



ONGC News as on 19 April 2026 (Print & Online)

Iran opens fire, 2 tankers bound for India retreat

**DC CORRESPONDENT
with agency inputs**
NEW DELHI, APRIL 18

India summoned Iranian Ambassador Dr Mohammad Fathali and expressed "deep concern" over the incident of firing on two vessels while they were crossing the Strait of Hormuz. One of the ships said she had permission for the crossing. The ships had to change course midway after being fired at.

Foreign secretary Vikram Misri urged the envoy to convey India's views to the authorities in Iran and resume at the earliest the process of facilitating India-bound ships across the Strait.

One of the vessels was a

very large crude carrier (VLCC) 'Sanmar Herald', carrying two million barrels of Iraqi oil to India. Her captain was heard saying on radio: "You gave me clearance! You gave me clearance to go! Sepah Navy! Sepah Navy!.. My name second on your list! You are firing now! Let me turn back!" The reference was to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Navy.

Another tanker, *Bhagya Laxmi*, with all-Indian crew, under the flag of Antigua & Barbuda or the Marshall Islands, carrying Iranian crude, was forced to retreat as she had no permission to cross the Strait.

Meanwhile, the Iranian Consulate in Hyderabad wrote on X that new

Iranian oil shipment had arrived in India despite the blockade. "The Iranian supertanker *Dorna...* has now appeared off the southern coast of India and is scheduled to deliver about two million barrels of crude oil." This is the third oil shipment from Iran, bringing the total amount of oil India has purchased to 6 million barrels, it said.

Several commercial vessels tried to cross the Strait of Hormuz after Iran on Friday announced that it had opened the waterway for commercial traffic. However, Tehran on Saturday said it had again closed the Strait, alleging that the US violated certain understanding reached between the two sides.



Publication : Echo of India	Editions : Kolkata
Date :19 April 2026	Page : 8

India supplied 22k mt of high-speed diesel to Bangladesh in March: MEA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal in his response to a query related to requests received from India's neighbouring countries for fuel amid the West Asia situation, also said that India is "finalising a government-to-government agreement" for the supply of oil and gas, which will play an important role in reinforcing energy security of Mauritius.

NEW DELHI, APRIL 18: Amid the ongoing West Asia conflict, India has supplied 22,000 metric tonnes of high-speed diesel to Bangladesh in March and has received a request from Seychelles and the Maldives to meet their energy requirements, the MEA said on Friday.

At his weekly briefing, Ministry of External Affairs

has now stretched to nearly 50 days, with global ramifications. "So, we have received requests from our neighbouring countries for supply of fuel, and these are being looked into, keeping in mind our own requirements, availability and refining capacity," Jaiswal told reporters.

The MEA spokesperson further said India has "supplied 22,000 metric tonnes of high-speed diesel to Bangladesh in March 2026, and further supplies have continued this month as well".

"You would recall that last month we had supplied 38 metric tonnes of petroleum products to Sri Lanka as well," he added.

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar visited Mauritius last week, Jaiswal said, adding: "We are finalising a government-to-government agreement for supply of oil and gas, which will play an important role in reinforcing the energy security of Mauritius".

As far as Nepal is concerned, there is an existing arrangement between Indian Oil Corporation and Nepal Oil Corporation to supply petroleum products to Nepal as per its requirements. The supplies are continuing without any interruption, he said.

Energy supplies to Bhutan also continue according to the existing arrangement. "As I had mentioned earlier, we have received a request from Seychelles and the Maldives to meet their energy requirements. We continue to be in touch with them in this regard, and are considering the request keeping in mind our own domestic requirements and availability of fuel.

"I would also like to add that our neighbouring country governments have expressed appreciation for the uninterrupted supply, fuel supply to them during the West Asian conflict," Jaiswal said.

Global oil and gas prices surged after Iran restricted the transit of ships through the Strait of Hormuz, a narrow lane between the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman that handles roughly 20 per cent of global oil and LNG trade.

Publication : Mid Day	Editions : Mumbai
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 8

Two Indian oil tankers make U-turn from Hormuz

CAIRO: Two Indian vessels have had to reverse course in the Strait of Hormuz following reports of gunfire from Iran's Revolutionary Guard, a vessel-tracker said.

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri conveyed to the envoy India's

Earlier, the British military said Iran's Revolutionary Guard opened fire on a tanker

"deep concern" at the shooting incident involving the two ships, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said.

TankerTrackers.com said the vessels include an Indian-flagged super tanker, carrying two million barrels of Iraqi oil.

Earlier, the British military said two gunboats from Iran's Revolutionary Guard opened fire on a tanker transiting the Strait of Hormuz after Iran said



The ships were carrying two million barrels of oil. **FILE PIC**

it had reimposed restrictions on the vital waterway.

The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations Centre said the tanker and crew were reported safe.

Iran said earlier it was reim-

posing restrictions on the strait in response to a US blockade on Iranian shipping and ports.

Publication : The Daily Guardian

Editions : New Delhi

Date : 19 April 2026

Page : 1, 15

IRAN-U.S. FLASHPOINT

Two Indian tankers come under Iranian fire at Strait of Hormuz

SHIKHA SALARIA
NEW DELHI

At least two-Indian flagged vessels had to turn back from the Strait of Hormuz after they came under Iranian fire when two boats of the Gulf country's supreme military branch force, Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) allegedly opened fire at the vessels. The vessels identified as Sanmar Herald and Jag Arnav had to turn back after the incident.

A highly-placed source confirmed that both India-flagged vessels had to turn back on Saturday despite being given clearance by the Iranian authorities for passing via the Strait of Hormuz initially.

"Two Indian-flagged vessels Sanmar Herald and Jag Arnav were reportedly fired at by IRGC gunboats while transiting through the Strait of Hormuz and the vessels have turned back. No injuries were reported and the crew is

safe," the source told *The Sunday Guardian*.

Ship tracking website tankertrackers.com shared two Channel 16 audio recordings captured on Sunday which allegedly were part of the conversation between the captain of the Indian vessel Sanmar Herald and the IRGC officers.

"According to two Channel 16 audio recordings captured today, two Indian vessels were forced back west out of the Strait of Hormuz by Iran's Sepah (IRGC) Navy. Firing was involved. One of the vessels is an Indian-flagged VLCC supertanker carrying two million barrels of Iraqi oil....," a post shared on the website's X handle stated.

The website also shared clippings of the vessels' backward movement as recorded by commodity markets analytics firm Kpler.

In an audio shared in the X post which is possibly

■P15

IRAN-U.S. FLASHPOINT

Two Indian tankers come under Iranian fire at Strait of Hormuz

CONTINUED FROM P1 a part of the conversation between the captain of the ship Sanmar Herald and the IIRGC officials, the captain can be heard saying that while the Sepah Navy gave clearance to Sanmar Herald, it was being fired upon.

"Sepah Navy! Motor Tanker Sanmar Herald! Sanmar Herald! Sepah Navy! You gave me clearance to go! Sepah Navy! Sepah Navy! This is motor tanker Sanmar Herald. You gave me clearance to go. My name (is) second on your list. You gave me clearance to go! Let me turn back!," the captain is purportedly heard saying in the viral audio.

A ship owner who is privy to the developments expressed concern that the incident could have been a result of decisions being taken by local officers of the IIRGC who are currently in-charge of overseeing the movement of tankers via the Strait of Hormuz due to the decentralisation of powers in the Iranian regime where local commanders often taken decisions for the territory they are in charge.

India-flagged Dush Gari-ma was the only India-flagged vessel that transited through the Strait of Hormuz on Saturday and is bound for Mumbai, the Ministry of Shipping confirmed.

The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) agency says it received a report of a tanker being fired upon by what it said were "two gunboats linked to Iran's Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC)" 20 nautical

miles northeast of Oman.

The captain of the tanker said the two gunboats opened fire without issuing a radio challenge, UKMTO says in its advisory note, adding that the vessel and its crew were reported safe.

"The master of a tanker reports being approached by two IIRGC gun boats, no very high frequency (VHF) challenge that then fired upon the tanker and navy in the Strait of Hormuz in a photo released on February 17, 2026," the UKTMO said.

Speaking to the *The Sunday Guardian*, a senior government official did not confirm or deny that the incident took place and asked to wait for an official statement.

However, in what seemed as a confirmation of the attack on Indian vessels, Anand Prakash, Ministry of External Affairs' (MEA) joint secretary in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iran division summoned the Iranian ambassador Mohammad Fathali in New Delhi.

Visuals of Fathali leaving after the meeting were captured by journalists.

"There will be no immediate statements possibly because the issue may impact the image of India-Iran ties but the government has not taken this lightly. The vessels were granted clearance and then attacked. This is embarrassing," said a senior Indian government official.

The incident comes even as India has restarted purchasing Iranian oil and the third shipment of Iranian oil has reached India.

Citing TankerTrackers,

the Iran consulate in Hyderabad said that the Iranian supertanker Dorna which was last seen in Iran just hours before the blockade, has now appeared on the AIS off the southern coast of India and is scheduled to deliver about two million barrels of crude oil to a refinery there.

"This is the third oil shipment that India has received from Iran in at least the past week, bringing the total amount of oil India has purchased from Iran to six million barrels, according to figures released so far," the consulate said on X, citing Iran's Fars news agency.

Significantly, the Indian refiners are settling payments to Iranian entities in yuan, as reported by *The Sunday Guardian* earlier.

A US defence official has told Axios news that Iran has conducted at least three attacks on commercial ships that refused to follow orders in the Strait of Hormuz since Saturday morning.

The phenomenon of Indian vessels coming under Iranian fire has been reported even as the US and Iran are exchanging barbs on the status of Hormuz.

In latest developments, Iran has again closed the Strait of Hormuz, apparently as a response to the US blockade.

While the US President has rejected any "tolls or restrictions" that will be or are being levied by Iran on vessels passing via the Strait, Iran's deputy foreign minister Saeed Khatibzadeh said that the US was trying to sabotage diplomacy.

"President Trump said

that if there is no agreement on Wednesday, there will be a return of the military action. Then, let President Trump talk, he talks too much. He said contradictory things within the same statement. This cannot prevail. I don't know what exactly he meant. The American people must decide about him. If his statements are lying and go with international law, then we will continue our defence with all heroism, nationalism and patriotism. We will defend Iran, the oldest civilization on the planet. We will fight till the last Iranian soldier. War cannot lead to any positive solution. The Americans must understand and must learn the lesson. The era of colonialism must come to an end," he said in Turkiye.

Meanwhile, speaking on the Iran-US peace talks in Pakistan's Islamabad, Dr Abdul Majid Hakeem Ilahi, representative of Iran's Supreme Leader in India said that they (Iran) had offered a 10-point plan to the US to be the base of negotiation and it was accepted by the US, and they were supposed to come and negotiate based on this plan.

"When they came to Pakistan and started negotiations, they started demanding something else and they refused to negotiate based on the 10-point plan. So, the negotiations failed and now also Iran received some other proposal from the US and maybe they will negotiate later. But up to now, there is no achievement of that negotiation," he said.

IRAN SHUTS OFF HORMUZ ON US 'VIOLATION'

OPEN/CLOSED?

No Strait Answer

Indian ships reverse course after IRGC firing; New Delhi lodges strong protest with envoy



Agencies

Washington | Islamabad | Cairo: The standoff over the Strait of Hormuz quickly escalated again on Saturday as Iran said it was tightening control, warning mariners that the energy lifeline was again closed in response to a continued US blockade of Iranian ports.

Tehran said the US was violating the ceasefire, while Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei said Iran's navy was ready to inflict "new bitter defeats" on its enemies. Iran's joint military command said "control of the Strait of Hormuz has returned to its previous state ... under strict management and control of the armed forces."

India summoned Iranian envoy Mohammad Fathali to lodge a strong protest. Foreign secretary Vikram Misri conveyed deep concerns after multiple Indian vessels had to reverse course in the Strait following firing by Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), said people in the know. Misri noted the importance India attached to the safety of merchant ship-

ping and recalled that Iran had earlier facilitated safe passage.

A convoy of 14 India-bound ships carrying crude oil and gas were stopped by IRGC firing at two of them while they were transiting the Strait, leading to 13 returning, officials privy to the development said. At least four of those that turned back were Indian oil tankers or carriers.

An Indian-flagged ship, which was hit by bullets fired by IRGC without warning, was carrying crude oil. After sustaining damage, it returned. The extent of damage to the

second vessel was not immediately known.

However, another ship, which was India-flagged and loaded with crude oil for the Hindustan Petroleum, sailed through and is now heading towards India, the people cited said.

Confusion over the opening-closing threatened to deepen the energy crisis roiling the global economy and push a renewed conflict.

Radio Messages >>> 7

Publication : The Economic Times	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 1, 7

Radio Messages

►► From Page 1

Revolutionary Guard gunboats on Saturday opened fire on a tanker transiting the strait and an unknown projectile hit a container vessel, damaging some containers, said the British military's UK Maritime Trade Operations centre, without identifying the vessels. Some merchant vessels got radio messages from Iran's navy saying no ships were allowed through the waterway, maritime security and shipping personnel said, reversing signs earlier in the day that traffic might resume.

Earlier, maritime trackers had shown a convoy of eight tankers transiting the narrow passage in the first major movement of ships since the US-Israeli war on Iran began seven weeks ago.

Iran's armed forces command said transit through the strait had reverted to a state of strict Iranian military control, citing what it described as repeated US violations and acts of "piracy" under the guise of a blockade.

Eight India-bound ships return after trying to cross strait

The government earmarked 22 ships carrying energy cargo to India for repatriation in coordination with Iranian agencies and Indian Navy

M. Kalyanaraman
Debayan Tewari
CHENNAI

Sanmar Herald, fired at by Iranian forces, was among some seven Indian-flagged vessels that sought to cross the Strait of Hormuz on Friday-Saturday and returned to the Persian Gulf, as per marinetraffic.com.

Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) crude oil tanker Desh Garima, which went to Persian Gulf for drydock repairs, exited the strait, as per the tracker site.

Sanmar Herald, owned by Sanmar Shipping and chartered by IOC, was carrying some 2 million barrels crude. It had gone farthest into the strait and crossed Larak Island too.

Sanmar Group told *The Hindu* that Sanmar Herald suffered no damage. Another crude oil carrier Sanmar Suparna had gone for dry docking and is still in the Persian Gulf and has reported safe.

Desh Vibhor, owned by SCI and chartered by Reliance, carrying 2 million barrels of fuel oil and Kuwaiti crude, was another very large crude carrier that returned. It changed course from south of Hengam Island. Container ships CMA CGM Diamond and CMA CGM Manaus crossed Larak Island when they were rerouted to Persian Gulf. Oil tanker Desh



On boil: UKMTTO sent out alerts on a tanker being fired upon by 'two gunboats linked to Iran's Revolutionary Guards. REUTERS

Suraksha returned from near south of Larak island. Jag Arnav, a bulk carrier owned by Great Eastern Shipping Corporation, also returned.

Marshall Island-flagged India-bound LPG tanker DV Sarv Shakti, returned from near Larak Island.

Repatriation to India

The Indian government earmarked 22 ships carrying energy cargo to India for repatriation to the country. The exercise was carried out as per instructions and coordination by the government with Iranian agencies and involved Indian Navy as well.

Iran's Tasmin news agency reported the Supreme National Security Council "stressed Tehran will continue strict monitoring and control over the Strait of Hormuz until the U.S.-Israeli war of aggression fully ends."

On Friday, *AFP* quoted Jakob Larsen, chief security officer of BIMCO, a shipping association, as saying, "The status of mine threats in (Iran's maritime) traffic separation scheme is unclear. BIMCO believes shipping firms should consider avoiding the area."

Fired upon

Meanwhile, the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTTO) sent out alerts a tanker was fired upon by 'two gunboats linked to Iran's Revolutionary Guards' 20 nautical miles northeast of Oman. The captain said the gunboats fired without issuing a radio challenge adding crew was safe.

A container ship was hit by a projectile 25 nautical miles northeast of Oman, UKMTTO said, adding that a few containers were damaged but there was no fire and immediate casualties.

Publication : The Indian Express

Editions : New Delhi

Date : 19 April 2026

Page : 1, 2

Iran shuts Hormuz

safety of merchant shipping and mariners and recalled that Iran had earlier facilitated the safe passage of several ships bound for India," Randhir Jaiswal, spokesperson for the Ministry of External Affairs, said.

"Reiterating his concern at this serious incident of firing on merchant ships, Foreign Secretary urged the Ambassador to convey India's views to the authorities in Iran and resume at the earliest the process of facilitating India-bound ships across the Strait. The Ambassador of Iran undertook to convey these views to the Iranian authorities," he said.

With the naval arm of the Revolutionary Guards announcing the closure of the strait again — this was in retaliation over the US refusal to lift its blockade of the strait until Iran agreed to its terms a peace deal — there was confusion all around. A day earlier, Iran's Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi, citing the temporary truce between Israel and Tehran-backed Hezbollah, announced that the "passage of all commercial vessels through Strait of Hormuz is declared

E. EXPLAINED

Bargaining chip

The Strait of Hormuz is among the world's most critical chokepoints for energy supplies, and accounts for a fifth of global oil and LNG flow. Iran's ability to disrupt global trade and energy flow by closing the strait has proven to be its bargaining chip in the West Asia war.

completely open for the remaining period of ceasefire".

A number of merchant vessels, including a few India-flagged ships, turned back into the Persian Gulf after seemingly trying to cross the strait, as per ship tracking data. But a few vessels, including an Indian oil tanker *Desh Garima*, appeared to have successfully crossed the strait Saturday, the data shows.

With its transit through the strait, there are now 14 India-flagged vessels in the Persian Gulf.

CRISIS DEEPENS AFTER IRAN GUARDS REVERSE STAND, WARN VESSELS IN REGION

Iran shuts Hormuz again, fires at two Indian carriers; Delhi summons envoy

At least one Indian tanker transits strait, most vessels turn back

Sukalp Sharma
& Shubhajit Roy
New Delhi, April 18

DEEPENING THE crisis over the Strait of Hormuz, Iran Saturday reversed its stand on re-opening the key waterway and its navy fired on passing vessels, two of them India-flagged carriers, according to maritime tracking data.

In New Delhi, the Ministry of External Affairs summoned the Iranian envoy to lodge a protest over the targeting of Indian vessels, and conveyed "deep concern".

"The Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in New Delhi was called in by the Ministry of External Affairs for a meeting with Foreign Secretary this evening. During the meeting, Foreign Secretary conveyed India's deep concern at the shooting incident earlier today involving two Indian-flagged ships in the Strait of Hormuz. He noted the importance that India attached to the

»CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Tankers anchored in the Strait of Hormuz off the coast of Iran's Qeshm Island, Saturday. AP

GUJARAT GAS MAKES DECISION FOLLOWING ASSOCIATION'S TALKS WITH GOVERNMENTS, PSU

GGL lowers PNG prices for Morbi cluster, ceramics to remain dearer

Fuel costs still 48% higher than pre-crisis period, product prices to remain elevated at 30-50%

Brendan Dabhi
Ahmedabad, April 18

TWO WEEKS after the price of the Piped Natural Gas (PNG) proposed by the Gujarat Gas Ltd (GGL) left the propane-run ceramic units in Morbi upset, the state government-run public sector unit has agreed to bring the price down.

From Rs 88 per cubic metre which was offered on April 1, which would add up to Rs 93 per cm, GGL has brought the price down to Rs 77 per cubic metre following multiple negotiations. The price of PNG for the tile-makers, however, still is 48% higher than Propane-LPG (Rs 52/SCM) whose supplies ran out after the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz following the war in West Asia. It does however, bring the difference in prices between the regular users of PNG which were largely the sanitaryware units and those returning to PNG, which is the tile making units, to Rs 7 instead of Rs 23, bringing some semblance of parity to the sector.

This move by Gujarat Gas comes two days after the retail prices of the ceramic products were increased by the Morbi Ceramics Manufacturers Association (MCMA) on April 15 by 30% to 50%.

In spite of these decreased rates of PNG, the prices of end products will remain un-

changed, the association said.

The shutdown at Morbi cluster, which accounts for 90% of the Indian ceramic industry, started on March 17 due to the fuel shortage in India following the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz by Iran in light of devastating attacks by the US and Israel starting February 28.

Almost all the fuel for the ceramic industry is imported, including all of the Propane-LPG and half of the natural gas.

According to data from Gujarat Gas, as of February 2026 (pre-crisis), of the 792 ceramic units in Morbi, 377 had been using PNG supplied by it while the other 415 units had been using Propane-LPG supplied by Oil Marketing Companies IOCL, BPCL and HPCL.

While the 110-odd sanitaryware units and smaller tiles units had been using PNG, all the other tile units had been relying on Propane-LPG to fire their kilns. Before the West Asia war began, consumption of Propane-LPG was an average of 55 lakh cubic metres per day, and consumption of Natural Gas was approximately 25 lakh cubic metres per day.

After the supply of Propane-LPG to industry was throttled by lack of supplies from Qatar and other Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) nations and remaining stocks were ordered priority redirection to residential cooking needs by the Gov-



ernment of India, the ceramic units, mostly the tiles units, were forced to turn to Gujarat Gas seeking PNG supplies.

However, these units, which were paying Rs 52 per cubic metre for Propane-LPG before February 28, were asked by Gujarat Gas on April 1 to pay Rs 88 plus 6% GST (Rs 93), to get PNG since their usage for the previous six months was nil. This calculation was based on a GoI directive dated March 9. On the other hand, the 142-odd units, which had been regularly using PNG even before the conflict, were asked to pay Rs 66.00 plus 6% GST, which comes to Rs 70 per cubic metre.

This fuel pricing differential between units in the same sector has disappointed most of the units.

The MCMA representatives held a meeting with Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel on March 10. They held talks with Central government officials at Commerce Bhavan in New Delhi on April 14 and finally with IAS Avantika Singh

Aulakh, MD of Gujarat Gas, on April 16.

Sandip Kundariya, president of the floor tiles division of the MCMA, said the association was hoping to get a rate of Rs 66 per cubic metre, which, after 6% GST, would bring them at par with the regular customers - Rs 70 - but the demand was not accepted.

But, these meetings did bear some fruit with the government also agreeing to the need of incentivising fuel for restarting ceramic production. On April 17, the MCMA got a revised rate for PNG at Rs 73 plus 6% GST, bringing the effective cost to companies at Rs 77.38 per cubic metre.

Little impact on retail prices

The latest reduction in fuel costs for the ceramic units will have little impact on the retail prices of the ceramic products which were increased by the MCMA on April 15.

Narendra Sanghat, president of the Wall Tiles Division

Prices that matter

₹52 PER CUBIC METRE: Price for Propane-LPG before February 28

₹42 PER CUBIC METRE of PNG before February 28

(Most of the industries were using LPG then; In wake of west Asia conflict, most units shift to PNG)

₹93 PER CUBIC METRE of PNG on April 1

₹77 PER CUBIC METRE of PNG on April 16

48% HIKE from the pre-crisis period

mistic considering that a day after Iran declared the Strait of Hormuz open for commercial ships following a ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon, the Islamic Republic again closed it on April 18, citing continuing US blockade of Iranian ports.

Payment plans changed

In its communication to MCMA members on April 17, Gujarat Gas stated, "From April 16, 2026, to May 31, 2026, the price for customers who want to enter into MGO agreement will be USD23.500 per MMBtu (approximately Rs73/SCM at 8,350 kcal/SCM at the exchange rate of Rs93.750/USD). The Minimum Guaranteed Offtake (MGO) agreements will be for a minimum period of 1 month, till May 31, 2026."

In a relief to the industries, Gujarat Gas also agreed to change the billing days from the 10-day and 15-day options earlier to a 7-day option. This means that units will only have to give payment security (bank guarantee) only for 12 days at a time.

Unit owners told The Indian Express that since the price of fuel had gone up from Rs 52 to Rs77, and an average major unit uses 10,000 cubic meters of PNG per day, the amount would be too huge for the owners to afford, leading to a rethink by the PSU.

Gujarat Gas also asked owners to submit their prospective PNG demand for May to it by April 18 so it can calculate its own stocks for uninterrupted supply to the ceramics cluster, said sources in the PSU.

of the MCMA, said Saturday. "We have decided on a hike in product rates across the industry ranging from 30% to 50% corresponding to the type of product and the rise in production costs associated with each of them. There is currently no plan to reduce these rates."

All ceramic units to open, conditions apply

Gujarat Gas expected an increase in its customer base in Modbi cluster from 142 to 270 by May 1 with the 128 companies signing contracts with it recently.

With the latest reduction of PNG price, more business owners are likely to reignite kilns using PNG and recall their migrant workers from northern and eastern states to resume their businesses. Sources said that if conditions remained largely stable, the entire ceramics cluster could be up and running by the end of May 2026.

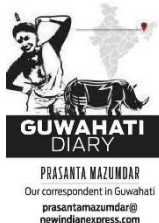
However, this outlook currently appears to be a bit opti-

Publication : The New Indian Express

Editions : Chennai

Date : 19 April 2026

Page : 14



Railway sets up 'Bihutoli' in tribute to Zubeen

The Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) has developed a 'Bihutoli', a cultural ground, and named it 'Zubeen Garg Railway Bihutoli' in a tribute to the music icon. It has been developed with modern facilities, including a permanent stage area, dining hall, toilet complex, community space, boundary wall and an all-weather ground. "The initiative underscores NFR's commitment to celebrating regional culture and honouring icons who have made significant contributions to society. The name stands as a symbol of Zubeen's enduring legacy, especially during the vibrant festival of Bihu," NFR Chief Public Relations Officer Kapinjal Kishore Sharma said.



New terminal boosts airport's domestic grid

Terminal 2 of Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport in Guwahati has strengthened the airport's domestic network. The operations at T2 commenced on February 22, marking a new phase of enhanced passenger comfort and operational efficiency. Airlines such as SpiceJet, Alliance Air, Air India Express, Air India and Akasa Air have transitioned to T2. Indigo and international flights continue to operate from T1 and will shift in a phased manner. "T2 enhances the airport's annual handling capacity to 13.1 million passengers, reinforcing Guwahati's role as the primary aviation gateway to the Northeast," airport authorities said.

State has adequate fuel, LPG stocks, says IOCL

The supply of domestic LPG cylinders and petroleum products in Assam remains completely normal and adequate stocks of both LPG and petroleum products are available across the state, said Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL). Current stock levels are sufficient to meet around 21 days of petrol demand and 46 days of diesel demand. Nitin Bhatnagar, IOCL executive director, said all retail outlets were functioning normally without any restrictions on sales. "Uninterrupted availability is being ensured with continuous monitoring mechanisms, and effective coordination with state government officials," Bhatnagar added.

Publication : The Statesman	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 12

IndianOil marks Fire Service Day:



Arvind Kumar, Director (Refineries) at Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., led the National Fire Service Day 2026 observance at Refineries HQ on 15

April. Under the theme "Safe School, Safe Hospital & Fire Safety Aware Society," he administered the fire safety pledge and unveiled a theme poster. He also launched an e-learning module on Process Safety Management, emphasising digital tools, proactive risk monitoring, and stronger accident prevention measures across IndianOil's refineries division.

Publication : The Statesman	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 12

GAIL to set up 600 MW solar project:



GAIL (India) Limited has signed an agreement with TUSCO Limited to set up a 600 MW solar power project at Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh. The deal underscores GAIL's push towards low-carbon and sustainable energy

solutions. Officials from GAIL and THDC were present at the signing. The project will strengthen GAIL's renewable energy portfolio while expanding its business footprint in Uttar Pradesh and supporting India's clean energy transition goals.



Publication : The Statesman	Editions : New Delhi
Date :19 April 2026	Page : 12

BPCL launches agri spray oil:

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has introduced MAK ADJOL AGRI UNIVERSAL, an advanced adjuvant spray oil aimed at improving pesticide efficiency and supporting sustainable farming. Designed to reduce losses from drift, runoff and evaporation, the product enhances coverage, adhesion and penetration of agrochemicals. Built on patented technology, it strengthens crop protection without increasing chemical usage. The launch aligns with BPCL's focus on agricultural solutions amid rising food demand, climate challenges and sustainability concerns in India.



PRASANTA MAZUMDAR

Our correspondent in Guwahati
prasantamazumdar@
newindianexpress.com

Railway sets up 'Bihutoli' in tribute to Zubeen

The Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) has developed a 'Bihutoli', a cultural ground, and named it Zubeen Gang Railway Bihutoli in a tribute to the music icon. It has been developed with modern facilities, including a permanent stage area, dining hall, toilet complex, community space, boundary wall and an all-weather ground. "The initiative underscores NFR's commitment to celebrating regional culture and honouring icons who have made significant contributions to society. The name stands as a symbol of Zubeen's enduring legacy, especially during the vibrant festival of Bihu," NFR Chief Public Relations Officer Kajal Kishore Sharma said.



New terminal boosts airport's domestic grid

Terminal 2 of Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport in Guwahati has strengthened the airport's domestic network. The operations at T2 commenced on February 22, marking a new phase of enhanced passenger comfort and operational efficiency. Airlines such as SpiceJet, Alliance Air, Air India Express, Air India and Akasa Air have transitioned to T2. Indigo and international flights continue to operate from T1 and will shift in a phased manner. "T2 enhances the airport's annual handling capacity to 13.1 million passengers, reinforcing Guwahati's role as the primary aviation gateway to the Northeast," airport authorities said.

State has adequate fuel, LPG stocks, says IOCL

The supply of domestic LPG cylinders and petroleum products in Assam remains completely normal and adequate stocks of both LPG and petroleum products are available across the state, said Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL). Current stock levels are sufficient to meet around 21 days of petrol demand and 45 days of diesel demand. Nitin Bhattacharya, IOCL executive director, said all retail outlets were functioning normally without any restrictions on sales. "Uninterrupted availability is being ensured with continuous monitoring mechanisms, and effective coordination with state government officials," Bhattacharya added.

Publication : Aaj Samaj (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 11

Headline: US Extends Grace Period for India to Purchase Crude Oil from Russia

अमेरिका ने भारत को रूस से कच्चा तेल खरीदने की मोहलत बढ़ाई

■ अब एक और माह भारत खरीद सकेगा रूस से कच्चा तेल एजेंसी

वॉशिंगटन। वैश्विक ऊर्जा बाजार में उथल-पुथल के बीच भारत के लिए एक राहत भरी खबर सामने आई है। अमेरिका ने रूसी तेल खरीद पर लगी छूट को एक महीने के लिए बढ़ा दिया है। वह फैसला ऐसे समय में लिया गया है जब पहले इस छूट को आगे न बढ़ाने के संकेत दिए गए थे। अब इस कदम



को ट्रंप प्रशासन का बड़ा यू-टर्न माना जा रहा है। 16 मई तक बढ़ाई गई छूट अमेरिकी ट्रेजरी विभाग ने देर रात नया लाइसेंस जारी कर बताया कि अब देशों

को 16 मई तक समुद्री मार्ग से रूसी तेल को खरीदने की अनुमति होगी। इससे पहले यह छूट 11 अप्रैल को समाप्त हो चुकी थी। हालांकि, इस

लाइसेंस में ईरान, क्यूबा और उत्तर कोरिया से संबंधित किसी भी लेन-देन को शामिल नहीं किया गया है। इस फैसले का मकसद वैश्विक स्तर पर बढ़ती ऊर्जा कीमतों को नियंत्रित करना है, खासकर ऐसे समय में जब पश्चिम एशिया में तनाव चरम पर है। इससे पहले अमेरिका ने 5 मार्च से भारत सहित कुछ देशों को रूसी तेल खरीदने के लिए अस्थायी राहत दी थी। बाद में यह छूट अन्य देशों तक भी बढ़ाई गई थी, जिसकी अवधि 11 अप्रैल को समाप्त हो गई थी। भारत को कैसे होगा फायदा? इस फैसले से भारत को रूस से कच्चा तेल खरीदने में आसानी होगी। भारत पहले ही रूस से बड़े

पैमाने पर तेल आयात कर रहा है। भारत में रूस के राजदूत डेनिस अलीपोव ने भरोसा दिलाया है कि रूस भारत को कच्चा तेल, एलपीजी और एलएनजी की सप्लाय और बढ़ाएगा। उन्होंने भारत को एक विश्वसनीय साझेदार बताया। एक यूरोपीय थिंक टैंक के आंकड़ों के अनुसार, मार्च में रूस से भारत का कच्चे तेल का आयात तेजी से बढ़ा है। सेंटर फॉर रिसर्च ऑन एनर्जी एंड क्लीन एयर (CREA) की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, मार्च में भारत ने रूस से 5.8 अरब डॉलर का कच्चा तेल खरीदा, जो फरवरी के 1.54 अरब डॉलर की तुलना में तीन गुना से अधिक है। मार्च 2022 के बाद से, नई दिल्ली रूसी

तेल के लिए एक प्रमुख बाजार के रूप में उभरी है। 2024 में, भारत ने रूस से प्रतिदिन लगभग 20 लाख बैरल तेल खरीदा, जबकि पिछले साल यह आयात लगभग 44 अरब डॉलर का था। अमेरिकी सांसदों की नाराजगी हाथोंक, अमेरिका के इस फैसले पर कुछ अमेरिकी सांसदों ने कड़ी नाराजगी जताई है। ट्रेजरी सचिव स्कॉट बेसेंट ने पहले कहा था कि अमेरिका रूसी तेल के लिए दी गई छूट को नवीनीकृत नहीं करेगा। सांसदों का तर्क था कि इस तरह की छूटों से ईरान और रूस जैसे देशों की अर्थव्यवस्थाओं को फायदा पहुंच सकता है, खासकर जब रूस यूक्रेन के खिलाफ युद्ध में शामिल है।

Publication : Aaj Samaj (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 11

Headline: Over 17.25 lakh 5 kg LPG cylinders sold since March 23

23 मार्च से अब तक 17.25 लाख से ज्यादा 5 किलो के एलपीजी सिलेंडर बिके

नई दिल्ली। सरकार ने एक आधिकारिक बयान में शनिवार को बताया कि पश्चिम एशिया में बदलती स्थितियों के बीच 23 मार्च से अब तक 5 किलो वाले छोटे एलपीजी सिलेंडर (एफटीएल) की बिक्री 17.25 लाख से ज्यादा हो चुकी है। ये छोटे सिलेंडर खासतौर पर प्रवासी मजदूरों को ध्यान में रखकर उपलब्ध कराए जा रहे हैं। पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय ने बयान में कहा कि 3 अप्रैल से अब तक सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की तेल कंपनियों यानी ऑयल मार्केटिंग कंपनियों (ओएमसी) ने 6,450 से ज्यादा जागरूकता कैंप लगाए हैं, जिनमें 90,000 से ज्यादा 5 किलो सिलेंडर बेचे गए। ये 5 किलो एफटीएल सिलेंडर राज्य सरकारों को दिए जा रहे हैं, ताकि वे ओएमसी की मदद से अपने राज्यों में प्रवासी मजदूरों को इन्हें उपलब्ध करा सकें। इस बीच, कमर्शियल एलपीजी की कुल सप्लाई को बढ़ाकर संकट से पहले के स्तर का लगभग 70 प्रतिशत कर दिया गया है, जिसमें 10 प्रतिशत सुधार-आधारित आवंटन भी शामिल है। 17 अप्रैल को 8,216 मीट्रिक टन कमर्शियल एलपीजी की बिक्री हुई, जो करीब 4.32 लाख 19 किलो वाले सिलेंडरों के बराबर है। वहीं, 14 मार्च से अब तक कुल 1,58,583 मीट्रिक टन कमर्शियल एलपीजी बेची जा चुकी है। इसमें 9,200 मीट्रिक टन से ज्यादा ऑटो एलपीजी भी शामिल है। मंत्रालय के मुताबिक, ऑटो एलपीजी की मांग में बदलाव देखने को मिला है, जहां निजी कंपनियों से हटकर अब पीएसयू कंपनियों की ओर झुकाव बढ़ा है। बढ़ती मांग को देखते हुए पीएसयू कंपनियों की ऑटो एलपीजी बिक्री में 70 फीसदी तक की बढ़ोतरी हुई है। यह बढ़ोतरी खासतौर पर कर्नाटक, तमिलनाडु, तेलंगाना, राजस्थान और पश्चिम बंगाल जैसे राज्यों में ज्यादा देखने को मिली है। मंत्रालय के अनुसार, 22 राज्य और केंद्र शासित प्रदेश पीएनजी (पाइपड नेचुरल गैस) विस्तार से जुड़े सुधारों के आधार पर अतिरिक्त कमर्शियल एलपीजी आवंटन पा रहे हैं। इसके साथ ही, मंत्रालय ने कहा कि मार्च से अब तक 4.76 लाख से ज्यादा पीएनजी कनेक्शन सक्रिय किए जा चुके हैं, जबकि 5.33 लाख से ज्यादा नए ग्राहकों ने कनेक्शन के लिए रजिस्ट्रेशन कराया है।

Headline: Hormuz: Iranian forces fired without warning on two Indian ships, stopped 13 vessels

होर्मुज : ईरानी सेना ने दो भारतीय जहाजों पर बिना चेतावनी की फायरिंग, 13 जहाज रोके

**भारत ने राजदूत को तलब कर जताई नाराजगी
अमेरिकी नाकाबंदी के विरोध में होर्मुज फिर बंद**

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो/एजेंसी

काहिरा/वाशिंगटन/नई दिल्ली। ईरान ने होर्मुज जलडमरूमध्य मार्ग को फिर बंद करते हुए शनिवार को भारत आने वाले 14 जहाजों को रोक दिया। भारतीय ध्वज वाले दो जहाजों पर बिना चेतावनी फायरिंग भी की गई। इसके बाद एक जहाज तो पार कर गया पर 13 जहाज फारस की खाड़ी में लौट गए। इस उकसावे वाली कार्रवाई पर भारत सरकार ने कड़ा रुख अपनाते हुए दिल्ली में ईरानी राजदूत डॉक्टर मोहम्मद फथाली को तलब कर अपना सख्त विरोध दर्ज कराया। इससे पहले ईरान ने अमेरिका की ओर से जारी नाकाबंदी को वादाखिलाफी बताते हुए होर्मुज को फिर बंद करने का एलान किया।

सूत्रों के अनुसार, ईरान के रिवोल्यूशनरी गार्ड ने होर्मुज जलमार्ग में ओमान के उत्तर में भारतीय ध्वज वाले दो जहाजों जग अर्नव और सनमार हेराल्ड पर गोलीबारी की, जिसके बाद इन जहाजों को रास्ता बदलना पड़ा। इनमें से एक सुपरटैंकर है, जो इराक से 20 लाख बैरल कच्चा तेल लेकर भारत आ रहा था। जहाज की ऑडियो रिकॉर्डिंग सामने आने से पुष्टि हुई कि ईरानी गनबोट्स ने जहाजों को रोकने के लिए लाइट मशीनगन का इस्तेमाल किया। भारतीय जहाजों पर सवार चालक दल के सभी सदस्य सुरक्षित हैं। ऑडियो रिकॉर्डिंग के मुताबिक, भारतीय जहाज के नाविकों ने ईरानी नौसेना से कहा कि आपने मुझे आगे बढ़ने की इजाजत



दिल्ली में शनिवार को विदेश मंत्रालय से बाहर निकलते ईरानी राजदूत मोहम्मद फथाली। एजेंसी

एक जहाज ने होर्मुज किया पार : कच्चे तेल से लदा एक जहाज किसी तरह होर्मुज पार करने में सफल रहा और अब यह भारत की ओर बढ़ रहा है। सूत्रों ने बताया कि यह हिंदुस्तान पेट्रोलियम के लिए तेल ला रहा है।

गोलीबारी में टूटी जहाज की खिड़की : ईरानी नौसेना को गनबोट्स की फायरिंग में भारतीय ध्वज वाले एक जहाज की खिड़की टूट गई। इसके बाद वह लौट गया। जहाज को नुकसान का पता फिलहाल नहीं चल सका है। गोलीबारी की चपेट में आया दूसरा जहाज भी लौट गया।

अमेरिका ने एक माह बढ़ाई रूस से तेल खरीद की छूट

अमेरिका ने रूस से तेल खरीद पर छूट एक महीने के लिए और बढ़ा दी है। हालांकि इसमें ईरान, क्यूबा और उत्तर कोरिया से जुड़े लेनदेन को बाहर रखा है। पहले दी गई छूट की अवधि 11 अप्रैल को खत्म हो गई थी। अमेरिकी वित्त विभाग ने यह कदम ऐसे समय उठाया है, जब वैश्विक ऊर्जा बाजार में भारी उतार-चढ़ाव है। इस फैसले से भारत को सीधा फायदा होगा।

दी थी और अब आप फायरिंग कर रहे हैं, मुझे वापस मुड़ने दीजिए। इससे स्पष्ट है कि जहाजों को पहले सुरक्षित रास्ते का आश्वासन दिया गया था, लेकिन जैसे ही वे होर्मुज के बीच पहुंचे, ईरानी नौसेना ने अपना फैसला बदला और फायरिंग शुरू कर दी। इससे पहले, ब्रिटिश सेना के



भारतीय जहाजों की आवाजाही बहाल करे ईरान : भारत

सूत्रों ने बताया कि विदेश मंत्रालय ने राजदूत फथाली से फायरिंग पर गहरी नाराजगी जताई। विदेश सचिव विक्रम मिसरी ने फथाली से कहा, भारत की नाराजगी से अपनी सरकार को अवगत कराएं और भारतीय जहाजों को होर्मुज में स्वतंत्र नौवहन की सुविधा बहाल की जाए। विदेश सचिव ने भारतीय नाविकों की सुरक्षा चिंताओं का मुद्दा भी उठाया।

सात जहाजों पर भारतीय ध्वज : राके गए जहाजों में सात पर भारतीय ध्वज हैं। चार पर लाइबेरिया, दो पर मार्शल द्वीप और एक पर वियतनाम का ध्वज है। छह पर कच्चा तेल, तीन पर एलपीजी व चार पर उर्वरक हैं। इनमें पांच बड़े जहाज हैं। 13 जहाजों को ईरानी सेना ने इंतजार करने के लिए कहा है।

ईरानी सेना ने कहा, लेबनान युद्धविराम के बाद ईरान ने होर्मुज को वाणिज्यिक जहाजों के लिए खोला था, पर अमेरिका ने ईरानी बंदरगाहों की नौसैनिक नाकाबंदी जारी रखकर वादा तोड़ा है। होर्मुज में अब पहले जैसी स्थिति बहाल हो गई है, जिसमें जहाजों को ईरानी नौसेना की अनुमति और टोल भुगतान की जरूरत होगी।

नाकाबंदी तक नहीं छोड़ेगे होर्मुज

अब पहले जैसी स्थिति बहाल हो गई है, जिसमें जहाजों को ईरानी नौसेना की अनुमति और टोल भुगतान की जरूरत होगी।

होर्मुज से न करें ब्लैकमेल : ट्रंप

अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति ट्रंप ने ईरान को धमकी दी कि उसकी सेना बेहद कमजोर हो चुकी है और अब वह होर्मुज बंद करके अमेरिका को ब्लैकमेल करने की स्थिति में नहीं है। ट्रंप ने कहा, न तो ईरान के पास नौसेना है, न ही वायुसेना। उनके पास नेता भी नहीं हैं। हम उनसे बात कर रहे हैं और वे फिर होर्मुज बंद करना चाहते हैं।

यूनाइटेड किंगडम मैरिटाइम ट्रेड ऑपरेशंस ने भी बताया, ओमान के उत्तर-पूर्व में लगभग 20 समुद्री मील की दूरी पर ईरानी नौसेना की दो गनबोट्स ने टैंकर का पीछा किया और बिना किसी चेतावनी या रेडियो संपर्क के उन पर गोलियां चलाईं।

Headline: Directives Issued to Remain Prepared for Emergencies Following Attacks on Indian Ships in the Strait of Hormuz

होर्मुज में भारतीय जहाजों पर हमले के बाद आपात स्थिति के लिए तैयार रहने के निर्देश

रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ ने की अनौपचारिक मंत्री समूह की बैठक, कहा-मौजूदा हालात संवेदनशील मोड़ पर
अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली। पश्चिम एशिया में गहराते सैन्य संकट और उससे उत्पन्न वैश्विक अस्थिरता के बीच भारत ने सुरक्षा तैयारियों को पुख्ता करना शुरू कर दिया है। रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने शनिवार को अनौपचारिक मंत्री समूह (आईजीओएम) की चौथी उच्चस्तरीय बैठक कर संघर्ष के अचानक विस्तार लेने की स्थिति से निपटने के लिए हर स्तर पर तैयार रहने के निर्देश दिए।

बैठक के दौरान रक्षा मंत्री ने स्पष्ट शब्दों में आगाह किया कि पश्चिम एशिया के मौजूदा हालात अत्यंत अनिश्चित और संवेदनशील मोड़ पर हैं। भारत को केवल तनाव कम होने की संभावनाओं के भरोसे नहीं बैठना चाहिए। रक्षा मंत्री का यह सख्त रुख होर्मुज जलमार्ग में दो भारतीय तेल टैंकरों पर ईरानी नौसेना की ओर से की गई फायरिंग की घटना के बाद सामने आया है। भारतीय जहाजों पर हमले के बाद ईरान के साथ कूटनीतिक कड़वाहट भी बढ़ गई है।

विदेश मंत्रालय ने ईरानी राजदूत डॉ. मोहम्मद फथाली को तलब कर कड़ा औपचारिक विरोध दर्ज कराया है। राजनाथ ने आश्वस्त किया कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के नेतृत्व में सरकार इस संघर्ष से उत्पन्न होने वाले किसी भी सामरिक या आर्थिक जोखिम को न्यूनतम करने के लिए निरंतर प्रभावी कदम उठा रही है।



पश्चिम एशिया संकट को लेकर मंत्रियों के विशेष समूह के साथ बैठक करते रक्षामंत्री राजनाथ सिंह। एजेंसी

ऊर्जा और खाद्य सुरक्षा के पुख्ता इंतजाम

विभिन्न मंत्रालयों की ओर से दी गई जानकारी के अनुसार, युद्ध की विभीषिका के बावजूद भारत की आंतरिक स्थिति काफी मजबूत है। देश में ऊर्जा सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए वर्तमान में 60 दिनों से अधिक का कच्चे तेल, पेट्रोल और डीजल का बफर स्टॉक मौजूद है। इसके अतिरिक्त, एलएनजी का 50 दिन और एलपीजी का 40 दिन का पर्याप्त भंडार उपलब्ध है। रणनीतिक रूप से महत्वपूर्ण कदम उठाते हुए भारत ने होर्मुज जलडमरूमध्य पर अपनी निर्भरता कम करने के लिए अमेरिका, ऑस्ट्रेलिया और लैटिन अमेरिकी देशों से ऊर्जा आयात के वैकल्पिक मार्ग सुनिश्चित कर लिए हैं। कृषि क्षेत्र में खरीफ सीजन के लिए यूरिया, डीएपी और एनपीके उर्वरकों का प्रचुर स्टॉक भी भंडारित किया जा चुका है।

प्रवासियों का कल्याण और भावी संकट प्रबंधन

खाड़ी देशों में रह रहे लाखों भारतीय प्रवासियों की सुरक्षा को सरकार की सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता बताते हुए रक्षा मंत्री ने दूतावासों को संबोधित देशों के साथ निरंतर संपर्क बनाए रखने के निर्देश दिए। रक्षा मंत्री ने राज्यों को भी यह सुझाव दिया कि वे वर्तमान संकट प्रबंधन के दौरान अपनाई जा रहे सर्वोत्तम कदमों और रणनीतियों का उचित दस्तावेजीकरण करें। इसका उद्देश्य भविष्य की किसी भी संभावित आपदा के लिए एक स्थायी और सुदृढ़ जवाबी ढांचा तैयार करना है, ताकि भारत हर चुनौती का मुकाबला करने में सक्षम रहे।

होर्मुज बंद होने से कच्चे तेल के दाम में फिर इजाफा होने की आशंका

नाकाबंदी कुछ समय के लिए हटने के दौरान होर्मुज से शुक्रवार को गुजरे 12 जहाजों में मुख्य रूप से पुराने, गैर-पश्चिमी स्वामित्व वाले जहाज थे, जिनमें चार प्रतिबंधित जहाज भी शामिल थे। ईरान के रिवोल्यूशनरी गार्ड के प्रवक्ता ने बताया कि वार्ता में हुए पूर्व समझौतों के बाद सीमित संख्या में तेल टैंकरों और वाणिज्यिक जहाजों के लिए मार्ग की व्यवस्था की गई थी। जलमार्ग के खुलने से तेल की कीमतें भी 13 फीसदी गिर गई थीं और शेयर बाजारों में भी उछाल आया था, लेकिन फिर इसके बंद होने से अंतरराष्ट्रीय ऊर्जा बाजार में अनिश्चितता के बादल छा गए हैं और कीमतें बढ़ने की आशंका बढ़ गई है।

ईरानी तेल लेकर भारत आ रहा टैंकर

टैंकर ट्रेकर्स के अनुसार, ईरानी सुपरटैंकर डॉर्ना 20 लाख बैरल कच्चा तेल लेकर भारत पहुंचने वाला है। शनिवार को यह टैंकर स्वचालित पहचान प्रणाली (एआईएस) ट्रैकिंग पर भारत के दक्षिणी तट से दूर दिखाई दिया है। ईरान की एक रिफाइनरी से तेल लेकर यह टैंकर अमेरिकी नाकाबंदी से कुछ समय पहले ही वहां से निकला था। यह पिछले कम से कम एक सप्ताह में ईरान से भारत को मिली तेल की तीसरी खेप है, जिससे अब तक जारी आंकड़ों के अनुसार, भारत द्वारा ईरान से खरीदे गए तेल की कुल मात्रा 60 लाख बैरल हो गई है।

Publication : Amar Ujala (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 4

Headline: Indian Oil takes safety pledge on National Fire Service Day

इंडियन ऑयल में राष्ट्रीय अग्निशमन सेवा दिवस पर सुरक्षा की शपथ



नई दिल्ली (वि)। इंडियन ऑयल के निदेशक (रिफाइनरीज) अरविंद कुमार ने रिफाइनरीज मुख्यालय में राष्ट्रीय अग्निशमन सेवा दिवस कार्यक्रम का नेतृत्व किया। यह कार्यक्रम सुरक्षित स्कूल, सुरक्षित अस्पताल और अग्नि-सुरक्षा के प्रति जागरूक समाज अग्नि दुर्घटनाओं को रोकथाम के लिए एकजुट प्रयास विषय के अंतर्गत आयोजित किया गया। इस अवसर पर श्री कुमार ने कर्मियों को अग्नि-सुरक्षा की शपथ दिलाई और थीम पोस्टर जारी किया। उन्होंने प्रक्रिया सुरक्षा प्रबंधन पर आधारित एक ई-शिक्षण मॉड्यूल का भी शुभारंभ किया। इस मॉड्यूल का उद्देश्य प्रक्रिया सुरक्षा और दुर्घटनाओं को रोकथाम से जुड़ी बुनियादी समझ को मजबूत करना है।

Publication : Dainik Jagran (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 13

Headline: India to Buy Even More Oil from Russia; Sanctions Waivers Extended Again

रूस से अब और तेल खरीदेगा भारत, प्रतिबंधों में छूट फिर बढ़ी

जागरण न्यूज़, नई दिल्ली: भारत तकरीबन एक महीने और रूस से खुलकर कच्चे तेल या अन्य पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की खरीद कर सकेगा। अमेरिकी सरकार ने रूस से तेल खरीद पर लगे प्रतिबंधों में अस्थायी छूट की अवधि एक महीने और बढ़ा दी है। वैसे अमेरिका ने दो दिन पहले ही कहा था कि छूट की अवधि नहीं बढ़ाई जाएगी लेकिन शुक्रवार को देर शाम अमेरिकी ट्रेजरी विभाग की तरफ से जारी अधिसूचना में कहा गया कि 17 अप्रैल या उससे पहले टैंकर्स पर लोड किए गए रूसी कच्चे तेल और पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की खरीद-बिक्री पर प्रतिबंध 16 मई तक लागू नहीं होंगे। भारत दुनिया के सबसे बड़े रूसी तेल आयातकों में शामिल है। पश्चिम एशिया विवाद को देखते हुए ट्रंप प्रशासन का फैसला भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा और महंगाई नियंत्रण के लिए बेहद उपयोगी साबित होगा।

छूट की अवधि बढ़ने से भारतीय तेल कंपनियां अब बिना प्रतिबंध के खतरे के रूस से तेल की खरीद जारी रख सकेंगी। अमेरिकी सरकार की तरफ से स्पष्ट किया कि यह फैसला वैश्विक ऊर्जा बाजार को स्थिर रखने के लिए लिया गया है, खासकर ईरान पर अमेरिका-इजरायल हमले के बाद तेल आपूर्ति में आई कमी और कीमतों में उछाल को देखते हुए। इससे पहले 11 अप्रैल को पुरानी 30 दिन की छूट खत्म हो गई थी और ट्रेजरी सचिव स्कॉट बेसेंट ने कहा था

- अमेरिका ने रूसी तेल खरीद पर लगे प्रतिबंध में छूट की अवधि एक महीने और बढ़ाई
- मार्च 2026 में औसतन 20 लाख बैरल प्रतिदिन रूसी कच्चा तेल आयात किया गया

कि इसे आगे नहीं बढ़ाया जाएगा, लेकिन बाजार के दबाव के कारण दो दिन बाद ही यू-टर्न ले लिया गया।

ईरान पर अमेरिकी हमले के बाद अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में दो दिनों में ही कच्चे तेल की कीमतें दोगुनी के करीब पहुंच गई थीं। इसका संतान लेते हुए अमेरिका ने छूट की घोषणा की थी जिसका सबसे ज्यादा फायदा भारत को हुआ। भारत फिलहाल रूस से भारी मात्रा में तेल खरीद रहा है। मार्च 2026 में औसतन 20 लाख बैरल प्रतिदिन रूसी कच्चा तेल आयात किया गया, जो जून 2023 के बाद सबसे ऊंचा स्तर है।

निजी एजेंसियों की रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक मार्च में ही भारत ने रूस से खरीदे गए तेल का भुगतान फरवरी, 2026 के मुकाबले तीन गुना ज्यादा किया है। अप्रैल के पहले पखवाड़े में आयात थोड़ा कम हुआ है लेकिन इसका कारण रखरखाव के लिए बंदी को बताया जा रहा है। अब इसके फिर से नई ऊंचाई पर जाने की संभावना है। मार्च व अप्रैल में भारत ने कुल तेल आयात का 45 प्रतिशत रूस से खरीदा है।

Headline: Three accused of black marketing of LPG arrested

एलपीजी की कालाबाजारी करने वाले तीन आरोपित धरे

आरोपितों से बरामद किए गए 108 गैस सिलिंडर



पुलिस द्वारा बरामद किए गए एलपीजी सिलिंडर और जब्त वाहन • सौजन्य: दिल्ली पुलिस

जमरुण संगठन, नई दिल्ली: घरेलू एलपीजी गैस सिलिंडर की कालाबाजारी करने वाले गिरेह का भंडाफोड़ कर फ्राइम ब्रांच की टीम ने तीन आरोपितों को गिरफ्तार किया है। 40 फुट रोड, शाहीन बाग में छापेमारी कर पुलिस ने आरोपितों के ठिकाने से 108 एलपीजी सिलिंडर बरामद किए हैं।

इसके अलावा इन सिलिंडरों को ले जाने में इस्तेमाल होने वाली दो गाड़ियाँ (छोटा हाथी और महिंद्रा पिकअप) भी जब्त की हैं। गिरफ्तार आरोपितों की पहचान कुलदीप, आशीष और विजय के रूप में हुई है। तीनों सूर्य विहार, फरीदाबाद के रहने वाले हैं। आरोपित अवैध तरीके से एक लोकल गैस एजेंसी से घरेलू इस्तेमाल के लिए सब्सिडी वाली दरों पर एलपीजी सिलिंडर खरीद रहे थे और खाली सिलिंडर में गैस डालकर अधिक दरों पर बेच रहे थे। उपर्युक्त पंकज कुमार के मुताबिक, एलपीजी सिलिंडर की कालाबाजारी करने वालों के खिलाफ चल रहे अभियान के तहत टीम को गुप्त सूचना मिली कि 40 फुट रोड, शाहीन बाग में घरेलू एलपीजी सिलिंडरों की कालाबाजारी की जा रही है। सूचना पर एसपी सुनील श्रीवास्तव की देखरेख में और इंस्पेक्टर कश्मीरी लाल के नेतृत्व में गठित टीम ने शाहीन बाग में छापेमारी कर 108 एलपीजी सिलिंडर बरामद किए और मौके से तीन आरोपितों को गिरफ्तार किया।

गैस एजेंसी से घरेलू इस्तेमाल के लिए सब्सिडी वाली दरों पर एलपीजी सिलिंडर खरीदने के बाद अधिक दरों पर लोगों को बेच रहे थे आरोपित

पूछताछ में पता चला कि तीनों आरोपित अवैध तरीके से घरेलू एलपीजी सिलिंडर सब्सिडी वाले रेट पर खरीद रहे थे और खाली सिलिंडर में गैस डालकर उसे अधिक रेट पर बेचकर मुनाफा कमा रहे थे। पुलिस इनसे पूछताछ कर पूरी सप्लाय चेन का पता लगाने और इसमें शामिल अन्य आरोपितों को पकड़ने के लिए आगे की जांच कर रही है।

2,027 सिलेंडर जब्त, 44 एफआइआर दर्ज: हाल ही में मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता ने बताया था कि एलपीजी वितरण में अनियमितताओं पर सख्ती करते हुए खाद्य आपूर्ति विभाग और पुलिस ने 540 से अधिक स्थानों पर छापेमारी कर 2,027 सिलेंडर जब्त किए हैं और 44 एफआइआर दर्ज की गई हैं। उन्होंने बताया था कि वैश्विक हालात के बावजूद राजधानी में एलपीजी, पेट्रोल और डीजल की आपूर्ति सामान्य है। प्रतिदिन 1.2 लाख सिलेंडर वितरित हो रहे हैं और डिलीवरी समय 4-5 दिन है। पारदर्शिता के लिए ओटीपी आधारित सत्यापन लागू है।

कटौत कार्रवाई आवश्यक >> संपादकीय

Publication : Financial Express	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 1, 2

US extends waiver on Russian oil till May 16

SAURAV ANAND
New Delhi, April 18

THE UNITED STATES administration has extended a sanctions waiver on Russian oil sales till May 16, allowing the purchase and transport of crude oil already loaded on vessels, in a move that offers temporary relief to global buyers amid tight energy supplies.

The United States Treasury Department issued a fresh licence on Friday permitting transactions involving Russian-origin crude and petroleum products loaded onto ships as of April 17.

The waiver replaces an earlier relief window that expired on April 11.

Continued on Page 2

Publication : Financial Express	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 1, 2

Waiver on Russian oil

ACCORDING TO THE official licence, "all transactions... ordinarily incident and necessary to the sale, delivery, or offloading of crude oil or petroleum products of Russian Federation origin loaded on any vessel... on or before 12:01 am eastern daylight time, April 17, are authorised through 12:01 am eastern daylight time, May 16."

The extension comes days after US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent had indicated that the waiver would not be renewed. "We will not be renewing the general licence on Russian oil... That was oil that was on the water prior to March 11, so all that has been used," he had said earlier.

The move assumes significance for India, which imports nearly 90% of its crude oil requirements. Data from Kpler shows India's imports of Russian crude rose to 1.98 million barrels per day in March,

the highest since June 2023. Imports have moderated to 1.57 million barrels per day so far in April, largely due to maintenance shutdowns at Nayara Energy's 400,000 barrels-per-day refinery. Current volumes are estimated at around 100 million barrels. Earlier, Indian purchases had slowed following US sanctions targeting major Russian producers such as Rosneft and Lukoil.

The waiver extension comes amid continued strain in global oil markets, with supply routes under pressure and demand remaining firm. Russian crude has become a key component of its import basket since 2022.

The development also reflects the balancing act in global energy policy, where sanctions enforcement is being calibrated alongside the need to stabilise oil markets and contain price volatility.

IRAN REIMPOSES CONTROL, ALLEGES CEASEFIRE VIOLATION

Hormuz closed again, Indians ships attacked

● India summons
Iran ambassador,
seeks safe passage

TREVOR HUNNICUTT,
ARIBA SHAHID &
MUHAMMAD AL GEBALY
Washington/Islamabad,
April 18

IRAN SAID IT was tightening control over the Strait of Hormuz on Saturday, warning mariners that the energy lifeline was again closed, as shipping sources said vessels reported coming under fire while trying to transit the waterway.

Two Indian-flagged vessels carrying crude oil were on Saturday attacked while attempting to cross the Strait, the Ministry of External Affairs confirmed in a statement.

Tehran's ambassador to New Delhi, Mohammad Fathali, was called in for a meeting with India's Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri.

Continued on Page 2



In a photo released by the US Central Command on Saturday, an AH-64 Apache helicopter can be seen flying above the Strait of Hormuz during a patrol

Strait of Hormuz closed again

MISRI CONVEYED INDIA'S deep concern at the shooting incident involving two Indian-flagged ships in the Strait of Hormuz. The foreign secretary noted the "importance that India attached to the safety of merchant shipping and mariners and recalled that Iran had earlier facilitated the safe passage of several ships bound for India", the statement said.

"Reiterating his concern at this serious incident of firing on merchant ships, the foreign secretary urged the ambassador to convey India's views to the authorities in Iran and resume at the earliest the process of facilitating India-bound ships across the Strait," the MEA said, adding that Ambassador Fathali "undertook to convey these views to the Iranian authorities". The vessel has been identified as the Sanmar Herald, sources said, adding that the crew on board and the vessel were safe.

Earlier, the British military said two gunboats from Iran's Revolutionary Guard opened fire on a tanker transiting the Strait. The UK Maritime Trade Operations Centre said the tanker and crew were reported safe, without identifying the vessel or its destination. US President responded to Iran's move on Saturday, saying Tehran could not blackmail the US by shutting the waterway. The *WSJ* reported on Saturday citing US officials that the US military is preparing in coming days to board

Iran-linked oil tankers and seize commercial ships in international waters.

Tehran said it was responding to a continued US blockade of Iranian ports, calling it a violation of their ceasefire, while Supreme Leader Mojtaba Khamenei said Iran's navy was ready to inflict "new bitter defeats" on its enemies. State media in Iran quoted the Supreme National Security Council as saying Iranian control over the strait included demanding the payment of costs related to security, safety and environmental protection services. Tehran was considering them but had not yet responded, it said. There was no sign of direct US-Iran talks taking place at the weekend.

Tehran's renewed tough messaging caused fresh uncertainty around the Iran conflict, raising the risk that oil and gas shipments through the strait could remain disrupted just as Washington weighs whether to extend the fragile ceasefire. Maritime trackers had shown a convoy of eight tankers transiting the narrow passage in the first major movement of ships since the US-Israeli war on Iran began seven weeks ago.

Hours earlier, Trump had cited "some pretty good news" about Iran, declining to elaborate. But he also said fighting might resume without a peace deal by Wednesday, when the two-week ceasefire expires. "The main thing is that Iran will not have a nuclear weapon. You cannot let Iran have a nuclear weapon, and that supersedes everything else," Trump said on Friday.

Iran had announced its

temporary reopening of the Hormuz following a separate US-brokered 10-day ceasefire agreement on Thursday between Israel and Lebanon. But on Saturday Iran's armed forces command said transit through the strait had reverted to a state of strict Iranian military control, citing what it described as repeated US violations and acts of "piracy" under the guise of a blockade.

The spokesperson said Iran had earlier agreed, "in good faith", to the managed passage of a limited number of oil tankers and commercial vessels following negotiations, but said continued US actions had forced Tehran to restore tighter controls on shipping through the strategic chokepoint. US Central Command said in a statement that American forces were enforcing a maritime blockade of Iran, but did not comment on the latest Iranian actions.

Despite the initial movement of ships, Iran's deputy foreign minister, Saeed Khatibzadeh, said no date had been set for the next round of negotiations. There were no signs of preparations early on Saturday for talks in the Pakistani capital, where the highest-level US-Iran negotiations since the 1979 Islamic Revolution ended without agreement last weekend. The head of Russia's state atomic energy company, Rosatom, Alexei Likhachev, said on Saturday that Rosatom was ready to help with the removal of enriched uranium from Iran, and that the company was closely following the progress of US-Iran talks. **REUTERS**

Publication : Financial Express	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 2

US extends waiver on Russian oil till May 16

SAURAV ANAND
New Delhi, April 18

THE UNITED STATES administration has extended a sanctions waiver on Russian oil sales till May 16, allowing the purchase and transport of crude oil already loaded on vessels, in a move that offers temporary relief to global buyers amid tight energy supplies.

The United States Treasury Department issued a fresh licence on Friday permitting transactions involving Russian-origin crude and petroleum products loaded onto ships as of April 17.

The waiver replaces an earlier relief window that expired on April 11.

Continued on Page 2

● AIRLINES COPING WITH SUPPLY ISSUES

Jet fuel surge may cancel more flights

Global capacity for May reduced by 3 percentage points

BLOOMBERG
April 18

AIRLINE PASSENGERS
SHOULD brace for more aggravation in the next few months as carriers around the world deepen cancellations and ground planes to cope with stratospheric increases in jet-fuel prices.

Dutch flag carrier KLM is the latest company to cut its schedule, saying Thursday it will scrap 80 return flights at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport in the coming month.

That puts it in the same league as United Airlines, Deutsche Lufthansa AG and Cathay Pacific which have all pruned itineraries to contain the damage.

Global capacity for May has been reduced by about 3 percentage points, with all but one of the 20 largest airlines slashing flights, according to data compiled by analytics firm Cirium. It's revising an initial prediction of 4%-6% growth for the year and says a decline of as much as 3% is possible under certain conditions.

"It appears extremely likely that more reductions are ahead," wrote Richard Evans, a senior consultant at Cirium, in a report released Thursday.

The disruptions rolling the aviation industry after the war in Iran started were initially limited to Middle Eastern airlines, their airports and airspace. They've since become contagious and threaten to upend the lucrative summer travel season globally. And with the US naval blockade of the Strait of Hormuz cutting off Iranian oil shipments, there's no immediate end in sight.

"Any flying that we're doing that's on the margin, maybe not producing the yields we'd like, is likely going to be reconsidered," Delta Air Lines CEO Ed Bastian said while announcing an extra \$2.5 billion in fuel costs this quarter. "This is going to be a test for the industry." A United Airlines airplane passes a Shell jet-fuel truck at Vancouver International Airport on March 24. Carriers are cutting global

CUTTING COSTS

■ Lufthansa has shut down the CityLine unit, withdrawing

27 planes from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

■ Air Canada has canceled services from Montreal and Toronto

■ Virgin Atlantic scrapped its London-to-Riyadh service after just one year in operation, and British Airways dropped its Jeddah route

■ Qantas Airways is reducing its flights to the US and will also cut domestic flight capacity by about 5%

KLM will cut flights at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport

80

planes

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network

both sides seeking to maintain leverage in the conflict. The recent adjustments in capacity signal that many airlines are entering self-preservation mode with the expectation that the conflict will be detrimental to business for the foreseeable future. Even if all fighting ends soon, damaged infrastructure will likely take months or years to repair. Lufthansa, Europe's biggest airline, took drastic measures this past week as a series of strikes exacerbated its fuel crisis. It shut down the CityLine unit, withdrawing 27 planes from service, and trimmed capacity across the rest of its network by grounding older, fuel-guzzling widebody jets. "If the price of jet fuel remains elevated for an extended period there will be more cancellations," said Dudley Shanley, an analyst at Goodbody.

An electrifying revolution on three wheels

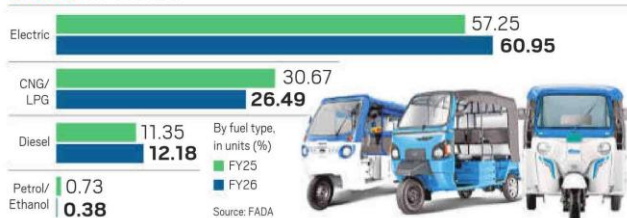
● Two-thirds of all 3-wheelers sold in FY27 to be electric

VIKRAM CHAUDHARY
New Delhi, April 18

WHILE TWO-WHEELERS AND cars—and their high-profile launches—get the most attention when it comes to electrification, the real change is happening on three wheels.

As per retail sales data sourced from the Federation of Automobile Dealers' Associations (FADA), of the total 1,363,412 three-wheelers

SALES METRICS



sold in FY26, a staggering 60.95% (830,819 units) were electric. This means that, for the first time, a major vehicle segment is no longer dominated by petrol, diesel, or CNG.

Automotive analysts told *FE* that the electrification rate in three-wheelers crossed 50% in FY23, and has been steadily increasing—54.3% in FY24, 57.25% in FY25, and

60.95% in FY26. "At this rate, two of every three three-wheelers sold in FY27 will be electric, and by 2030, electrification in three-wheelers is set to cross 75%," they said.

Som Kapoor, EY India Automotive, Future of Mobility leader (Consulting), and partner, said that the three-wheeler segment seems to have reached a point of no return for fossil fuels. "The segments that will grow the most are those with the highest 'asset sweat'—where vehicles are worked the hardest to generate maximum revenue. Growth also follows 'circularity of motion,' or predictable, repetitive routes that make electric charging simple and efficient." He added that the economic logic for the driver/operator, centred on the lowest possible cost per kilometre, has decoupled the three-wheeler segment from

the volatility of oil prices.

The growth in electrification has come at the cost of CNG/LPG, whose share has dropped from 30.67% in FY25 to 26.49% in FY26, even as the share of diesel three-wheelers marginally increased from 11.35% to 12.18%—unlike cars, petrol/ethanol is a niche segment in three-wheelers, with a share of just 0.38% in FY26.

Uday Narang, the founder of Omega Seiki Mobility, an EV-only player, said the faster electrification of three-wheelers is driven by strong unit economics and real-world usability.

Continued on Page 2

Publication : Financial Express	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 1, 2

A revolution on three wheels

"BE IT CARGO or passenger applications, electric three-wheelers operate on fixed routes with predictable daily distances, so range is rarely a concern," he said. "Their significantly lower running and maintenance costs translate into higher daily savings and faster payback for operators." Narang added that ease of doing business and a functional charging ecosystem have supported adoption. "Most three-wheelers can be charged at home or at small commercial hubs, which eliminates the dependency on large public charging infrastructure," he said. But he added that the only meaningful constraint at this point is financing.

"Access to credit is evolving, largely because the secondary market is not yet fully developed. Otherwise, demand is robust," he said.

"At Omega Seiki, we are seeing 3X order book growth compared to last year across segments." Speaking on the economic benefits of electric three-wheelers at this year's Symposium on International Automotive Technology (SIAT) 2026, Abraham Joseph, MD of Bajaj Auto Technology, said that electric three-wheelers offer more than 15% improvement in total cost of ownership (TCO) over diesel, along with lower operating and maintenance expenses. "Their suitability for last-mile transport boosts earnings for operators," he said. What has also supported are city-wide policies. Municipal bodies and state governments in Delhi, Bengaluru, and Mumbai are increasingly prioritising new permits for electric three-wheelers over CNG, analysts said. The

market leaders that historically dominated the CNG space—specifically Bajaj Auto and TVS Motor—shifted their focus heavily towards electric three-wheelers in FY26.

FADA data shows that while Bajaj Auto's electric three-wheeler sales grew 76.2% (from 50,851 units in FY25 to 89,604 units in FY26), those of TVS grew a whopping 1,541% (from 1,696 units in FY25 to 27,831 units in FY26). Market leader Mahindra's sales also increased 46.4% (from 69,579 units in FY25 to 101,873 units in FY26). "These giants pushed EVs through their massive dealer networks, making electric three-wheelers the default choice for CNG buyers—who had been struggling with long wait times at refuelling stations," an analyst said.

Headline: U.S. Extends Waiver on Russian Oil Purchase Sanctions

अमेरिका ने रूस से तेल खरीद पर प्रतिबंधों में छूट की अवधि बढ़ाई

अब छूट की सीमा 17 अप्रैल की जगह 16 मई हो गई

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो
नई दिल्ली, 18 अप्रैल।

अमेरिका ने रूस से पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की खरीद की अनुमति देने वाली छूट की अवधि को एक महीने के लिए बढ़ा दिया है जबकि कुछ दिन पहले ही उसने यह विशेष राहत देने संबंधी कदम को आगे नहीं बढ़ाने की बात कही थी।

अमेरिका के वित्त मंत्रालय ने शुक्रवार देर रात एक आदेश जारी कर रूसी तेल पर लगे प्रतिबंधों से छूट की अवधि को 17 अप्रैल या उससे पहले समुद्र में मौजूद तेल के लिए 16 मई तक बढ़ा दिया है। इससे पहले अमेरिका ने भारत को पांच मार्च से एक महीने के लिए रूसी तेल खरीदने पर प्रतिबंधों से छूट दी थी। इसके कुछ दिन बाद कई अन्य देशों को भी इसी तरह की छूट दी गई थी जो 11 अप्रैल को समाप्त हो गई।

अमेरिका द्वारा शुक्रवार को जारी किया गया सामान्य लाइसेंस ईरान, उत्तर कोरिया, क्यूबा या यूक्रेन के कुछ हिस्सों में स्थित किसी व्यक्ति, संस्था या संयुक्त उद्यम से जुड़े किसी भी लेनदेन को अधिकृत नहीं करता है। अमेरिका के वित्त मंत्री स्कॉट बेसेंट ने इससे पहले बुधवार को कहा था कि अमेरिका रूसी तेल और ईरानी तेल से जुड़ी छूट की अवधि को आगे नहीं बढ़ाएगा। अमेरिका एवं इजराइल द्वारा ईरान के खिलाफ युद्ध की शुरुआत करने के बाद से तेल कीमतें बढ़ने के मद्देनजर प्रतिबंधों में पहले दी गई छूट के कारण पेट्रोल पर पहले से लदा रूस का 14 करोड़ बैरल तेल वैश्विक बाजारों तक पहुंचा। अमेरिकी वित्त मंत्रालय के आदेश में कहा गया, 17 अप्रैल, 2026 से प्रभावी सामान्य लाइसेंस संख्या



अमेरिका एवं इजराइल द्वारा ईरान के खिलाफ युद्ध की शुरुआत करने के बाद से तेल कीमतें बढ़ने के मद्देनजर प्रतिबंधों में पहले दी गई छूट के कारण पेट्रोल पर पहले से लदा रूस का 14 करोड़ बैरल तेल वैश्विक बाजारों तक पहुंचा।

भारत को ऊर्जा उत्पादों की आपूर्ति बढ़ाएंगे : राजदूत डेनिस

भारत में रूस के राजदूत डेनिस अलीपोव ने आश्वासन दिया है कि उनका देश भारत को ऊर्जा उत्पादों की आपूर्ति बढ़ाएगा। इसमें कच्चा तेल, एलपीजी और एलएनजी शामिल है। उन्होंने कहा कि रूस ने भारत के लिए तेल की सप्लाई बढ़ा दी है और वह भारत को उसकी जरूरत का पूरा तेल देने को तैयार है। रूसी राजदूत ने कहा कि भारत एक भरोसेमंद पार्टनर है। यूरोपियन थिंक टैंक सेंटर फार रिसर्च आन एनर्जी एंड क्लीन एअर के मुताबिक, मार्च में भारत का रूस से कच्चे तेल का आयात तीन गुना बढ़कर 5.8 अरब डालर पहुंच गया। फरवरी में भारत ने रूस से 1.54 अरब डालर का कच्चा तेल आयात किया था। भारत ने मार्च में रूस से 371 मिलियन डालर का कोयला और 196 मिलियन डालर का आयात किया था।

134ए, जो 19 मार्च, 2026 को जारी किया गया था और जिसकी अवधि 11 अप्रैल, 2026 को समाप्त हो गई थी, की जगह अब सामान्य लाइसेंस संख्या 134बी को लागू किया जाएगा। इस बीच, भारत में रूस के राजदूत डेनिस अलीपोव ने आश्वासन दिया है कि उनका देश भारत को ऊर्जा उत्पादों की आपूर्ति बढ़ाएगा। इसमें कच्चा तेल, एलपीजी और एलएनजी शामिल है। उन्होंने कहा कि रूस ने भारत के लिए तेल की सप्लाई बढ़ा दी है और वह भारत को उसकी जरूरत का पूरा तेल देने को तैयार

है। रूसी राजदूत ने कहा कि भारत एक भरोसेमंद पार्टनर है।

यूरोपियन थिंक टैंक सेंटर फार रिसर्च आन एनर्जी एंड क्लीन एअर के मुताबिक, मार्च में भारत का रूस से कच्चे तेल का आयात तीन गुना बढ़कर 5.8 अरब डालर पहुंच गया। फरवरी में भारत ने रूस से 1.54 अरब डालर का कच्चा तेल आयात किया था। भारत ने मार्च में रूस से 371 मिलियन डालर का कोयला और 196 मिलियन डालर का आयात किया था।

India must remain ready for West Asia fallout, says Rajnath Singh

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday emphasised the need for India to remain prepared for any sudden escalation in the West Asia conflict, describing the current situation in the region as "volatile". Singh made the comments while chairing a high-level meeting of the Informal Group of Ministers (IGoM) set up to monitor the situation in West Asia.

The meeting was attended by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister JP Nadda, Consumer Affairs Minister Prahlad Joshi, Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Rammo-han Naidu, Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, and Power Minister Manohar Lal.

The defence ministry said Rajnath Singh described the "ground situation of the conflict as uncertain and volatile, and emphasised the need for India to remain prepared not only for de-escalation but also for any renewed escalation."

In a social media post, Singh said the government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi continues to take "swift and effective action" to mitigate any potential risks or problems arising due to the conflict. The defence minister made a special mention of the Union Cabinet's approval of a proposal for the creation of 'Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool' with a sovereign guarantee of Rs 12,980 crore to facilitate continuous maritime insurance coverages.

The domestic insurance pool ensures that Indian trade continues to have access to affordable insurance for vessels carrying cargo from any international origin to Indian ports and vice versa, even when transiting volatile maritime corridors, according to the ministry.

"This important decision will ensure affordable and continuous insurance coverage for India's maritime trade, strengthening the security and stability of India's import-export operations. This is a major step towards a stronger, safer and more resilient trade

ecosystem for India," Singh said. The IGoM was informed that despite a significant global supply shock, India has maintained an adequate fuel stock position, with active efforts to ensure an uninterrupted supply, the defence ministry said in a statement.

"Currently, India has inventories of crude oil, petrol, diesel, and ATF (Aviation Turbine Fuel) sufficient for over 60 days of consumption. While LNG stocks sufficient for approximately 50 days and LPG stocks sufficient for approximately 40 days respectively are maintained supported by domestic production," it said.

"To mitigate risks arising from heavy dependence on the Strait of Hormuz, the government has actively diversified import sources, securing crude, LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas), and LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) supplies from regions including the US, Australia, and Latin America. Import requirements for April and May 2026 are largely secured, ensuring continuity of supply," it added.

Publication : Navbharat Times (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 17

Headline: Over 37,500 people have cancelled their LPG connections

37,500 से ज्यादा लोगों ने छोड़े LPG कनेक्शन

■ **NBT रिपोर्ट, नई दिल्ली:** सरकार ने शनिवार को कहा, युद्ध के चलते LPG सप्लाई प्रभावित है, लेकिन देश में घरेलू LPG सप्लाई सामान्य है। पेट्रोल-डीजल का भी पर्याप्त भंडार है। मार्च से 4.76 लाख से ज्यादा PNG कनेक्शंस को गैस सप्लाई चालू हुई है। 5.33 लाख से ज्यादा ग्राहकों ने नए कनेक्शन के लिए आवेदन दिए हैं। 37500 PNG उपभोक्ताओं ने LPG कनेक्शन सरेंडर किए हैं। किसी भी LPG डिस्ट्रिब्यूटरशिप पर सिलिंडर खत्म नहीं हुए हैं।

US Extends Sanctions Waiver on Purchases of Oil from Russia

Won't renew waiver, Treasury secy had said Wednesday

US President Donald Trump's administration on Friday issued a month-long sanctions waiver allowing the sale of Russian oil and petroleum products that are at sea, extending an earlier move to soften surging energy prices.

The license, issued by the treasury department, comes two days after treasury secretary Scott Bessent said that Washington would not renew the waiver.

The latest move allows for the purchase of oil and petroleum products that have been loaded onto any vessel as of Friday, through 0401 GMT on May 16.

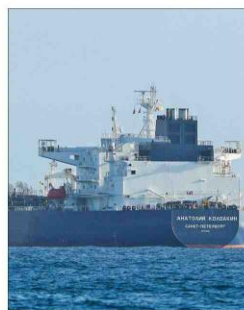
It prolongs an earlier easing of sanctions that expired on April 11.

On Wednesday, however, Bessent had told reporters that the United States would not make such an extension for Russian oil—or Iranian oil. Both measures aimed to ease global supply shocks from the US-Israeli war against Iran.

Tehran retaliated by effectively closing off the Strait of Hormuz, a key waterway for energy shipments. Oil prices have since surged, squeezing countries and especially those dependent on energy exports from the region.

IMPACT ON UKRAINE WAR

US gasoline prices have jumped as well, putting pressure on households ahead of key midterm elections this year. However, such waivers could complicate efforts to deprive Russia of oil revenue needed for its war on Ukraine.



A Russian-flagged oil tanker carrying several thousand barrels of crude to Cuba in March Reuters

Senate Democrats Jeanne Shaheen, Chuck Schumer and Elizabeth Warren slammed the decision as "shameful" in a joint statement. "This decision is shameful and a 180-degree reversal from secretary Bessent, just two days after he pledged not to extend sanctions relief for Russia," they said.

"Make no mistake, Putin has been one of the biggest beneficiaries of President Trump's war against Iran, as Russia saw oil revenues nearly double in March" the senators added.

This week, after a meeting of Group of Seven finance leaders in Washington, French finance minister Roland Lescure stressed that "Russia mustn't be getting benefits from what's happening in Iran." Ukraine should also not be "collateral damage," he added.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine, launched in 2022, has become the deadliest conflict in Europe since World War II. **AFP**

Publication : The Free Press Journal	Editions : Mumbai
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 1, 7

US renews permission to buy oil from Russia

Washington: The Trump administration on Friday renewed a waiver allowing countries to buy sanctioned Russian oil at sea for about a month, even as lawmakers accused the government of going easy on Moscow as its war on Ukraine continues.

The Treasury Department's waiver allows countries to purchase Russian oil

and petroleum products loaded on vessels as of Friday through May 16. It replaces a 30-day waiver that expired on April 11 and excludes transactions involving Iran, Cuba and North Korea. The move is part of the administration's effort to control global energy prices that have risen during the US-Israeli war with Iran. **Nation**

Publication : The Free Press Journal	Editions : Mumbai
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 1, 7

US renews...

It came after countries in Asia, affected by the global energy shock, pressed Washington to allow alternative supplies to reach markets, Reuters reports.

"As negotiations with Iran accelerate, Treasury wants to ensure oil is available to those who need it," a Treasury Department spokesperson said.

Two days earlier, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said Washington would not renew the waiver for Russian oil and another for Iranian oil, which is set to expire on Sunday. Global oil prices fell 9% on Friday to about \$90 a barrel after Iran temporarily reopened the Strait of Hormuz, an oil chokepoint in the Gulf. But the war has already created the worst global energy supply disruption in history, the International Energy Agency said.

The war, which entered its eighth week on Saturday, has damaged more than 80 oil and gas facilities in the Middle East, and Tehran has warned it could close the strait again if the recent US Navy blockade of Iranian ports continues.

High oil prices are a threat to President Donald Trump's fellow Republicans ahead of November's midterm elections.

Trump has also faced pressure from partner countries on oil prices. A US source said partner countries on the sidelines of the Group of 20, World Bank and International Monetary Fund meetings in Washington this week had requested the US extend the waiver. He also spoke about oil this week in a call with Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India, a major purchaser of Russian oil. The waiver on Iranian oil, which the Treasury Department issued on March 20, allowed about 140 million barrels of oil to reach global markets and helped ease pressure on energy supply, Bessent said last month.

US lawmakers from both parties criticised the administration over the sanctions waivers, saying they could help the economies of Iran, which is at war with the US, and Russia, which is at war with Ukraine.

The waivers could impede the West's efforts to deprive Russia of revenue for its war in Ukraine and put Washington at odds with its allies. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said it is not the time to relax sanctions against Russia.

Russian President Vladimir Putin's special envoy Kirill Dmitriev said an extension of the US waiver will affect another 100 million barrels of Russian oil, bringing the total volume affected by both waivers to 200 million barrels. Dmitriev, who travelled to the US on April 9 for meetings with members of the Trump administration ahead of the previous waiver expiry, said on his Telegram channel that

the extension faced "active political opposition".

Brett Erickson, a sanctions expert at consulting firm Obsidian Risk Advisors, said Friday's renewal is unlikely to be the last waiver Washington will issue.

Rebound likely

CRUDE CHECK. However, it can be temporary

Akhil Nallamuthu
bl. research bureau

Crude oil prices fell sharply last week, particularly on Friday on the news that the Strait of Hormuz will be opened. However, uncertainties still prevail.

Nevertheless, Brent crude oil futures on the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) (\$90.40/barrel) and crude oil futures in the domestic market (₹7,666/barrel) were down 5.1 per cent and 9.8 per cent respectively. Here is our analysis:

BRENT FUTURES (\$90.40)

Brent crude oil futures, which was largely oscillating in the range of \$94-100 in the recent sessions, breached the support at \$94 on Friday. It marked a low of \$86.09 before ending the session at \$90.40.

Despite the sell-off, the contract managed to stay above the 50-day moving average, now at \$89.20. So, from the current level, there might be a minor rally, possibly to the \$96-100 range.

In case the downtrend resumes, Brent futures can drop to \$85 or even to \$80.

But if \$100 is breached, the



price can rise to \$105 or \$110.

MCX-CRUDE OIL (₹7,666)

Crude oil futures (May) was range-bound between ₹8,250 and ₹8,750. But on Friday, the contract broke below the ₹8,250-₹8,000 support band.

From the current level, there is a support ahead at ₹7,500, where the 50-day moving average coincides. On the back of this, there could be a rally to ₹8,250-8,750 range.

If the contract starts falling again, crude oil futures can drop to ₹6,500 or to ₹6,000. But in case the price surpasses the hurdle at ₹8,750, the upswing can extend to ₹9,500 or ₹10,000.

Trade strategy: Traders can buy crude oil futures now at ₹7,666. Target and stop-loss can be ₹9,500 and ₹7,150 respectively. But, note that volatility can remain high, and so, risk-averse traders can stay out.

Publication : The Hindu Business Line	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 19 April 2026	Page : 12

US extends sanctions waiver allowing purchase of Russian oil until May 16

Press Trust of India
Washington

The US has extended by a month a waiver from sanctions to allow countries to buy petroleum products from Russia, days after it ruled out renewal of the special measure.

The US Department of Treasury issued an order late Friday extending the waiver from sanctions on Russian oil that is already at sea on or before April 17 through May 16.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Earlier, the US had granted an exemption from sanctions to India for buying Russian oil for a month beginning March 5. A few days later, a



similar waiver was extended to several other countries, which ended on April 11.

The general licence issued by the US on Friday does not authorise any transaction involving a person, en-

tity or joint venture located in Iran, North Korea, Cuba, or parts of Ukraine.

On Wednesday, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said Washington would not be renewing the waiver for Russian oil and another for Iranian oil.

The previous waiver of sanctions had made available 140 million barrels of Russian oil already loaded on ships to global markets as prices soared against the backdrop of the West Asia war.

“Effective April 17, 2026, General Licence No. 134A, which was dated March 19, 2026 and expired on April 11, 2026, is replaced and superseded in its entirety by this General Licence No. 134B,” said the order issued by the Department of Treasury.

Publication : The Pioneer

Editions : New Delhi

Date : 19 April 2026

Page : 8

Russian attacks on Ukraine kill one, wound dozens; Ukraine targets Russian industrial areas

ASSOCIATED PRESS
Kyiv

A civilian was killed and dozens more wounded in overnight Russian attacks across Ukraine, local officials said on Saturday.

One person was killed in a strike on Mykolaivka in Ukraine's eastern Donetsk region, local leader Vadym Filashkin said in a post on social media. Other officials reported at least 26 people had been hurt in attacks across northern and eastern Ukraine, including a strike on port infrastructure in the city of Odesa.

Elsewhere, a Ukrainian drone strike targeted industrial areas in Novokuibyshevsk and Syzran in Russia's Samara region, Governor Vyacheslav Fedorishchev said Saturday. He did not give further details, but the General Staff of Ukraine's Armed Forces said in



a statement that it had hit major oil refineries in both cities. It also said that its attacks had sparked fires at the Vystok oil terminal in Russia's north-western Leningrad region and an oil refinery in the southern Krasnodar region, with the blazes later confirmed by Russian officials.

Russia's Ministry of Defence said that its forces destroyed 258 Ukrainian drones overnight over 16 Russian regions, as well as over the annexed Ukrainian peninsula of Crimea and the Black and Azov seas.

Ukraine increasingly targeting Russian oil

Ukraine has repeatedly targeted Russian oil facilities in the past, but the strategy has gained more attention since the Trump administration gave Russian oil a temporary waiver from sanctions

to ease supply constraints.

The US Treasury Department extended its pause on sanctions on Russian oil shipments on Friday, despite complaints from Kyiv officials that Russia will use the additional revenue on new weapons to hit Ukraine harder.

The so-called general license means US sanctions will not apply for 30 days on deliveries of Russian oil that has been loaded on tankers as of Friday. It extended a similar 30-day license issued in March for Russian oil that had been loaded by March 11.

Ukraine seeks to strengthen air defences

Strengthening Ukraine's air defences has been a key priority for Kyiv since the start of Russia's invasion of Ukraine more than four years ago, resurfacing again on the global stage as US-led

peace talks have ground to a halt. In the worst aerial attack in weeks, Russia hammered civilian areas across Ukraine on Thursday, killing at least 16 people and wounding more than 100 others, Ukrainian authorities said.

Ukraine has developed a significant domestic arms industry, especially in the production of drones and missiles, but cannot yet match the sophistication of US Patriot air defence systems.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy travelled to Germany, Norway and Italy earlier this week to discuss the issue, while Andrii Sybiha said Saturday that he had discussed "steps to enhance protection" with the Deputy Secretary General of NATO, Radmila Shekerinska, at the Antalya Diplomatic Forum.

"Amid intensified Russian air terror, our priority number one is to strengthen our air defence," he said.

Online

Headline	SAM Advises ONGC On Strategic Infrastructure Sharing Arrangement With Reliance Industries		
Publication	BW Legal World	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	18 Apr 2026		

SAM Advises ONGC On Strategic Infrastructure Sharing Arrangement With Reliance Industries

<https://www.bwlegalworld.com/article/sam-advises-ongc-on-strategic-infrastructure-sharing-arrangement-with-reliance-industries-602919>

SAM's transaction team was led by V.R. Neelakantan, Partner, with support from Varnika Mohan, Principal Associate; Siddharth Jain, Senior Associate; and Tanya Rathod, Associate

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co. (SAM) acted as legal counsel to Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) on the structuring and documentation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the nature of a master infrastructure sharing agreement with Reliance Industries Limited (RIL). The arrangement focuses on the sharing and joint utilisation of deepwater upstream infrastructure and operational resources along India's East Coast, particularly in the Krishna Godavari (KG) Basin and Andaman offshore regions.

The framework represents a first-of-its-kind large-scale offshore infrastructure sharing collaboration between ONGC and RIL and is aimed at optimising infrastructure deployment and accelerating field development timelines.

SAM's transaction team was led by V.R. Neelakantan, Partner, with support from Varnika Mohan, Principal Associate; Siddharth Jain, Senior Associate; and Tanya Rathod, Associate.

Headline	ONGC Wins Global Safety Award (Platinum) for Outstanding Health, Safety, and Environmental Practices		
Publication	Indian Master Minds	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	18 Apr 2026		

ONGC Wins Global Safety Award (Platinum) for Outstanding Health, Safety, and Environmental Practices

<https://indianmasterminds.com/news/ongc-global-safety-award-platinum-hse-2026-198752/>

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has been awarded the Global Safety Award (Platinum Category) by the Energy and Environment Foundation, recognising the company's outstanding performance in health, safety, and environmental (HSE) practices. The award was presented by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences.

This marks ONGC's third Platinum recognition in the 202526 period, highlighting the company's sustained commitment to safety leadership across its operations.

ONGC's latest award reflects its continued focus on strengthening safety systems, proactively identifying and managing risks, and embedding a safety-first culture across all levels of operation. This achievement reinforces the corporation's position as a leader in operational safety in India's energy sector.

Read also: ONGC Receives Independent ESG Rating from ESGRisk.ai; Confirms Commitment to Sustainable Practices

ONGC emphasises that safety goes beyond compliance and protocols. Key initiatives driving its Corporate HSE strategy include:

The company states that safety is not just a protocol; it is a culture that is built, led, and lived every day, ensuring long-term protection for both employees and the environment.

The Global Safety Award is more than recognition; it represents ONGC's enduring dedication to:

This milestone demonstrates that safety is not a one-time achievement but an ongoing, collective effort of ONGC's workforce.

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), a leading Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) in India, is the country's top exploration and production company, committed to sustainable energy practices, innovation, and operational excellence. With a strong focus on health, safety, and environmental standards, ONGC continues to set benchmarks in India's energy sector.

Headline	Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. Faces Mixed Sentiment: -0.91% Weekly Decline Amid Divergent Option Activity		
Publication	Markets Mojo	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	18 Apr 2026		

Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. Faces Mixed Sentiment: -0.91% Weekly Decline Amid Divergent Option Activity

<https://www.marketsmojo.com/news/stocks-in-action/oil-natural-gas-corporation-ltd-faces-mixed-sentiment--091-weekly-decline-amid-divergent-option-activity-3952538>

Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) closed the week ending 17 April 2026 with a slight decline of 0.91%, settling at Rs.283.95 from Rs.286.55 the previous Friday.

This underperformance contrasted with the Sensex's robust 2.33% gain over the same period, reflecting a week of mixed signals for the oil major amid significant derivatives market activity and sector headwinds.

Key Events This Week

13 Apr: ONGC recorded high-value trading with 2,286.88 crores turnover despite sector weakness

13 Apr: Heavy call option activity at 290 strike price ahead of April expiry

13 Apr: Significant put option volumes at 280 and 250 strikes signalling bearish sentiment

17 Apr: Week closes at Rs.283.95, down 0.91% for the week versus Sensex +2.33%

13 April: High-Value Trading Amid Sector Weakness

ONGC emerged as one of the most actively traded stocks by value on 13 April 2026, with a substantial turnover of approximately 2,286.88 crores on a volume of 79.93 lakh shares. Despite this liquidity, the stock price declined modestly by 1.55% intraday, closing at Rs.282.00 as of 09:44 IST, reflecting a short-term correction within a broader sectoral downturn.

The Oil Exploration and Refinery sector fell by 2.56% that day, while the Sensex declined 0.76%, indicating ONGC's relative resilience. The stock traded near its 52-week high of Rs.293, just 3.94% below the peak, signalling underlying strength despite the sector's weakness.

Technically, ONGC remained above its 20-day, 50-day, 100-day, and 200-day moving averages, confirming a sustained medium- to long-term uptrend. However, it slipped below the 5-day moving average, consistent with the short-term price dip. The company's high dividend yield of 4.81% and large market capitalisation of 3,54,889.68 crores continue to support investor interest.

13 April: Bullish Call Option Activity Ahead of April Expiry

On the derivatives front, ONGC saw heavy call option activity concentrated at the 290 strike price expiring on 28 April 2026. With 4,250 contracts traded and an open interest of 4,989 contracts, this surge indicates bullish sentiment among traders anticipating a near-term upside breakout.

This call option volume is notable given the underlying stock price of Rs.281.85 at the time, suggesting expectations of a rally beyond recent resistance levels. The turnover of approximately 4.99 crores in call options underscores significant market optimism despite the underlying stock's minor price setback.

Such positioning often reflects anticipation of positive catalysts or sectoral tailwinds, supported by ONGC's upgraded Mojo Grade to Buy and a Mojo Score of 75.0 as of 19 March 2026. The stock's ability to outperform its sector peers during this period further bolsters this outlook.

Rising fast and still accelerating! This Small Cap from FMCG sector is riding pure momentum right now. Jump in before the rally reaches its peak!

Contrasting the bullish call option interest, ONGC also experienced significant put option volumes at the 280 and 250 strike prices ahead of the 28 April expiry. The 280 strike put saw 1,478 contracts traded with an open interest of 1,550 contracts, while the 250 strike put recorded 1,851 contracts traded and an open interest of 859 contracts.

This surge in put options suggests a growing bearish positioning or hedging activity among investors, reflecting concerns over potential near-term downside risks. The near-the-money 280 strike put activity indicates protective measures against moderate declines, while the 250 strike put interest points to speculation on a sharper correction.

Despite the stock's proximity to its 52-week high and strong fundamentals, the derivatives market reveals a nuanced sentiment where investors balance optimism with caution amid sector volatility and declining delivery volumes, which fell by over 50% on 10 April compared to the five-day average.

15 April: Marginal Price Stability Amid Market Rally

After the weekend, ONGC's stock price remained largely unchanged on 15 April, closing at Rs.287.55, a marginal increase of 0.02%. This stability came despite a strong Sensex rally of 1.89%, reflecting a cautious stance among investors amid mixed signals from the derivatives market.

Volume declined to 5.19 lakh shares, indicating reduced trading activity. The stock's performance on this day suggests consolidation as market participants awaited further clarity on sector trends and expiry dynamics.

16 April: Sharp Decline on Lower Volumes

On 16 April, ONGC's share price fell sharply by 1.67% to Rs.282.75 on relatively lower volume of 3.43 lakh shares. This decline contrasted with the Sensex's modest gain of 0.26%, signalling stock-specific pressure possibly linked to the ongoing bearish put option activity and short-term profit booking.

The stock's dip below the 5-day moving average persisted, reinforcing the short-term technical weakness despite the longer-term uptrend remaining intact.

17 April: Modest Recovery to Close the Week

In the final trading session of the week, ONGC rebounded modestly by 0.42% to close at Rs.283.95 on increased volume of 7.93 lakh shares. This recovery, however, was insufficient to offset the week's losses, as the stock ended 0.91% lower than the previous Friday's close.

The Sensex continued its upward trajectory, gaining 0.94% on the day and 2.33% for the week, highlighting ONGC's relative underperformance. The stock's mixed weekly performance reflects the interplay of bullish fundamentals and cautious market positioning amid sectoral challenges.

Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. caught your attention? Explore our comprehensive research report with in-depth analysis of this large-cap stock fundamentals, valuations, financials, and technical outlook!

ONGC's week was characterised by a complex interplay of strong institutional interest, mixed derivatives market signals, and sectoral headwinds. The stock's high-value trading on 13 April amid a weak oil sector demonstrated sustained investor focus and liquidity, supported by its large-cap status and attractive dividend yield of 4.81%.

However, the simultaneous heavy call and put option activity ahead of the 28 April expiry highlighted divergent market expectations. While call option volumes at the 290 strike price indicated bullish anticipation of a breakout, significant put option interest at 280 and 250 strikes suggested hedging and bearish sentiment, reflecting caution amid recent price volatility.

Technically, ONGC maintained a medium- to long-term uptrend, trading above key moving averages, but short-term weakness was evident as the stock slipped below its 5-day moving average and experienced a two-day consecutive decline. The week's closing price of Rs.283.95 represented a 0.91% loss, underperforming the Sensex's 2.33% gain.

Investor participation appeared to wane, with delivery volumes dropping sharply, signalling a possible shift towards short-term trading or profit booking. The upcoming expiry on 28 April is likely to be a critical period for price volatility and directional moves, as option traders adjust positions.

Conclusion

Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. concluded the week on a cautious note, balancing strong fundamental credentials against mixed technical and derivatives market signals. The stock's large-cap stature, high dividend yield, and recent

Mojo Grade upgrade to Buy underpin a positive medium-term outlook. However, the pronounced put option activity and short-term price softness suggest investors are hedging against potential near-term risks amid sectoral uncertainties.

As the April expiry approaches, market participants should closely monitor price action and option market dynamics to gauge the evolving sentiment. ONGC's performance this week underscores the importance of a balanced approach that considers both fundamental strengths and technical caution in navigating the energy sector landscape.

Headline	ONGC Wins Global Safety Award (Platinum) for Corporate HSE Excellence		
Publication	PSU Connect	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	18 Apr 2026		

ONGC Wins Global Safety Award (Platinum) for Corporate HSE Excellence

<https://www.psuconnect.in/award/ongc-wins-global-safety-award-platinum-for-corporate-hse-excellence>

ONGC's Corporate HSE team has received the Global Safety Award (Platinum Category) from the Energy and Environment Foundation, marking its third platinum recognition in 202526.

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has been honoured with the Global Safety Award (Platinum Category) by the Energy and Environment Foundation, recognising the company's excellence in health, safety and environmental (HSE) practices.

The award was presented by Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences.

Third Platinum Recognition in 202526

This achievement marks ONGC's third Platinum recognition in the 202526 period , highlighting the company's sustained commitment to safety leadership across operations.

The recognition reflects ONGC's continuous focus on:

Strengthening safety systems

Proactively identifying and managing risks

Embedding a safety-first culture across operations

Building a Culture of Safety

ONGC emphasised that safety goes beyond compliance and protocols. The company's Corporate HSE initiatives are driven by a long-term approach focused on:

Leadership-led safety culture

Workforce participation and awareness

Continuous improvement in operational safety standards

The award reinforces ONGC's belief that safety is not a one-time achievement but an ongoing commitment powered by the collective efforts of its workforce.

Headline	Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co. Advises ONGC on Strategic Infrastructure Sharing Arrangement with Reliance Industries		
Publication	SCC Online	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	18 Apr 2026		

Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co. Advises ONGC on Strategic Infrastructure Sharing Arrangement with Reliance Industries

<https://www.scconline.com/blog/post/2026/04/18/ongc-reliance-infrastructure-sharing-sam-2026/>

New Delhi | April 17, 2026: Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co. (SAM) acted as legal counsel to Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) on the

structuring and documentation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in the nature of a master infrastructure sharing agreement with Reliance Industries Limited (RIL). The arrangement focuses on the sharing and joint utilisation of deepwater upstream infrastructure and operational resources along India's East Coast, particularly in the Krishna Godavari (KG) Basin and Andaman offshore regions.

The framework represents a first-of-its-kind large-scale offshore infrastructure sharing collaboration between ONGC and RIL and is aimed at optimising infrastructure deployment and accelerating field development timelines.

SAM's transaction team was led by V.R. Neelakantan, Partner, with support from Varnika Mohan, Principal Associate; Siddharth Jain, Senior Associate; and Tanya Rathod, Associate.

Headline	NTPC Green Energy Limited Commissions 150 MW Solar Project in Rajasthan, Boosts Total Capacity to 10,276 MW – Indian PSU		
Publication	infralog	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	18 Apr 2026		

NTPC Green Energy Limited Commissions 150 MW Solar Project in Rajasthan, Boosts Total Capacity to 10,276 MW – Indian PSU

<https://www.infralog.in/ntpc-green-energy-limited-commissions-150-mw-solar-project-in-rajasthan-boosts-total-capacity-to-10276-mw-indian-psu/>

NTPC Green Energy Limited has announced the commercial operation of 150 MW capacity from its 300 MW solar project in Rajasthan, marking another key milestone in its renewable energy expansion.

The project has been developed by Project Sixteen Renewable Power Private Limited , a step-down subsidiary of the joint venture ONGC NTPC Green Private Limited (ONGPL).

With this commissioning effective April 18, 2026 , the total operational capacity of the NTPC Green Energy Limited Group has increased from 10,126.40 MW to 10,276.40 MW

This addition forms part of the larger 300 MW solar installation in Rajasthan and reflects the company's continued push towards scaling up clean energy assets.

The development reinforces NTPC Green Energy Limited's strategic focus on expanding its renewable energy footprint and contributing to India's energy transition goals. The company continues to strengthen its position as a key player in the country's green energy ecosystem through steady capacity additions.

Headline	From uncertainty to discovery: Union Minister Hardeep Singh highlights India's 'data-first' strategy to unlock offshore energy wealth		
Publication	ANI News	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	18 Apr 2026		

From uncertainty to discovery: Union Minister Hardeep Singh highlights India's 'data-first' strategy to unlock offshore energy wealth

<https://www.aninews.in/news/business/from-uncertainty-to-discovery-union-minister-hardeep-singh-highlights-indias-data-first-strategy-to-unlock-offshore-energy-wealth20260418173626>

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Saturday highlighted India's 'data-first' strategy to unlock offshore energy wealth.

In his posts on X, the Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, highlighted that India is moving beyond blind exploration and is embracing a bold multi-client model that allows more minds to interpret, innovate, and discover, thereby decisively changing how E&P has been considered a sector of uncertainty. He further added that with SamudraManthan, India's vast offshore potential is being unlocked with openness, collaboration, and cutting-edge science to fulfil our quest towards energy Aatmanirbharta. "From blind exploration to data-driven discovery, India is ready. At today's Data-Led Exploration Conference, we reaffirmed a simple truth: exploration succeeds when knowledge is shared, not siloed. By welcoming a robust multi-client data ecosystem that allows more minds to interpret, innovate, and discover, India is decisively changing how E&P has been considered a sector of uncertainty. The more eyes on the data, the greater the possibilities beneath our seas. With #SamudraManthan, we are unlocking India's vast offshore potential with openness, collaboration, and cutting-edge science under the decisive and visionary leadership of PM Sh @narendramodi Ji," he posted on X.

Notably, a conference on "Data Driven Exploration" was convened by the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) in the context of India's expanding exploration agenda under the Samudra Manthan - National Offshore Mission, to engage industry on accelerating India's exploration outcomes through a stronger data ecosystem on Saturday. As per the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas press release, the conference was chaired by the Secretary, M/o Petroleum & Natural Gas, and witnessed participation by over 80 participants including M/o PNG, DGH, national oil companies, global Exploration & Production(E&P) players (BP, ExxonMobil, Shell, etc.), private operators (Reliance Industries, Cairn India, Invenire Energy, Adani Welspun Exploration) , and leading seismic service providers and technology players (TGS, Viridien, Shearwater GeoServices, SLB, Wave Geo Services). With a renewed focus on offshore and frontier basin development, the conference aimed to engage industry stakeholders on the role of seismic data in enabling exploration outcomes. The release highlighted that participants stressed the importance of availability, quality and accessibility of seismic data in determining exploration success. Gaps in data coverage, particularly in deepwater and frontier basins, were identified as key constraints affecting investment and exploration activity. Stakeholders also emphasised the need for accelerated seismic data acquisition aligned with upcoming licensing rounds and discussed the role of multi-client seismic models in improving cost efficiency and expanding participation. The government's role in enabling the data ecosystem through policy support, investment and improved data access frameworks was also highlighted, along with the need for robust procurement mechanisms. The release noted that proposals include finalising a prioritised data acquisition roadmap, reprocessing existing datasets and developing suitable commercial frameworks to enhance exploration activity.

Headline	From uncertainty to discovery: Union Minister Hardeep Singh highlights India's 'data-first' strategy to unlock offshore energy wealth		
Publication	Lokmat Times	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	18 Apr 2026		

From uncertainty to discovery: Union Minister Hardeep Singh highlights India's 'data-first' strategy to unlock offshore energy wealth

<https://www.lokmatimes.com/business/from-uncertainty-to-discovery-union-minister-hardeep-singh-highlights-indias-data-first-strategy-to-unlock-offshore-energy-wealth/>

New Delhi [India, April 18 : Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Saturday highlighted India's 'data-first' strategy to unlock offshore energy wealth.

In his posts on X, the Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, highlighted that India is moving beyond blind exploration and is embracing a bold multi-client model that allows more minds to interpret, innovate, and discover, thereby decisively changing how E&P has been considered a sector of uncertainty.

He further added that with SamudraManthan, India's vast offshore potential is being unlocked with openness, collaboration, and cutting-edge science to fulfil our quest towards energy Aatmanirbharta.

"From blind exploration to data-driven discovery, India is ready. At today's Data-Led Exploration Conference, we reaffirmed a simple truth: exploration succeeds when knowledge is shared, not siloed. By welcoming a robust multi-client data ecosystem that allows more minds to interpret, innovate, and discover, India is decisively changing how E&P has been considered a sector of uncertainty. The more eyes on the data, the greater the possibilities beneath our seas. With #SamudraManthan, we are unlocking India's vast offshore potential with openness, collaboration, and cutting-edge science under the decisive and visionary leadership of PM Sh @narendramodi

Ji," he posted on X.

Notably, a conference on "Data Driven Exploration" was convened by the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) in the context of India's expanding exploration agenda under the Samudra Manthan - National Offshore Mission, to engage industry on accelerating India's exploration outcomes through a stronger data ecosystem on Saturday.

As per the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas press release, the conference was chaired by the Secretary, M/o Petroleum & Natural Gas, and witnessed participation by over 80 participants including M/o PNG, DGH, national oil companies, global Exploration & Production(E&P) players (BP, ExxonMobil, Shell, etc.), private operators (Reliance Industries, Cairn India, Invenire Energy, Adani Welspun Exploration) , and leading seismic service providers and technology players (TGS, Viridien, Shearwater GeoServices, SLB, Wave Geo Services).

With a renewed focus on offshore and frontier basin development, the conference aimed to engage industry stakeholders on the role of seismic data in enabling exploration outcomes.

The release highlighted that participants stressed the importance of availability, quality and accessibility of seismic data in determining exploration success. Gaps in data coverage, particularly in deepwater and frontier basins, were identified as key constraints affecting investment and exploration activity.

Stakeholders also emphasised the need for accelerated seismic data acquisition aligned with upcoming licensing rounds and discussed the role of multi-client seismic models in improving cost efficiency and expanding participation.

The government's role in enabling the data ecosystem through policy support, investment and improved data access frameworks was also highlighted, along with the need for robust procurement mechanisms.

The release noted that proposals include finalising a prioritised data acquisition roadmap, reprocessing existing datasets and developing suitable commercial frameworks to enhance exploration activity.

Headline	Hardeep Puri: India unlocking its vast offshore potential		
Publication	The Statesman	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	18 Apr 2026		

Hardeep Puri: India unlocking its vast offshore potential

<https://www.thestatesman.com/india/hardeep-puri-india-unlocking-its-vast-offshore-potential-1503583263.html>

Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Saturday said India's vast offshore potential is being unlocked with openness, collaboration, and cutting-edge science to fulfill the country's quest towards energy Aatmanirbharta' under Samudra Manthan'-National offshore Mission.

In posts on social media platform X, he highlighted that India is moving beyond blind exploration and is embracing a bold multi-client model that allows more minds to interpret, innovate, and discover, thereby decisively changing how Exploration & Production has been considered a sector of uncertainty.

The Minister was speaking on the occasion of a conference on Data Driven Exploration convened by the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) in the context of India's expanding exploration agenda under Samudra Manthan' to engage industry on accelerating India's exploration outcomes through a stronger data ecosystem.

The conference was attended by senior officials and representatives of national oil companies. With a renewed focus on offshore and frontier basin development, the conference aimed to engage industry stakeholders on the role of seismic data in enabling exploration outcomes.

There was clear industry consensus at the conference that availability, quality, and accessibility of seismic data directly determine exploration outcomes.

Participants highlighted that gaps in data coverage, particularly in frontier and deepwater basins, continue to constrain basin prospectivity, investment inflow, and exploration intensity.

They were of the view that significant value can be unlocked through reprocessing and reinterpretation of legacy datasets, leveraging advancements in imaging technologies and AI-driven interpretation.

The participants emphasised the need for targeted and accelerated seismic acquisition, aligned with upcoming licensing rounds. Global experience indicates that early-stage data densification materially improves participation and investment outcomes.

Multi-client seismic models were identified as a potential mechanism to improve cost efficiency and broaden participation, particularly in frontier basins. The role of the government in enabling the data ecosystem was emphasised, including policy support, continued investment in data acquisition, and strengthening of data access frameworks (NDR). Policy clarity and predictability were highlighted as critical to unlocking industry participation.