.

The government had allocated Rs 5,876 crore in the FY26 Budget for strategic oil reserves, but only Rs 1,039 crore was utilised during the year (based on revised estimates).

In the FY27 Budget, the allocation for this has been reduced sharply to Rs 200 crore.

Headline	ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	Social News XYZ	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru

<https://www.socialnews.xyz/2026/07/11/ongc-to-develop-1-75-mmt-strategic-petroleum-reserve-at-mangaluru/>

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It added that Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) -- an ONGC subsidiary -- operates a 300,000 barrels-per-day refinery in Mangaluru.

Half of the existing 1.5 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru has been leased to MRPL, while the remaining capacity is leased to Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).

The analysis further said that during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE earlier this year, ADNOC announced plans to expand its crude oil storage in India to as much as 30 million barrels and also explore crude storage at Fujairah as part of India's strategic reserve programme.

According to the report, India is also planning to build an additional 4 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha and a new 2.5 MMT facility at Padur in Karnataka. ONGC has not disclosed the estimated cost or timeline for the proposed 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve expansion at Mangaluru.

Headline	Boat owners flag ONGC lights as navigation hazard at Betul		
Publication	THE GOAN EVERYDAY	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	12 Jul 2026		

Boat owners flag ONGC lights as navigation hazard at Betul

<https://thegoan.net/preview.php?id=150977>

Cutbona federation says glare at River Sal mouth endangers fishing vessels at night

THE GOAN NETWORKPANAJIAs Goa moves towards technology-driven traffic enforcement, vehicle owners with registrations issued before April 1, 2019 are being urged to install High Security Registration Plates (HSRPs). While all vehicles purchased on or after April 1, 2019 are fitted with HSRPs before leaving the showroom, a significant number of older vehicles are yet to comply with the mandatory requirement despite the program having been in place for several years. Government

Headline	ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	Ten News	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru

<https://tennews.in/ongc-to-develop-1-75-mmt-strategic-petroleum-reserve-at-mangaluru/>

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According to the report, India is also planning to build an additional 4 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha and a new 2.5 MMT facility at Padur in Karnataka. ONGC has not disclosed the estimated cost or timeline for the proposed 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve expansion at Mangaluru.

Headline	ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	The Freedom Press	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to develop 1.75 MMT strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru

<https://thefreedompress.in/ongc-to-develop-1-75-mmt-strategic-petroleum-reserve-at-mangaluru/>

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Headline	ONGC board approves plan for 1.75-million-tonne strategic oil reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	The Pioneer	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC board approves plan for 1.75-million-tonne strategic oil reserve at Mangaluru

<https://dailypioneer.com/news/ongc-board-approves-plan-for-1-75-million-tonne-strategic-oil-reserve-at-mangaluru>

State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) on Friday said its board has given in-principle approval to develop a 1.75 million tonne strategic petroleum reserve at Mangaluru, expanding India's emergency crude oil storage capacity.

The project, along with associated facilities, will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the Mangaluru strategic petroleum reserve, the company said in a stock exchange filing.

Without giving financial details or the timelines of the project, ONGC said its board also authorised the company to engage with the central government on expanding commercial utilisation of the facility, subject to the required regulatory support.

India's strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) programme was launched to strengthen the country's energy security by maintaining emergency crude oil stockpiles that can be drawn down during supply disruptions or sharp spikes in global oil prices. The reserves are in addition to the operational inventories maintained by oil marketing companies and refiners.

In the first phase of the programme, India built underground rock caverns with a combined capacity of about 5.33 million tonnes at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, Mangaluru in Karnataka and Padur in Karnataka. The facilities are operated by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd (ISPRL), a special purpose vehicle under the Oil Industry Development Board.

The government has also approved a second phase of the SPR programme, including the expansion of the Padur facility and development of a new strategic reserve at Chandikhol in Odisha, aimed at significantly increasing India's emergency crude storage capacity.

India, the world's third-largest crude oil importer and consumer, imports more than 88 per cent of its crude oil requirements, making strategic reserves an important part of its energy security strategy amid geopolitical tensions and volatility in global oil markets.

Headline	ONGC to boost India's oil buffer as energy security gains fresh focus		
Publication	The Telegraph	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to boost India's oil buffer as energy security gains fresh focus

<https://www.telegraphindia.com/business/ongc-to-boost-indias-oil-buffer-as-energy-security-gains-fresh-focus-prnt/cid/2169566>

The board of the country's largest oil-and-gas producer okayed the plans to add 1.75 million tonnes (about 13 million barrels) of capacity in Mangalore, Karnataka, to national crude reserves, according to a filing with the bourses

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has approved an expansion of India's strategic oil reserves, highlighting the Modi government's renewed push to strengthen energy resilience following the shock of the Iran war.

The board of the country's largest oil-and-gas producer okayed the plans to add 1.75 million tonnes (about 13 million barrels) of capacity in Mangalore, Karnataka, to national crude reserves, according to a filing with the bourses. The company, however, did not disclose the cost and timeline of the project.

When complete, the project will increase holdings managed by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserve Ltd, the public sector entity that oversees the stockpiles.

At present, ISPR has underground caverns at three sites on the east and west coasts that total 5.33 million tonnes. In addition, two more sites are being built to add a further 6.5 million tonnes of space.

India is the third largest importer and consumer of crude oil and natural gas and the near-total closure of the Strait of Hormuz during the Iran war triggered an energy crisis, as domestic companies were forced to look for alternatives outside of Persian Gulf, a major sourcing region for India.

India's current strategic stockpiles are a fraction of its 5.2 million barrels per day refining capacity.

The government wants reserves of crude, and liquefied natural and petroleum gas, to be large enough to meet as much as a month of domestic demand. To that end, the authorities have backed public-private partnerships to reduce the cost burden for the state, while also asking state-run producers and refiners to expand commercial reserves, and help build out strategic stockpiles.

Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd, a subsidiary of ONGC, operates a 300,000 barrels per day refinery in Mangalore. It has already leased half of the 1.5 MT Mangalore SPR, while the remaining capacity is leased to Abu Dhabi National Oil Co of the United Arab Emirates.

The new project is of national importance, ONGC said in the filing on Friday, adding that it would also develop associated facilities at the site in accordance with directives from the ministry of petroleum and natural gas.

Headline	ONGC says floating jetty collapsed while pontoon height was being raised		
Publication	The Times of India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC says floating jetty collapsed while pontoon height was being raised

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/ongc-says-floating-jetty-collapsed-while-pontoon-height-was-being-raised/articleshow/132319816.cms>

Days after ONGC 's floating jetty collapsed because of adverse weather, the public sector undertaking's officials said that the incident happened while the height of the pontoon jetty was being enhanced to further improve its safety. The executive director of ONGC Advanced Training Institute (ATI0) in a statement said that the connecting gangway remained unaffected and is intact. The impact was confined to a portion of the pontoon that was undergoing enhancement works during a period of severe adverse weather and cyclonic sea conditions, said ONGC's statement. The Betul floating jetty is being developed by ONGC as part of its Sagar Setu project to facilitate water-based movement. ONGC officials claimed that the jetty was made temporarily operational during India Energy Week (IEW) 2026 after necessary safety considerations. The floating jetty is located away from the mouth of river Sal, towards the ONGC ATI campus. Officials said an inspection was conducted by the sub-divisional magistrate and a team, and a report has been called for. ONGC said that it has initiated all necessary measures. The pontoon is being secured, the site has been made safe, and a detailed technical assessment is under way. Corrective engineering measures are being implemented, and the affected portion will be restored in accordance with expert recommendations, said ONGC. ONGC said that the ongoing works will be completed after incorporating all necessary technical measures, and the project will be fully commissioned only after ensuring compliance with all prescribed safety and operational standards. The Sagar Setu is an 8-m-wide floating jetty with elevators and a staircase, a gangway, and a top waiting lounge for VIPs. It was built to facilitate sea-route transport and was used during India Energy Week to ferry VIPs and delegates from resorts. Stay updated with the latest Goa news.

Headline	ONGC to develop 1.7 MT strategic oil reserve in Mangaluru		
Publication	The Times of India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC to develop 1.7 MT strategic oil reserve in Mangaluru

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/ongc-to-develop-1-7-mt-strategic-oil-reserve-in-mangaluru/articleshow/132323643.cms>

Under Phase-I, India developed 5.3 MT of strategic crude reserves across three underground facilities -- Mangaluru (1.5 MT), Padur (2.5 MT) in Karnataka and Visakhapatnam (1.3 MT) in Andhra Pradesh -- to safeguard the country against global supply disruptions. NEW DELHI: State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) will develop a 1.7 million tonne (MT) strategic crude oil reserve in Mangaluru in Karnataka, as India looks to strengthen its energy security against future supply disruptions amid an increasingly uncertain global geopolitical situation. The company, in a regulatory filing, said its board met late on Thursday and approved the proposal to develop the strategic reserve and associated facilities as a project of national importance, following directions from the ministry of petroleum and natural gas. Under Phase-I, India developed 5.3 MT of strategic crude reserves across three underground facilities -- Mangaluru (1.5 MT), Padur (2.5 MT) in Karnataka and Visakhapatnam (1.3 MT) in Andhra Pradesh -- to safeguard the country against global supply disruptions. The capacity is estimated to meet about 9.5 days of the country's crude oil requirement. The reserves are managed by Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserve Limited (ISPRL), a special purpose vehicle set up by the Centre. The govt is expanding the strategic petroleum reserves by adding 6.5 million tonnes (MMT) of crude oil storage in Chandikhol in Odisha and Padur in Karnataka under Phase-II of the ISPRL programme. The new reserve proposed by ONGC will add storage equivalent to nearly three days of the country's crude oil requirement. As per govt, India maintains crude oil, petrol and diesel stocks sufficient for nearly 74 days, including about nine days' worth of strategic reserves stored in underground caverns, besides stocks held at ports, refineries, pipelines, terminals and depots. The ONGC board has also asked the company to approach central govt to broaden commercial utilisation of the strategic reserve by seeking necessary regulatory provisions. Govt has already permitted partial commercial use of its existing underground strategic petroleum reserves to reduce storage costs. It, however, retains the first right to use all stored oil during a national energy emergency, an official said. Drawing lessons from the recent disruptions in energy supplies arising from the West Asia crisis, petroleum minister Hardeep Singh Puri earlier this month said there was a need to build more storage and that India had intensified outreach to bilateral partners to expand its strategic reserve capacity. UAE's Abu Dhabi National Oil Co (ADNOC) signed an agreement with ISPRL in May to increase its crude oil storage in India to 30 million barrels (about 4.1 million tonnes), from the existing 5.9 million barrels. Get the latest business news and top stories. Download the TOI App.

Headline	ONGC To Build 1.7 MT Strategic Oil Reserve In Mangaluru		
Publication	Whalesbook	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC To Build 1.7 MT Strategic Oil Reserve In Mangaluru

<https://www.whalesbook.com/news/English/energy/ONGC-To-Build-17-MT-Strategic-Oil-Reserve-In-Mangaluru/6a51b599bfb3f404223dba8>

ONGC has received board approval to develop a 1.7 million tonne strategic crude oil reserve in Mangaluru.

This initiative aims to strengthen India's energy security and buffer against potential global supply disruptions, with plans to explore commercial storage options.

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has received board approval to construct a 1.7 million tonne (MT) strategic crude oil reserve in Mangaluru, Karnataka. The project is part of a larger national effort to improve India's ability to withstand sudden energy supply shocks caused by geopolitical instability. By increasing the volume of oil stored within the country, the government aims to ensure a more stable supply chain for domestic refineries.

Expanding National Storage Capacity

India currently maintains 5.3 MT of strategic crude oil reserves, which are managed by the Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserve Limited (ISPR). These existing facilities are located in Visakhapatnam, Mangaluru, and Padur and provide roughly 9.5 days of import cover based on national consumption levels. The addition of this new 1.7 MT facility will significantly boost the nation's total storage capacity. Furthermore, the government has already initiated a Phase-II expansion program, which includes developing additional underground caverns in Chandikhol and Padur to add 6.5 million metric tonnes (MMT) of capacity.

Commercial Use and Operational Strategy

While these reserves are primarily for national emergency use, ONGC is looking at ways to manage the high costs of building and maintaining these underground storage facilities. The company's board has requested permission from the government to allow for partial commercial utilization of the new reserve. This model would allow for the storage of crude oil for third parties or for trade, which could help offset operational expenses. Similar practices have been adopted by ISPR for existing facilities. Even if commercial use is permitted, the central government will maintain primary access to the oil in the event of an energy crisis.

Sector Context and Partnerships

This expansion follows a period of heightened focus on energy security, with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas actively encouraging capacity growth. India has been working to build storage partnerships with international players to fund and stock these facilities. For example, Abu Dhabi National Oil Co (ADNOC) has entered into agreements to store significant volumes of crude oil in India, highlighting the country's move to leverage foreign collaboration to secure its energy requirements.

Financial and Execution Monitorables

For investors, the key monitorables will be the project's timeline and the capital spending required to complete such a large-scale underground infrastructure project. As ONGC invests in this expansion, stakeholders will be tracking the company's ability to maintain its profit margins while balancing these significant infrastructure commitments. Additionally, the final decision from the government regarding the proposed commercial storage model will be important, as it directly impacts the project's long-term financial viability and contribution to the company's balance sheet.

Headline	ONGC Approves In-Principle Expansion of 1.75 MMT Strategic Oil Reserve at Mangaluru		
Publication	psucorner	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

ONGC Approves In-Principle Expansion of 1.75 MMT Strategic Oil Reserve at Mangaluru

<https://psucorner.com/ongc-approves-in-principle-expansion-of-1-75-mmt-strategic-oil-reserve-at-mangaluru/>

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has granted in-principle approval for the development of a 1.75 million metric tonne (MMT) Strategic Petroleum

Reserve (SPR) at Mangaluru, marking a significant step towards enhancing India's energy security and emergency crude oil storage capacity.

According to a regulatory filing, the proposed facility will be developed as the Phase-I extension of the existing Mangaluru Strategic Petroleum Reserve , strengthening the country's ability to manage disruptions in global crude oil supplies and safeguard against volatile international oil prices.

Although ONGC has not disclosed the project's investment value or implementation timeline, the company's Board has authorised management to initiate discussions with the Central Government regarding the commercial utilisation of the reserve. The project will move forward subject to the necessary regulatory approvals and policy support.

India's Strategic Petroleum Reserve programme is designed to maintain emergency crude oil stockpiles that can be utilised during geopolitical crises, supply chain disruptions, or unexpected spikes in crude oil prices. These reserves complement the operational inventories maintained by public and private oil marketing companies and refineries, ensuring uninterrupted fuel availability during emergencies.

The expansion at Mangaluru is expected to further strengthen India's long-term energy resilience and support the country's growing demand for crude oil as the economy continues to expand.

ONGC approves 1.75 MMT Strategic Petroleum Reserve expansion at Mangaluru.

Project to be developed as Phase-I extension of the existing SPR facility.

Aims to strengthen India's energy security and emergency crude oil storage.

ONGC to engage with the Central Government for commercial utilisation of the reserve.

Financial details and project completion timeline are yet to be announced.

ONGC, Strategic Petroleum Reserve, Mangaluru SPR, crude oil storage, India energy security, oil reserves, petroleum sector, energy infrastructure, strategic oil reserve expansion.

Headline	India approves plan to expand strategic oil reserves		
Publication	ET Energyworld	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

India approves plan to expand strategic oil reserves

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/india-approves-plan-to-expand-strategic-oil-reserves/132324748>

India, the world's third-largest importer of oil and the second-largest buyer of liquefied petroleum gas, has faced major disruptions due to

restrictions on the Strait of Hormuz during the conflict between the United States and Iran.

New Delhi has previously been criticised by both the United States and Europe for its purchase of Russian oil, with critics arguing that it bankrolled Moscow's war against Kyiv. India's largest state-run oil and gas producer has approved plans to develop a 1.75 million metric tonne strategic petroleum reserve, as New Delhi seeks to bolster energy security after being hit hard during the West Asia war.

India, the world's third-largest importer of oil and the second-largest buyer of liquefied petroleum gas, has faced major disruptions due to restrictions on the Strait of Hormuz during the conflict between the United States and Iran.

Advt State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) in a stock exchange filing Thursday said its board of directors had "accorded an in-principle approval for the development of 1.75 MMT capacity strategic petroleum reserves as a project of national importance" in the southern Mangalore region.

Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri told AFP last week that India was aggressively pursuing new avenues of domestic production.

"We are putting fiscal resources into oil and gas exploration in a very big way -- with a \$10 billion programme," he said.

India is a modest producer in global terms.

Domestic crude production in 2025-2026 was 25.98 million metric tonnes, according to the oil ministry.

That meets just 10 percent of India's crude needs, equivalent to roughly 522,000 barrels per day (bpd) -- a figure well below its production peak of just more than 900,000 bpd in 2011.

India survived the energy crunch by expanding its crude suppliers from 27 to 41 countries, including Iran, Venezuela, greater purchases from Russia and several African nations.

New Delhi has previously been criticised by both the United States and Europe for its purchase of Russian oil, with critics arguing that it bankrolled Moscow's war against Kyiv.

Headline	India emerges as petrol supplier to Russia as Ukraine war disrupts refining capacity		
Publication	ET Energyworld	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

India emerges as petrol supplier to Russia as Ukraine war disrupts refining capacity

<https://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/india-emerges-as-petrol-supplier-to-russia-as-ukraine-war-disrupts-refining-capacity/132328561>

The fuel is first purchased by international traders, who later sell it to Russian buyers, meaning the transactions are commercial in nature and not government-backed or conducted directly between companies.

The development is notable because Russia has traditionally been a major exporter of refined petroleum products. India has become an unlikely source of petrol for Russia as the prolonged conflict in Ukraine continues to damage Moscow's refining infrastructure, forcing the energy giant to seek fuel imports despite being one of the world's largest crude oil producers and refiners.

According to a Times of India report, petrol refined in India has recently reached Russia through international trading firms rather than direct exports by Indian refiners. The trend underscores how sanctions and the Russia-Ukraine war have significantly altered global petroleum trade flows.

Advt Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri clarified that Indian refiners are not directly supplying petrol to Russia. He said the fuel is first purchased by international traders, who later sell it to Russian buyers, meaning the transactions are commercial in nature and not government-backed or conducted directly between companies.

The development is notable because Russia has traditionally been a major exporter of refined petroleum products. However, repeated attacks on its refineries have sharply reduced its ability to produce enough fuel for domestic consumption.

Industry experts say sustained drone strikes and military attacks over the past year have damaged a significant share of Russia's refining facilities. As a result, the country's refining activity has slowed considerably, limiting its ability to convert crude oil into petrol and diesel.

According to industry estimates, refinery utilisation has dropped to its lowest levels in several years, resulting in lower petrol output. This has led to supply shortages across parts of Russia during the peak summer demand period, forcing authorities to restrict fuel exports and arrange imports.

Analysts say the damage extends beyond crude processing units to secondary refining facilities, which are essential for producing high-quality transport fuels. Repairing these units is taking longer because they require specialised equipment with extended manufacturing and delivery timelines.

As a result, Russia has continued exporting products such as fuel oil and naphtha while facing tighter domestic supplies of petrol and diesel, the report noted.

Advt Market sources said one petrol cargo loaded from Nayara Energy 's Vadinar refinery in Gujarat reached Russia through an indirect trading route, highlighting the increasingly complex nature of global energy trade amid sanctions.

Nayara Energy, which processes Russian crude, has increasingly relied on international trading firms for crude procurement and refined product exports after European restrictions tightened on fuels produced from Russian oil.

India's advanced refining sector enables it to manufacture petrol that meets multiple international fuel standards, including the Euro-5 specifications used in Russia. The country exports around 350,000-400,000 barrels of petrol per day to markets across North America, Africa and other regions.

India's ability to refine discounted Russian crude into export-quality fuels has strengthened its position as a global refining hub. Russia's emergence as an indirect destination reflects the flexibility of India's refining industry in adapting to changing global demand.

Russia is also reportedly exploring petrol imports from several countries, including Belarus, while introducing tax measures to encourage fuel imports until domestic refining capacity is restored.

According to rating agency ICRA, Russia's requirement for imported petrol is likely to continue until damaged refineries become operational again. However, analysts believe the current import volumes are too small to have a significant impact on India's overall refining industry.

Experts also warn that geopolitical uncertainties remain high. Any tightening of sanctions on shipping firms, traders, insurers or financial institutions involved in Russian energy trade could disrupt existing supply routes.

The Indian government has maintained that any Indian-origin fuel reaching Russia is supplied through international traders and not through direct exports by Indian refiners, a distinction that remains important as global sanctions and energy trade continue to evolve.

Headline	Petrol, diesel prices today — 10 July: Check fuel rates in Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Kolkata as oil prices ease		
Publication	MSN India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

Petrol, diesel prices today — 10 July: Check fuel rates in Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Kolkata as oil prices ease

<https://www.msn.com/en-in/news/india/petrol-diesel-prices-today-10-july-check-fuel-rates-in-delhi-mumbai-bengaluru-kolkata-as-oil-prices-ease/ar-AA27BtJK>

Fareha Naaz Petrol and diesel prices today, 10 July: Fuel prices in India remained largely unchanged on Friday despite easing of oil prices after a turbulent week.

The talks between the US and Iran have resumed and the flare-up in fighting seems subdued as the two sides work out to find a solution.

Brent crude, the international benchmark, fell more than 2% on Thursday to trade around \$76 a barrel as markets calmed after US President Donald Trump said the temporary peace deal was over, Bloomberg reported. Even though the status of the interim deal remains unclear, the two sides stopped short of a return to all-out war, observing some stipulations of their truce.

Oil tanker transit through the Persian Gulf were severely affected and came to near halt on 9 July following the recent escalation despite Washington's assertion Iran does not control the Strait of Hormuz." According to head of commodities strategy for ING Groep NV in Singapore, Warren Patterson, tanker traffic remains above pre-MoU levels even after the fall in recent days.

The market appears to be viewing the latest US-Iran tensions as a challenge to the ceasefire process rather than a complete collapse, Bloomberg quoted Warren Patterson as saying. He added, Reports of continued talks between Washington and Tehran are also helping to reassure the market that diplomacy remains the preferred path.

Did recent fluctuation in Brent price impact petrol and diesel prices in India?

No, there was no impact of Brent price fluctuation on petrol and diesel prices in India as state-run Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) determine domestic fuel prices. OMCs continue to offer petrol and diesel at similar rates since last revision that occurred on 25 May.

Check latest petrol and diesel price in your city on 10 July

In the wake of drop in fuel prices after the signing of peace deal, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convenor Arvind Kejriwal raised calls for reduction in fuel prices. Claiming that fuel prices should be reduced to provide relief to consumers from inflation, he said, "Pure petrol should be available in our country at 82 per litre; and if we switch to E20 fuel, I believe the price should drop even further, to around 70 per litre, compared to the 102 currently charged for E20 petrol," ANI reported.

He made these demands while addressing the media in the national capital on Thursday. We can calculate diesel prices in the same way; diesel prices could also be reduced. If petrol and diesel prices come down, I believe it would deal a significant blow to inflation and provide people with much-needed relief, the AAP chief said days after Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said that OMCs may take a call on retail fuel rates if crude prices remain stable.

Headline	Kejriwal goes the 'Aam Aadmi' way, visits petrol pump to inspect issues faced by motorists using E20 vehicles		
Publication	Moneycontrol	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

Kejriwal goes the 'Aam Aadmi' way, visits petrol pump to inspect issues faced by motorists using E20 vehicles

<https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/india/kejriwal-goes-the-aam-aadmi-way-visits-petrol-pump-to-inspect-issues-faced-by-motorists-using-e20-vehicles-13971606.html>

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convenor Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday stepped up his attack on the Centre's E20 fuel policy, alleging that the government

was misleading the public about the impact of ethanol-blended petrol and claiming that motorists were already experiencing reduced mileage and vehicle-related issues.

Addressing reporters after visiting a petrol pump and a vehicle service station in Delhi, Kejriwal said he had sought to assess the situation firsthand and found widespread dissatisfaction among consumers.

"Today, I went to a petrol pump and service station in Delhi to understand the ground reality. The government is telling white lies. Due to E20, vehicles are indeed facing problems. Ordinary people are very upset with ethanol. The mileage of almost all vehicles has decreased, and there are complaints of malfunctions," he said.

E20 ethanol pic.twitter.com/ygVqeQ52Zo

Arvind Kejriwal (@ArvindKejriwal) July 11, 2026 The remarks come amid a growing debate over the nationwide rollout of E20 petrolfuel blended with 20% ethanolwhich replaced the earlier E10 blend across India in 2025, five years ahead of the government's original target.The Centre has defended the policy, saying it will reduce dependence on imported crude oil, lower carbon emissions and provide greater income to sugarcane farmers through increased ethanol production.

However, the rollout has triggered concerns among motorists, automobile experts and opposition parties over reduced fuel efficiency and the compatibility of older vehicles with higher ethanol blends. The controversy intensified after the Attorney General reportedly referred to E20 as an "experiment" during proceedings before the Supreme Court, prompting fresh criticism of the policy.

Earlier this week, Kejriwal wrote to leading automobile manufacturers, including Tata Motors and Toyota Kirloskar Motor, demanding a written public clarification on whether E20 petrol is safe for vehicles manufactured before 2023 and whether consumers would be compensated in the event of mileage loss or vehicle damage.

The former Delhi Chief Minister also accused the Centre of adopting a "dictatorship" approach after Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri ruled out offering consumers the option of shifting back to lower ethanol-blended petrol.

The Centre, meanwhile, has rejected allegations that E20 damages vehicles, maintaining that the policy is backed by extensive testing and is essential to achieving India's energy security and environmental objectives.

Headline	In reverse flow, India now supplies petrol to energy powerhouse Russia		
Publication	The Economic Times	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

In reverse flow, India now supplies petrol to energy powerhouse Russia

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/in-reverse-flow-india-now-supplies-petrol-to-energy-powerhouse-russia/articleshow/132327713.cms>

India's petrol is navigating its way to Russia via international traders rather than through direct sales channels. The damage to Russia's refining infrastructure has severely impacted its fuel production. This indirect trade underscores the ongoing shifts within the global energy market and the consequences of sanctions.

India has emerged as an unlikely source of petrol for Russia as the prolonged conflict with Ukraine continues to disrupt Moscow's refining infrastructure, creating fuel shortages despite the country's position as one of the world's largest crude oil producers and refiners.

Recent trade flows have indicated that petrol produced in India has reached Russia through international trading channels rather than through direct sales by Indian refiners, Tol reported on July 11. The development highlights how shifts in global energy markets and sanctions have reshaped petroleum trade routes since the outbreak of the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri has clarified that Indian companies are not directly exporting petrol to Russia. According to the minister, any purchases involve Indian-origin fuel acquired by international traders before reaching Russian buyers, rather than government-backed or company-to-company supply arrangements.

The shipments have drawn attention because Russia has traditionally been a major exporter of refined petroleum products. However, repeated attacks on its refining infrastructure have significantly reduced its ability to meet domestic fuel demand.

Industry experts say sustained drone strikes and military action have damaged a substantial portion of Russia's refining capacity over the past year. The disruption has lowered refinery throughput and widened the gap between crude oil production and the country's ability to convert it into transportation fuels such as petrol and diesel.

According to industry estimates, refinery utilisation in Russia has fallen to multi-year lows, resulting in a sharp decline in petrol production. The shortfall has led to fuel supply disruptions across several regions during the peak summer consumption season, prompting Moscow to curb petrol exports and look overseas for additional supplies.

Analysts also point out that the challenge extends beyond damaged crude distillation units. Several secondary processing facilities, which convert intermediate products into high-value transportation fuels, have also been affected. These units are technically more complex and typically require specialised equipment with long manufacturing and delivery timelines, delaying restoration efforts.

The disruption explains why Russia has continued exporting products such as fuel oil and naphtha while facing tighter domestic supplies of petrol (also known as gasoline in many markets) and diesel, Tol's report (by Smriti Jain) said.

Reports have suggested that a cargo of petrol loaded at Nayara Energy's Vadinar refinery followed an indirect trading route before heading towards Russia. Market participants say such transactions illustrate the increasingly opaque nature of global energy trade, particularly where sanctions and shipping restrictions are involved.

Nayara Energy, which processes Russian crude, has relied on international traders for crude procurement and refined product exports after European restrictions tightened on products derived from Russian oil.

Experts say India is well positioned to meet demand for multiple petrol specifications because of its sophisticated refining sector. The country exports roughly 350,000-400,000 barrels of petrol a day to destinations ranging from North America to Africa, producing fuel that complies with varying quality standards, including Euro-5 specifications used in Russia.

India's ability to process discounted Russian crude into refined fuels for global markets has strengthened its role as a major refining hub. The emergence of Russia as a potential destination, albeit through intermediary traders, reflects the flexibility of India's refining industry in responding to changing international demand.

Russia is also reported to be planning sizeable petrol imports from multiple countries, including Belarus, while introducing tax measures to support imported fuel as domestic production remains constrained.

Rating agency ICRA expects Russian demand for imported petrol to persist until damaged refineries are restored. However, analysts believe the volumes involved remain too small to materially affect India's overall refining sector, given the country's large export base.

At the same time, experts caution that geopolitical and regulatory risks remain elevated. Any expansion of sanctions targeting shipping companies, commodity traders, insurers or financial institutions involved in Russian energy trade could alter existing supply chains.

For India, the government's position has remained consistent. Officials have maintained that any movement of Indian-origin fuel to Russia is the result of commercial transactions undertaken by traders rather than direct exports by Indian refiners. That distinction is expected to remain important as global sanctions and energy trade dynamics continue to evolve.

Headline	Talks with Iran among potential options as India looks to secure Hormuz passage for 9 ships		
Publication	The Print	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	11 Jul 2026		

Talks with Iran among potential options as India looks to secure Hormuz passage for 9 ships

<https://theprint.in/world/talks-with-iran-among-potential-options-as-india-looks-to-secure-hormuz-passage-for-9-ships/2981810/>

New Delhi wants to secure the transit of crude and LPG carriers carrying 198 Indian seafarers as new attacks threaten the Strait of Hormuz ceasefire.

India is considering options including holding talks with Iran in order to secure safe passage for at least nine laden tankers waiting in the Persian Gulf, as attacks in the waterway threaten an already fragile interim ceasefire.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government is closely monitoring movement of these vessels loaded with crude oil and liquefied petroleum gas, people familiar with the matter said, asking not to be named because the discussions are private.

Among other steps, the country's foreign ministry will contact Iranian authorities over the safety of Indian seafarers in the region, the people said, with hundreds stranded for months since the Strait of Hormuz was effectively closed. That includes the 198 mariners onboard the nine tankers ready to transit through the thoroughfare.

The government is particularly concerned about crews after at least three Indian in US strikes on commercial ships in the Gulf of Oman in June, the people said.

India calls upon all parties to exercise restraint, de-escalate tensions, and ensure protection of civilians as well as the uninterrupted flow of energy supplies and commerce, the foreign ministry said in a Wednesday.

An interim peace agreement between the US and Iran in June temporarily increased transits through Hormuz, but those numbers have slowed to a trickle once again after vessels were attacked on Tuesday and the US struck targets in Iran overnight in retaliation.

Underscoring the threat to the existing temporary agreement, US President Donald Trump, speaking at NATO's annual summit in Ankara, called peace talks a waste of time.

Still, vessels have continued to transit through the strait on Wednesday six vessels bound for destinations including India attempted to cross just hours after Tuesday's strikes. The India-flagged supertanker, Lila Vadinar, safely crossed Hormuz overnight after reversing course earlier from the tip of Oman's Musandam Peninsula, according to Bloomberg ship-tracking data.

Since the war started in late February, only about 50 India-bound vessels have transited the strait, the people said. Shipments remain well below normal because Indian buyers have yet to fully resume imports of crude oil, liquefied petroleum gas and liquefied natural gas from Middle Eastern suppliers.

Almost 40% of India's crude imports, 60% of its LNG shipments and 90% of LPG inflows passed through Hormuz before the war began.

While there are uncertainties, India is reasonably well prepared, in case the conflict escalates, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri told NDTV in an on Wednesday evening.