



ONGC News as on 26 April 2026 (Print & Online)

Headline: Still, we are depending on oil imports

దిగుమతులపై ఆధారపడటం

తగ్గేదెప్పుడో?

● 11వ ఏడాది దేశంలో తగ్గిన ముడిచమురు ఉత్పత్తి

● గ్యాస్ కూడా అదే దారిలో

పశ్చిమాసియాలో యుద్ధం ప్రారంభానికి ముందు బ్యారెల్ 70 డాలర్లలోపు ఉన్న ముడిచమురు ధర, 100 డాలర్లను మించింది. దేశీయ చమురు అవసరాల్లో 89%, గ్యాస్ అవసరాల్లో 51% దిగుమతులే తీరుస్తుండగా, ఇప్పుడు ధర ఇంతగా పెరగడం మన ఆర్థిక వ్యవస్థకు భారంగా మారుతోంది. ఇందువల్ల డాలర్ బలోపేతం అవుతూ, రూపాయి బలహీన పడుతోంది. ఫలితంగా వస్తువుల ధరలు పెరగడమే కాక, వృద్ధిరేటు క్షీణిస్తుందనే ఆందోళన వ్యక్తమవుతోంది. ఈ పరిస్థితుల్లో దేశీయంగా ఉత్పత్తి అవుతున్న చమురు, గ్యాస్ పరిమాణాలు తగ్గడం మరింత కలవరపెడుతోంది. వరుసగా 11వ ఆర్థిక సంవత్సరమైన 2025-26 లోనూ చమురు ఉత్పత్తి క్షీణించింది. సహజ వాయువు ఉత్పత్తి వరుసగా రెండో ఏడాది తగ్గింది. పాత చమురు క్షేత్రాల్లో నిల్వలు తగ్గడం, కొత్త క్షేత్రాలను కనుగొనకపోవడం ఇందుకు ప్రధాన కారణాలు.

◆ పెట్రోలియం, సహజవాయువు మంత్రిత్వ శాఖ గణాంకాల ప్రకారం.. 2025-26లో ముడిచమురు ఉత్పత్తి 2.5% తగ్గి 28 మిలియన్ మెట్రిక్ టన్నులకు పరిమితమైంది. 2014-15 నుంచి ఇప్పటివరకు మొత్తం ఉత్పత్తిలో 22% క్షీణత నమోదైంది.

◆ దేశీయ గ్యాస్ ఉత్పత్తి 3.7% తగ్గి 34,776 మిలియన్ మెట్రిక్ స్టాండర్డ్ క్యూబిక్ మీటర్ల (ఎంఎంఎస్సీఎం)కు పరిమితమైంది. 2011-12లో ఉత్పత్తి 47,555 ఎంఎంఎస్సీఎం కావడం గమనార్హం. రిలయన్స్ ఇండస్ట్రీస్కు



చెందిన కేజీ-డిజి బ్లాక్, ఓఎన్జీసీ పాత క్షేత్రాల నుంచి ఆశించిన స్థాయిలో ఉత్పత్తి రాకపోవడం ఇందుకు నేపథ్యం.

ప్రభుత్వం చర్యలు చేపట్టినా..

చమురు క్షేత్రాల అన్వేషణకు ప్రభుత్వం పలు చర్యలు చేపట్టింది. నిబంధనలను సరళతరం చేయడం, సులభంగా పర్యావరణ అనుమతులు ఇవ్వడం, జాతీయ బొగోళిక డేటా రిపోజిటరీని ఏర్పాటు చేయడం వంటి సంస్కరణలు తెచ్చింది. అన్వేషణ సంస్థలకు భారీ వాటా దక్కితే నిబంధనావళి రూపొందించింది. అయినా చమురు క్షేత్రాల అన్వేషణకు అధునాతన టెక్నాలజీ, మూలధనం కలిగిన విదేశీ చమురు కంపెనీలు ముందుకు రావడం లేదు. గత పదేళ్లలో జరిగిన చాలా లైసెన్సింగ్ రౌండ్లలో దేశీయ ప్రభుత్వ రంగ సంస్థల అధిపత్యమే సాగడం గమనార్హం. ఈ నేపథ్యంలో రష్యా నుంచి కొంచెం రాయితీపై లభిస్తున్న చమురు కొనుగోళ్లను కొనసాగించడంతో పాటు పునరుత్పాదక ఇంధన వనరులపై ప్రభుత్వం దృష్టి సారిస్తోంది.

MRPL posts higher annual profit despite dip in Q4 net earnings

HANS NEWS SERVICE
MANGALURU

MANGALORE Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL) has reported a sharp rise in annual profit for FY26, even as its fourth-quarter net earnings declined year-on-year. The company, a subsidiary of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, said its board approved the financial results at a meeting held on April 24.

MRPL's profit after tax for the year surged to Rs 1,931 crore, compared to Rs 51 crore in FY25, driven by improved refining margins and operational performance.

Profit before tax rose to Rs 4,022 crore from Rs 113 crore. However, in the fourth quarter, net profit declined to Rs 119 crore from Rs 363 crore a year earlier, despite revenue increasing to Rs 28,493 crore.

The company's gross refining margin more than doubled to \$9.22 per barrel during FY26, reflecting improved efficiency and market conditions.

Operationally, MRPL processed 17 MMT of crude during the year. It also expanded its retail footprint, adding 85 outlets and making its Devangon-thi terminal fully operational to strengthen inland market access.



The company also received the FIPI Innovator of the Year 2025 award for refining innovation and indigenous technology development.

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IIT-M pilots geothermal power project

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras is piloting a project to generate electricity from abandoned oil and gas wells through geothermal energy.

The pilot project is coming up at an Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) site in Ankleshwar near Surat, Gujarat. Funded by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy to the tune of ₹15.5 crore, the project aims to produce up to 450 kW of continuous power over a period of two years. The initiative is led by Rajesh Nair, Faculty Coordinator, IIT Madras Green Hydrogen and Hydrocarbons Tech Consortium, Department of Ocean Engineering.

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IIT-M to pilot project for power from old oil wells

S V KRISHNA CHAITANYA @ Chennai

INDIAN Institute of Technology-Madras (IIT-M) is set to lead India's first geothermal project that would use abandoned oil and gas wells to generate power. Researchers said the technology could unlock several gigawatts of clean electricity if deployed at scale across the country's large stock of unproductive wells.

The ₹15.5 crore pilot project, funded by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, will be implemented at an asset of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation in Ankleshwar, about 50 km from Surat. It aims to generate up to 450 kilowatts of continuous power during a two-year demonstration phase by converting depleted hydrocarbon wells into geothermal energy assets. If successful, the project is expected to be scaled up in other suitable regions, including the Cauvery delta. **P7**

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‘Project converts abandoned wells into geothermal assets’

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THE initiative comes as India seeks to strengthen domestic energy sources and reduce exposure to global supply uncertainties, including disruptions along key shipping routes such as the Strait of Hormuz. Unlike solar and wind energy, geothermal power can provide round-the-clock baseload electricity, offering a reliable complement to intermittent renewable sources and enhancing grid stability.

The technology involves harnessing natural heat stored deep beneath the Earth’s surface. Existing oil and gas wells are repurposed to access underground hot rock formations. A working fluid is pumped down the well, absorbs heat, and returns to the surface, where it is used to drive turbines or power conversion systems. The fluid is then recirculated in a closed-loop system, enabling continuous low-emission operation. By utilising existing wells, casing infrastructure and geological data, the project avoids the high costs associated with fresh drilling. Professor Rajesh Nair of IIT Madras, who is leading the project, told *TNIE*, “This project demonstrates how legacy fossil fuel infrastructure can be repurposed for the clean energy era. By converting abandoned wells into geothermal assets, we are creating a pathway for reliable renewable power while reducing environmental risks associated with unproductive wells.”

Old oil wells to be clean energy sources

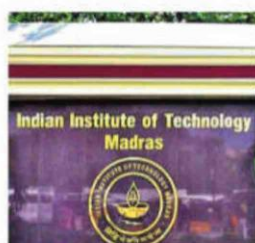
S V KRISHNA CHAITANYA @ Chennai

INDIAN Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-Madras) is set to lead India's first geothermal power project using abandoned oil and gas wells, with researchers stating the technology could unlock several gigawatts of clean electricity if deployed at scale across the country's large stock of unproductive wells.

The ₹15.5 crore pilot project, funded by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, will be implemented at an asset of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation in Ankleshwar, near Surat. It aims to generate up to 450 kilowatts of continuous power during a two-year demonstration phase by converting depleted hydrocarbon wells into geothermal energy assets.

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The initiative comes as India seeks to strengthen domestic energy sources and reduce exposure to global supply uncertainties, including disruptions



Can provide baseload power round-the-clock

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Professor Rajesh Nair of IIT Madras, who is leading the project, said it demonstrates how legacy fossil fuel infrastructure can be repurposed for the clean energy transition. "This project demonstrates how legacy fossil fuel infrastructure

can be repurposed for the clean energy era. By converting abandoned wells into geothermal assets, we are creating a path for reliable renewable power while reducing environmental risks associated with unproductive wells," he said.

He noted that India has around 13,000 abandoned or unproductive oil and gas wells that could potentially be assessed for geothermal conversion, adding that the technology could generate several gigawatts of clean energy. Tamil Nadu may also benefit in the future, particularly in the Cauvery delta region, subject to geological suitability. Santosh Kumar Sarangi, Chief Secretary at MNRE, said geothermal energy remains underutilised in India's renewable energy mix.

Pankaj Kumar, Director (Production) at ONGC, described the move as a "responsible and forward-looking step", adding that the pilot project at Ankleshwar could mark the beginning of a broader geothermal programme across the company's asset portfolio.

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Headline: First geothermal project inaugurated at ONGC's Ankleshwar asset

ઓએનજીસીના અંકલેશ્વર એસેટ ખાતે પ્રથમ જીઓથર્મલ પ્રોજેક્ટનું ઉદ્ઘાટન થયું

અંકલેશ્વર, સ્વચ્છ અને ટકાઉ ઊર્જા સંક્રમણ તરફ મહત્વપૂર્ણ પગલામાં, બિન ઉત્પાદક તેલ અને ગેસ ક્ષેત્રોને રિટ્રોફિટ કરીને વિકસાવવામાં આવેલ ભારતનો પ્રથમ જીઓથર્મલ પ્રોજેક્ટ, ઓઈલ એન્ડ નેચરલ ગેસ કોર્પોરેશનના અંકલેશ્વર એસેટ ખાતે ઉદ્ઘાટન કરવામાં આવ્યો. ઉદ્ઘાટન સમારોહમાં ઓએનજીસી અને શિક્ષણવિદોના અગ્રણી મહાનુભાવો અને પ્રતિનિધિ ઉપસ્થિત રહ્યા હતા. જે.એન. સુકનંદન, જનરલ મેનેજર, અંકલેશ્વર એસેટ, એ કાર્યક્રમની અધ્યક્ષતા કરી હતી અને નવીનતા-આગેવાની હેઠળની ટકાઉપણ પહેલના મહત્વ પર પ્રકાશ પાડ્યો હતો. તેમણે ભાર મૂક્યો હતો કે આ પ્રોજેક્ટ દેશના સ્વચ્છ ઊર્જા લક્ષ્યોને ટેકો આપવા માટે વારસાગત તેલ અને ગેસ સંપત્તિઓને ફરીથી ઉપયોગમાં લેવાની પ્રતિબદ્ધતાને પ્રતિબિંબિત કરે છે.

જનરલ મેનેજર અને હેડ- ન્યૂ એનર્જી, પ્રશાંતસિંહે ઓએનજીસીના વૈવિધ્યસભર ઊર્જા પોર્ટફોલિયોમાં ભૂઉર્ધ્મીય ઊર્જાની વ્યુહાત્મક સુસંગતતા પર ભાર મૂક્યો. તેમણે જણાવ્યું હતું કે આ પ્રોજેક્ટ ટેકનોલોજી પ્રદર્શનકાર તરીકે કામ કરે છે. પ્રો. રાજેશ આર. નાયર દ્વારા ટેકનિકલ અને શૈક્ષણિક દ્રષ્ટિકોણ પ્રદાન કરવામાં આવ્યો હતો.

આ પ્રોજેક્ટ ઓછા ઉપયોગમાં લેવાયેલા ક્ષેત્રોને ઉત્પાદક ભૂઉર્ધ્મીય ઊર્જા સ્ત્રોતોમાં રૂપાંતરિત કરીને ટકાઉ વીકાસના એક નવલકથા મોડેલનું પ્રદર્શન કરે છે, જે ભારતના ઊર્જા સુરક્ષા, ડીકાર્બોનાઈઝેશન અને ગોળાકાર અર્થતંત્રના વ્યાપક ઉદ્દેશ્યો સાથે સંરેખિત થાય છે.

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Headline: Over 13% Increase in Indian Oil's Petrol and Diesel Sales

इंडियन ऑयल की पेट्रोल-डीजल बिक्री में 13 फीसदी से अधिक की वृद्धि

नई दिल्ली (बि)। इंडियन ऑयल ने 1 अप्रैल से 21 अप्रैल 2026 के बीच पेट्रोल (एमएस) और डीजल (एचएसडी) की बिक्री में 13 फीसदी से अधिक की वृद्धि दर्ज की है। यह वृद्धि रिटेल आउटलेट्स के माध्यम से हुई है। इंडियन ऑयल ने बताया कि इस बढ़ी हुई मांग को उसके 42,000 से अधिक फ्यूल स्टेशनों के वितरण नेटवर्क द्वारा पूरा किया गया है। कंपनी की मजबूत लॉजिस्टिक्स और सप्लाय चेन क्षमताओं ने इसमें महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई। इन क्षमताओं के कारण देश की ऊर्जा आवश्यकताओं को बिना किसी रुकावट के लगातार पूरा किया जा सका। इंडियन ऑयल ने ग्राहकों से केवल आधिकारिक सूचनाओं पर ही भरोसा करने का आग्रह किया है। कंपनी पारदर्शी और विश्वसनीय संचालन के प्रति प्रतिबद्ध है। यह सुनिश्चित किया जा रहा है कि देश में ऊर्जा की निर्बाध उपलब्धता बनी रहे। कंपनी ने सभी नागरिकों को आश्वासित किया है कि पूरे देश में ईंधन की उपलब्धता सामान्य और निर्बाध बनी हुई है। यह आश्वासन बढ़ी हुई मांग के बावजूद दिया गया है।

eKYC related delay compounds domestic LPG consumer woes

N. Ravi Kumar
HYDERABAD

Thousands of domestic liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) consumers across Telangana who have not completed e-kyc process are facing challenges in accessing cooking gas refills.

The difficulties range from delays in getting refills to supplies put on hold by the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). The OMCs had issued an advisory some months ago advising consumers to complete e-kyc to continue availing subsidy in their bank accounts, if eligible. However, the eKYC enforcement has assumed significance against the backdrop of the fallout of the war in West Asia on LPG supplies.

The oil companies have now come to view eKYC or the biometric Aadhaar authentication exercise as an additional layer to ensure the refills are being accessed by the intended consumers. LPG distributors say OMCs differ in approach in how they deal with consumers yet to complete eKYC.

In some cases, refills continue to be issued with a warning, while supplies have been stopped for ma-



Difficulties range from delays in getting refills to supplies put on hold by Oil Marketing Companies. FILE PHOTO

ny others pending completion of eKYC.

Sources in Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL) said eKYC requirement is an ongoing, nationwide annual exercise. All three OMCs require domestic LPG consumers, especially PM Ujjwala Yojana beneficiaries, to complete the authentication mandatorily.

Admitting that the non-compliant consumers are bound to face difficulties, sources said refill supplies to many such users, however, are being issued considering the prevailing situation.

Non PMUY consumers who have not completed the eKYC, however, are also citing difficulties in booking refills. Telangana has 1.26 crore households with domestic LPG con-

nections, with about 55% of them single cylinder consumers.

eKYC is not the only issue for domestic households as OMCs, since early March, have put on hold issue of new connections as well as double bottle connection (second cylinder). These will be resumed only after the LPG supplies improve, sources said.

Earlier this week, the OMCs said domestic LPG cylinders bookings have come down as there is no panic among consumers. Consumers are encouraged to book LPG refills through any of the multiple options and requested to support and encourage the Delivery Authentication Code system, which is an OTP-based cylinder delivery mechanism to rein in diversion of cylinders.

Publication : The Hindu	Editions : Hyderabad
Date :26 April 2026	Page : 7

Panic buying triggers fuel shortage in A.P.

V. Kamalakara Rao
VISAKHAPATNAM

Andhra Pradesh is currently facing a shortage of both petrol and diesel, affecting commuters, farmers and transport operators.

The crisis is acute in Eluru district, where a majority of the 426 affected petrol outlets have temporarily run out of stock. In contrast, Visakhapatnam remains largely unaffected, with only one

reported dry outlet.

State Civil Supplies Commissioner K. Kanna Babu clarified that the government convened meetings with the suppliers to resolve the issue. He assured the public that the oil companies had agreed to supply 10% more fuel than the April 2025 levels.

An official statement from IndianOil assured uninterrupted availability of petroleum products across the country.

Mitigating fertiliser crunch via coal gasification a far cry

Industry players argue that coal gasification is one avenue through which domestic fertiliser supplies could be secured, but very few coal gasification projects have scaled to advanced stage

Saptaparno Ghosh
NEW DELHI

Amid pressure on supplies of urea and fertilisers due to the escalating tensions in West Asia, a possible mitigation of these shortages through coal gasification still seems distant, according to sector experts.

According to them, very few coal gasification projects have so far scaled to an advanced stage.

The Ministry of Coal, however, told *The Hindu* that the government was confident that the target of 100 million tonnes of gasification by 2030 will be met as per schedule.

As a more sustainable mining technique, coal gasification involves the conversion of coal into syngas (synthetic gas), which can be further used to produce downstream products like methanol, ammonium nitrate, synthetic natural gas (SNG) and fertilisers, among other products. Amid concerns over the domestic availability of fertilisers and urea due to the conflict in West Asia, industry players have argued that coal gasification is one avenue through which domestic supplies could have been secured.

Challenging target

According to Kapil Bansal, who oversees the Energy Transition and Decarbonisation verticals at EY-Parthenon India, while the policy intent is strong, the



Coal gasification involves conversion of coal into syngas, which can then be used to make products like fertilisers. FILE PHOTO

timelines are tight.

"Industry estimates indicate that commercial output remains limited and partial achievement, that is, 50-60 million tonnes is possible, with only a handful of large projects at advanced, planning stages," Mr. Bansal said.

"With less than four years remaining, most observers believe that achieving the complete 100 MT target will be challenging, unless project execution accelerates materially in the next 24-36 months," he added. The coal ministry pointed to seven gasification projects, including those by private and State-owned entities combined, that have been granted cumulative financial support of up to ₹6,133 crore in the first phase of the government's scheme.

Notably, the ministry further stated that "in the coming months, more projects are expected to be sanctioned".

The existing projects include those being executed

in separate joint ventures of Coal India with Bharat Heavy Electricals and Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL), and its own project in Western Coalfields, alongside those of private entities as Jindal Steel and Greta Energy and Metal, among others.

However, all of these projects are expected to come on line only by 2029-30, according to Coal Minister G. Kishan Reddy's reply in the Lok Sabha.

"Groundbreaking of four of these projects have already been conducted. Rest of the projects are also progressing," the Ministry said in its response to *The Hindu*. "Coal Gasification Projects at Talcher Fertilizer Limited and Jindal Steel & Power Limited at the Angul Integrated Steel Plants are in advanced stages."

While industry observers and participants are largely divided about whether technology itself will be a constraint in the development of the coal gasification sector in India,

they agree that a long-term definite policy roadmap that necessitates guaranteed offtake and offers price-support mechanisms is an imperative.

Mr. Bansal emphasised that coal gasification projects are capital-intensive and that had constrained private participation.

"[This is] especially in the absence of assured long-term offtake or price support mechanisms," he elaborated. "Also, uncertainty around feedstock pricing, product competitiveness, and return profiles has weakened project bankability."

An industry participant speaking to *The Hindu* on the condition of anonymity said "a long-term definite policy would ensure greater private sector participation in the space along with the public sector, which would be beneficial for the overall gasification target".

Regarding the necessary technology, this official stated, "It [technology] is something that entails constant learning, once it is instituted, we will evolve it according to our local requirements and conditions [such as processing high-ash content]. We would be able to find a path map."

Industry participants have written to the government seeking parity for coal-based urea projects with gas-based plants with respect to offtake assurances and earmarking capacities for coal gasification.



Publication : The Statesman	Editions : New Delhi
Date :26 April 2026	Page : 10

BPCL assures steady LPG supply:

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) on 22 April 2026 confirmed that LPG supply across India remains stable, with deliveries aligned to normal consumption trends. Between 12 and 21 April, the company delivered over 1.13 crore domestic cylinders, alongside commercial and bulk supplies, reflecting steady distribution. BPCL said its logistics network and bottling operations continue uninterrupted. The firm also highlighted growth in its city gas network, noting over 1.81 lakh PNG connections, supporting urban demand and easing reliance on LPG cylinders.

Piped gas scams: ₹2.7cr lost to 'APK file' download in 30 days

V Narayan & Somit Sen | TNN

Mumbai: In just 30 days amid the ongoing West Asia crisis and fears of LPG shortage, cyber fraudsters targeted Mahanagar Gas Ltd (MGL) piped gas consumers and applicants in Mumbai and duped more than 100 individuals of Rs 2.7 crore by tricking them into downloading malicious APK files that enabled remote access to their phones and then theft of banking data, FIRs accessed by TOI stated.

The scammers made consumers enter confidential details through an app link after warning messages were sent claiming the connection would "stop tonight" over non-payment or non-updates of the previous month's bill. Some who applied for new connections reportedly received fake calls and then were sent the app link. At least three people in the city fell prey to the fraud in a day over 30 days.

More than 100 Mumbai-kars aged 26 to 83 collectively lost over Rs 2.7 crore in a month. They included domestic help, teachers, drivers, lawyers, scribes, businessmen, govt employees, and the elderly.

A 71-year-old doctor from Worli lost Rs 1.3 lakh on April 22 after he tried to book a gas cylinder online. He dialled a number he got on the internet and was told by the scammer that he had to download an app to register his booking. His banking data was stolen from his mobile phone and the money was siphoned off.

A 33-year-old woman from Bandra lost Rs 2.6 lakh when she tried to book a new piped gas connection upon relocating to Bandra from Marol. The woman was asked to download the app after she called a number on which she received an alert about a pending gas bill payment on April 17.

A 64-year-old Andheri-based salon owner lost Rs 3.8 lakh when he had gone to Howrah for a family function in March following a bill alert. A 72-year-old doctor from Andheri similarly lost Rs 9.5 lakh in April. Earlier in March, a 57-year-old Prabhadevi businessman lost Rs 8 lakh via 18 fraudulent transactions over a span of four days.

State cyber DIG Sanjay Shintre said scammers used multiple ways to dupe people, either pretending to help in booking a new connection or on the pretext of updating bills.

Explaining the modus operandi, Shintre said: "You receive an SMS or WhatsApp message claiming your gas bill is unpaid or hasn't been updated. The message threat-

MALWARE ACCESSES BANK A/C, DRAINS IT

Piped gas scams in Mumbai from Mar 25 to Apr 25
Cases registered in 93 police stations & 5 cyber police stations in the city

Cases 100
Money lost ₹2.7cr
Recovered Nil

Cases solved Nil
Arrests Nil

Maximum cases registered at police stations in the city | Amboli-7; Bandra, Chembur & Versova: 4 each; Dadar, Chhatkopar, Kasturba Marg, Tilak Nagar & Vile Parle: 3 each

Piped Gas Fraud Alert

➤ Fraudsters call/text citizens about their MGL piped gas connection or new application
➤ They send a malware link to access the device, and then banking apps and personal accounts



Steer Clear of Scammers. Here's How

- Never download any APK file sent via WhatsApp or SMS, as MGL does not use this method for payment
- No threats of disconnection are sent via WhatsApp
- Do not click on unknown links
- Disconnect if someone forces a video call
- Secure all accounts (email, WhatsApp and bank)
- Inform contacts if suspicious messages go out
- Never share OTP, PIN, CVV, or payment details
- Immediately report the fraud to the national cybercrime portal at www.cybercrime.gov.in
- File a complaint at the nearest police station

Maharashtra cyber helpline: 1930

Advisory & Helplines

MGL officials have stated that its representatives never ask for bank details, card numbers, passwords or one-time passwords (OTPs) through phone calls, text messages or WhatsApp

For any authentic communication, connect only through MGL's official channels

WhatsApp | +91-98992 03843
Customer Care | 022 6867 4500 / 6156 4500
Email | support@mahanagar-gas.com
Stay alert. Stay informed. Stay protected

How the Scam Works

- The Threat** | You receive a text warning your PNG connection will be 'cut tonight' due to payment default; new applicants may get a dubious phone call
- The Trap** | Scammers ask you to call a fraudulent number, often via WhatsApp, or ask you to download an app (APK file) for 'bill updates' or new connection
- The Theft** | The app—or even the phone call—allows scammers to steal your bank details, OTPs, or directly access your device to drain bank accounts

tens imminent disconnection—often 'tonight at 9:30 pm'—to create panic. A fraudster calls, posing as an official from a company like MGL or Indian Oil. They may use professional-sounding language or even mention current events like gas shortage to make the situation seem more credible. The scammer instructs you to

TIMES Special

download an 'update' or 'verification' file sent via WhatsApp. This is an APK file (for instance, MGL_GAS_Bill_update.apk) that contains malware. Once installed, the malware allows the attacker to remotely control your device and see your screen and intercept OTPs (one-time passwords) sent by your bank. They cap-

ture banking credentials while you try to make a nominal 'verification payment' of just Rs 10 or Rs 12. Within minutes of gaining access, the fraudsters perform multiple unauthorised transactions, often siphoning off lakhs."

Demand for piped gas connections has surged sharply. In Feb, around 16,000 new connections were added, while in March the figure crossed 33,000—more than double the previous month's total. Sources said the spike in demand followed govt directives urging LPG consumers to shift to PNG wherever the facility was available.

MGL officials said daily inquiries for domestic PNG connections rose two to three times compared to normal levels. MGL clarified it did not send disconnection threats

through suspicious messages, ask customers to download APK files, or direct them to unknown numbers for bill-related updates.

Cyber expert Ritesh Bhatia said, "Recovery in most cybercrime cases is almost nil because money is siphoned off instantly through mule accounts and layered transfers. Also, due to delayed reporting, weak inter-state coordination, and lack of real-time intervention by banks." Cyber lawyer Prashant Mail said police must book fraudsters under BNS Section 111. Fast freezing, device forensics and mule account mapping are critical, he said. Ex-IPS officer-turned-lawyer YP Singh said APK fraud was on the rise due to the failure of banks and agencies to enforce technical vigilance and prevention.

Publication : Aaj Samaj (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
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Headline: Oil production decreased by 57 percent

होर्मुज खुलने के बाद भी खाड़ी देशों के तेल निर्यात को संभलने में महीनों लगेंगे : रिपोर्ट

तेल उत्पादन में आई 57 प्रतिशत की कमी

■ **होर्मुज खुलने के छह माह बाद 88 प्रतिशत उत्पादन हो पाएगा आज समाज नेटवर्क**

मुंबई। गोलडमैन सैक्स की रिसर्च रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, अगर होर्मुज जलडमरूमध्य दोबारा सुरक्षित तरीके से खुल जाता है, तो खाड़ी देशों का कच्चे तेल उत्पादन कुछ महीनों में काफी हद तक सामान्य हो सकता है। हालांकि रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि युद्ध से पहले के स्तर पर पूरी वापसी में ज्यादा समय लग सकता है, खासकर



यदि पश्चिम एशिया में तनाव लंबे समय तक बना रहता है। रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक, संघर्ष के कारण खाड़ी क्षेत्र का तेल उत्पादन 14.5 मिलियन बैरल प्रतिदिन यानी करीब 57 फीसदी तक घट गया है। गोलडमैन सैक्स ने कहा कि यदि तेल परिसंपत्तियों पर नए हमले नहीं होते और जलडमरूमध्य जल्द खुलता है, तो उत्पादन तेजी से बढ़ सकता है। हालांकि बहाली की रफ्तार परिवहन व्यवस्था, पाइपलाइन क्षमता, खाली टैंकों की उपलब्धता और तेल क्षेत्रों में मरम्मत कार्यों पर निर्भर करेगी। रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, संघर्ष शुरू होने के बाद खाड़ी क्षेत्र में खाली टैंकर क्षमता

लगभग 50 फीसदी घटकर 130 मिलियन बैरल रह गई है। रिपोर्ट में कहा गया कि सऊदी अरामको और संयुक्त अरब अमीरात के पास अतिरिक्त उत्पादन क्षमता है, जिसका उपयोग बाजार को स्थिर करने में किया जा सकता है। फिर भी रिपोर्ट में चेतावनी दी है कि लंबे समय तक बंदी की स्थिति में पूरी बहाली में कई हिमाहियां लग सकती हैं। बाहरी एजेंसियों के अनुमानों के अनुसार, जलमार्ग खुलने के तीन महीने बाद 70 फीसदी और छह महीने बाद 88 फीसदी उत्पादन बहाल हो सकता है।

Publication : Dainik Jagran (Rashtriya) (Hindi)	Editions : New Delhi
Date : 26 April 2026	Page : 7

Headline: Amidst the tension, the government has ensured a 100% supply of domestic LPG and PNG

तनाव के बीच सरकार ने घरेलू एलपीजी, पीएनजी की 100% आपूर्ति सुनिश्चित की

नई दिल्ली, एएनआई : पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय ने शनिवार को बताया कि पश्चिम एशिया में चल रहे संकट के बावजूद सरकार ने घरेलू एलपीजी, पीएनजी और वाहनों के लिए सीएनजी की 100 प्रतिशत आपूर्ति सुनिश्चित की है। साथ ही मंत्रालय ने नागरिकों से अपील की है कि वे पश्चिम एशिया की स्थिति के बीच घबराकर एलपीजी, पेट्रोल व डीजल की खरीदारी करने से बचें। हमारे पास ईंधन का पर्याप्त स्टॉक है।

मंत्रालय ने कहा कि घरेलू एलपीजी सिलिंडर की डिलीवरी स्थिर बनी हुई है और किसी वितरण केंद्र पर कमी नहीं है। आनलाइन बुकिंग लगभग 99 प्रतिशत तक बढ़ गई है। कालाबाजारी और जमाखोरी रोकने के लिए एलपीजी सिलिंडर डिलीवरी आर्थेटिकेशन कोड (डीएससी) के आधार पर दिए जा रहे हैं और यह आंकड़ा 94.5% से अधिक बढ़ गया है। व्यावसायिक एलपीजी आवंटन भी 70% तक बढ़ा दिया गया है।



पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय। फाइल

इस बीच, बंदरगाह, शिपिंग और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय ने कहा कि होर्मुज स्ट्रेट में फंसे सभी भारतीय जहाज और उन पर सवार नाविक सुरक्षित हैं। विदेश मंत्रालय ने कहा कि ईरान से अब तक 2,443 भारतीय निकल चुके हैं।

देशभर में 2400 से अधिक छापे : सरकार ने कहा कि एलपीजी वितरण की निगरानी भी तेज कर दी गई है। शुक्रवार को देशभर में 2,400 से अधिक छापे मारे गए और 309 वितरण केंद्रों पर जुमाना

लगाया गया जबकि 70 गैस एजेंसियों के लाइसेंस निलंबित किए गए। इसके अलावा केंद्र वैकल्पिक ईंधनों को बढ़ावा दे रहा है और मार्च से अब तक 5.36 लाख पीएनजी कनेक्शन सक्रिय किए गए हैं। एक दिन पहले भी सरकार ने कहा था कि देशभर में ईंधन की उपलब्धता पर्याप्त बनी हुई है। पेट्रोल और डीजल की आपूर्ति भी पर्याप्त है। किसी भी पेट्रोल पंप पर कमी की कोई सूचना नहीं मिली है।

नागरिकों से घबराकर खरीदारी न करने की अपील की
कहा - हमारे पास एनपीजी, पेट्रोल और डीजल का पर्याप्त स्टॉक

Publication : Eenadu (Telugu)	Editions : Hyderabad
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Headline: LPG shortage

జిరాన్ యుద్ధ సెగలు ఇప్పుడే ఆరేలా కనిపించడం లేదు. ఆ ప్రభావం మన వంట గదుల వరకూ వ్యాపిస్తోంది. అలాగే వంటి సంప్రదాయ దేశాల నుంచి వంట గ్యాస్ (ఎల్పీజీ) సరఫరా తగ్గడంతో, మరికొన్ని మార్కెట్లలో కొనుగోలు చేస్తోంది. దేశీయ రిఫైనరీల్లో ఉత్పత్తి పెంచేందుకూ ప్రభుత్వం ఆదేశాలిచ్చింది. వినియోగ దారు ప్రత్యామ్నాయాలకు మళ్లాలని సూచిస్తోంది.

కార్టోలు చిక్కుకుపోయాయి

ప్రదీప్త పెట్రోలియం గ్యాస్ (ఎల్పీజీ)తో వస్తున్న నౌకలు పర్షియన్ గల్ఫ్లో చిక్కుకు పోవడం వల్ల, మన దేశానికి ఇబ్బంది ఎదురవుతోంది. ఫిబ్రవరిలో యుద్ధం మొదలయ్యాక మనదేశం రోజుకు 46,000 టన్నుల మేర గ్యాస్ ఉత్పత్తి పెంచింది. మే నెలలో నయారా ఎనర్జీ రిఫైనరీ పునః ప్రారంభమైతే కనుక అది 50,000 టన్నులకు చేరుతుంది. మే నెలకు రిఫైనరీలు 65,000 టన్నుల ఆదనపు సరఫరా పొందాయి. అంటే రోజుకు 21,000 టన్నుల మేర రానుంది. ఇందులో అమెరికా నుంచి వచ్చేదే ఎక్కువ అని విశ్వసనీయ వర్గాల సమాచారం. మొత్తం మీద రోజుకు 71,000 టన్నుల ఎల్పీజీ అందుబాటులో ఉన్నట్లు లెక్క.

అయినా కూడా తక్కువే..

యుద్ధానికి ముందు మనదేశం రోజుకు లక్ష



- రిఫైనరీ ఉత్పత్తి పెంచిన భారత్ ● ప్రత్యామ్నాయ మార్కెట్లో సరఫరా పెంపు
- అయినా గిరాకీతో పోలిస్టీ లభ్యత తక్కువే ● జాన్ కల్లా పరిస్థితులు మెరుగుపడొచ్చు

టన్నుల గ్యాస్ వినియోగించేది. ప్రస్తుత సరఫరా మొత్తం చూసినా ఆ స్థాయికి తక్కువగానే ఉంది. రెండు నెలలుగా అసియాలోని అన్ని దేశాలు చమురు, ఎల్పీజీ, సహజ వాయువు కొరతతో ఇబ్బంది పడుతున్నాయి. దరలనూ పెంచాల్సి వచ్చింది. ఎల్పీజీ ఉత్పత్తిని గరిష్ట స్థాయికి చేర్చాలంటూ మన రిఫైనరీలకు ప్రభుత్వం ఆదేశాలు జారీ చేసింది. వాణిజ్య రంగానికి గ్యాస్ సరఫరాను గతంతో పోలిస్తే 70 శాతానికి పరిమితం చేసింది. టాగ్గ, కిలోసెన్ వాడకానికి అనువుకా కాలుష్య నిబంధనలనూ సడలించింది. ఎల్పీజీ సిలిం

డర్ రీఫిల్ బుక్ చేసుకునే గడువును పెంచింది. గొట్టపు గ్యాస్కు మార్కెట్లో ప్రజలకు పిలుపునిచ్చింది. ప్రస్తుతం 39.4 కోట్ల ఎల్పీజీ వినియోగదారులదగా, రోజుకు 10,000 పొచ్చున గొట్టపు గ్యాస్ కనెక్షన్లు జత అవుతున్నాయి. సంక్షోభం మొదలయ్యాక 3 శాతం కనెక్షన్లు పెరిగాయి.

మే నెలలోనూ తక్కువగానే..

మే నెలలోనూ దేశంలో ఎల్పీజీ సరఫరా కాస్త ఇబ్బందిగానే ఉండొచ్చని కెప్టర్ లీడ్ ఆనల్లిస్టు సుమిత్

రితోలియా పేర్కొన్నారు. అట్లాంటిక్ బేసిన్, పశ్చిమాసియాటికర్ దేశాల నుంచి భారత్ ఎక్కువ దరకు గ్యాస్ కొనుగోలు చేసే అవకాశం ఉంది. అందువల్ల జాన్ నుంచి సరఫరా సాధారణ స్థాయికి చేరొచ్చు. ప్రభుత్వ రంగ చమురు కంపెనీలైన ఇండియన్ ఆయిల్ కార్పొరేషన్ (ఐఓసీ), భారత్ పెట్రోలియం కార్పొరేషన్ (బీపీఎల్) ఇటీవల మే-జూన్ నెలలకు అమెరికా నుంచి స్పాట్ కార్గోలను కొనుగోలు చేశాయని తెలుస్తోంది. ఈ నెలలో అమెరికా నుంచి భారత్కు 4,71,000 టన్నుల ఎల్పీజీ రానుందని కెప్టర్ గణాంకాలు సూచిస్తున్నాయి.

భయంతో అదనపు బుకింగ్ల వల్లే

ఎల్పీజీ కొరత దేశ ఆర్థిక వ్యవస్థపైనే కనిపిస్తోంది. రెస్టారెంట్లలో తయారు చేసే వడార్లాల సంఖ్య తగ్గుతోంది. కార్మికుల జీవన వ్యయాలు పెరుగుతున్నాయి. కొంత మంది వలస కార్మికులు వంట చేసుకోలేక, సొంత ఊళ్లకు వెళ్లిపోతున్నారనే వార్తలు వినిపిస్తున్నాయి. ఎల్పీజీ సిలిండ్రు దొరకదనే భయంతో, రెండో సిలిండ్ర్ ఉప్పుబారు ముందస్తుగా రీఫిల్ బుక్ చేయడమూ ప్రభావం చూపుతోంది.

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US sanctions China refinery over Iran oil

Washington: The US on Saturday intensified its campaign against Iran's energy revenues by imposing sanctions on a significant Chinese refinery and dozens of vessels linked to the Iranian oil trade.

The Treasury Department announced that its Office of Foreign Assets Control targeted Hengli Petrochemical (Dalian) Refinery Co Ltd, which it described as a primary buyer of Iranian crude and petroleum products.

"Economic Fury is imposing a financial stranglehold on the Iranian regime, hampering its aggression in West Asia, and helping to curtail its nuclear ambitions," Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said.

The action also targets nearly 40 shipping firms and vessels associated with Iran's "shadow fleet", which facilitates the transport of oil to global markets. At the direction of Donald Trump, the Treasury aims to constrict the network of intermediaries and buyers Iran relies upon. Treasury offi-

cials highlighted China's independent refineries, or "tea-pots", are the main purchasers of this oil. Hengli, the second-largest such refinery in China, reportedly generated hundreds of millions of dollars for the Iranian military through Sepehr Energy Jahan Nama Pars Company.

The US also sanctioned 19 vessels accused of transporting billions of dollars in Iranian crude, LPG and other petrochemicals. The ships, flying flags of jurisdictions such as Panama and Hong Kong, allegedly used ship-to-ship transfers to mask the origin of cargoes destined for China, Bangladesh and the UAE.

The steps were taken under Executive Order 13902, focusing on Iran's oil sector. Since Feb 2025, the US has sanctioned 1,000+ Iran-related entities, aircraft and ships. Under the laws, all interests of the designated parties in the US are blocked, and US persons are prohibited from engaging in business with them. -IANS

ETHANOL E20 PETROL SET TO REDUCE CRUDE OIL IMPORTS

VINCENT FERNANDES

India mandated the nationwide rollout of E20 (20 per cent ethanol-blended) petrol on April 1, 2026, marking a key shift in its energy strategy. This initiative aims at reducing crude oil imports, cutting carbon emissions, and increasing agricultural income. Following this, India is now advancing toward E85, higher blends, and even 100 per cent ethanol (E100) initiatives for future vehicles.

As of April 1, 2026, India has officially mandated nationwide E20 fuel. Production has surged to record levels, with roughly 1,800 crore litres produced in the 2025-26 ethanol supply year, utilizing sugarcane, molasses, and grain (maize/rice). While the nation has achieved an average blending rate over 20 per cent, the industry faces a surplus of production capacity relative to Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) requirements.

India's rapid progress in ethanol blending and agricultural transformation creates both significant opportunities and complex challenges for global stakeholders. The expansion of sugar and grain-based ethanol production, ambitious government targets, and evolving regulatory frameworks have fostered a dynamic market with strong potential for ethanol, feedstocks, and advanced technologies. Key opportunities include rising demand for reliable industrial ethanol supply, advanced biofuel technologies, and high-quality animal feed



co-products. Success in this market depends on sustained, proactive engagement with Indian policymakers, industry leaders, and cooperatives, as well as willingness to adapt to local needs and regulatory changes. Innovation - both in product offerings and partnership models - will be essential to capturing India's market potential. By leveraging US strengths in technology, sustainability, and supply chain management, stakeholders can help shape India's bio-fuel future while advancing shared economic and energy security goals under the newly strengthened bilateral partnership. The mandatory E20 fuel is designed to have a minimum 95 octane rating (RON) to improve vehicle performance while being cleaner.

The Indian government is exploring a shift to E85 (85% ethanol blend) and potentially 100% ethanol for future flex-fuel vehicles, aiming for full energy independence from fossil fuels. In a new development, the government has allowed ethanol blending in Aviation Turbine Fuel (ATF) to boost Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) usage. The blend-

ing program saved over Rs 1.44 lakh crore in foreign exchange over 11 years and offers substantial income opportunities for farmers.

The draft rules for E85 were disclosed by a senior government official, indicating that the government will "very soon" issue the plan on the roll-out of Ethanol 85 (E85). Draft regulations will be notified very soon. There is consensus within the government. Further, the Indian government provides robust financial support for setting up ethanol plants, featuring interest subvention of 6 per cent per annum or 50 per cent of the loan interest for five years. Key incentives include capital subsidies of 15 per cent to 30 per cent of project costs, priority lending status, and long-term, guaranteed, high-profit-margin offtake agreements (18-25 per cent) with oil marketing companies.

For uninitiated, ethanol is a plant-based fuel made from crops like sugarcane and maize. As it is already being used in petrol blending in India, the central government is exploring it as a cooking fuel. Unlike LPG, ethanol is produced do-

mestically, making it a renewable and locally available energy source. LPG is a fossil fuel stored in pressurised cylinders, while ethanol is a liquid fuel stored in simple containers. Moreover, ethanol stoves do not require heavy cylinders or pipelines, making them easier to handle and transport, especially for small vendors.

LPG prices in India are influenced by global crude oil markets, making them volatile. Ethanol, on the other hand, is produced within the country, which can offer more stable and potentially lower pricing. Experts believe ethanol could reduce dependence on costly LPG imports. Besides, modern ethanol burners are highly efficient some can provide heat for up to 15 hours using just one litre of fuel. While ethanol has slightly lower energy density than LPG, its clean and sustained burn makes it suitable for long cooking hours. Ethanol burns with a clean blue flame and produces no smoke or soot, improving indoor air quality. In contrast, traditional fuels like kerosene or biomass release harmful pollutants. This makes ethanol a healthier option, especially in small kitchens.

Despite its benefits, ethanol faces hurdles. India still lacks a dedicated supply chain for cooking-grade ethanol and safety guidelines are being developed. LPG remains more widely available, so ethanol is likely to act as a supplement rather than a complete replacement in the near future.

U.S. slaps sanctions on China-based refinery, shippers over Iran oil trade

Washington targets Hengli Petrochemical and 40 firms, vessels for helping Tehran sell oil; Beijing buys more than 80% of Iran's shipped oil; sanctions aim to restrict Iran's oil exports; experts say targeting Chinese banks would have greater effect

Reuters

WASHINGTON

U.S. President Donald Trump's administration said on Friday it imposed sanctions on an independent "teapot" refinery in China for buying billions of dollars' worth of Iranian oil, as Washington and Tehran head into another round of peace talks over the weekend.

The Treasury Department targeted Hengli Petrochemical (Dalian) Refinery, which it said is one of Iran's largest customers of crude oil and petroleum products. The department's Office of Foreign Assets Control said it also im-



Crude cut-off: Hengli Petrochemical's refinery complex at Changxing island in Dalian, Liaoning province, China. REUTERS

posed sanctions on about 40 shipping companies and vessels that operate as part of Iran's shadow fleet.

China has earlier said it opposes "illegal" unilateral sanctions. The Trump administration last year im-

posed sanctions on teapots Hebei Xinhai Chemical Group, Shandong Shouguang Luqing Petrochemical, and Shandong Shengxing Chemical.

It created hurdles for the refiners, including diffi-

culties receiving crude and having to sell products under different names. Teapots account for a quarter of Chinese refinery capacity, operate with narrow and sometimes negative margins, and have been squeezed by tepid domestic demand.

The U.S. sanctions, which block U.S. assets of those designated and prevent Americans from doing business with them, have deterred some larger independent refiners from buying Iranian oil. China buys more than 80% of Iran's shipped oil, 2025 data from analytics firm Kpler showed.

Sanctions experts have long said, however, that

the independent refineries are somewhat immune to the full effect of U.S. sanctions as they have little exposure to the U.S. financial system. Imposing sanctions on China's banks that help facilitate the purchases would have a larger effect on purchases of Iranian oil, they say.

'Financial stranglehold'

U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said Washington is imposing a "financial stranglehold" on the Iranian government. "Treasury will continue to constrict the network of vessels, intermediaries, and buyers Iran relies on to move its oil to global markets," Mr. Bessent said.

Unwrapping the problem

Transparent plastics used in packaging have turbocharged profits and reshaped consumer culture — but at a heavy cost to our environment and health

Saibira Chaudhuri

In 1957, an Indian plastic-packaging maker chronicled the happy fate of a hosiery brand that had begun wrapping its products in plastic. The result, he wrote in an Indian daily, was a 65% jump in sales.

Paper, wood, aluminium, tin and other containers had been on the market for decades, but were opaque. "It is well known that when a customer sees what he wants, he is more apt to want what he can see," wrote U.R. Rhade, an executive at Plastics Packaging Pvt. Ltd.

At the time, India's annual per-capita plastics consumption was just 27 gm, a rounding error next to the 5.2 kg consumed by the U.S. Domestic plastic makers depended heavily on imported chemicals, limiting growth. Most consumer plastics went into spectacle frames, toothbrushes, fountain pens, wallets and other small, durable goods.

Pack it like America

But packaging makers could see their future reflected in the U.S., where single-use plastic bottles, cups, bags and wraps were rapidly reshaping how people lived. Chemical companies touted disposable, transparent plastic wrap as a way to spur impulse buying, make food portable, and increase consumption, ideas that inevitably made their way east.

By the time Nestle launched Maggi in India in 1983, plastic was the obvious packaging choice. Cheap, highly printable, robust and light, it allowed the Swiss food giant to take its instant noodles brand across the country, including to the most remote parts. Four years later, Hindustan Lever began packaging Sunsilk shampoo in single-serve plastic sachets. It's no exaggeration to say that India's shampoo market was built on the plastic sachet — before that, the vast majority of people used *reetha* and *amla* or just bar soap. Growing up in Bangalore in the 1990s, I watched single-use plastic bottles from Coca-Cola and Pepsi displace Indians' long-standing habit of returning reusable glass. Today, India is the world's third-largest consumer of plastic, according to the PlastiIndia Foundation.

Plastics are used for many things we would struggle to live without — blood bags, water pipes, mobile phones, trains, cars, and solar panels. Yet about 45% of all plastics made in India are used for packaging, mostly single-use, according to the U.S. non-profit WRAP. Much of this — particularly flexible, low-value sachets, pouches and bags — isn't economical to recycle. It is widely littered and burnt, and can persist in the environment for centuries. A 2014 study published in *Nature* ranked India the world's largest

long-standing habit of returning reusable glass. Today, India is the world's third-largest consumer of plastic, according to the PlastiIndia Foundation. Plastics are used for many things we would struggle to live without — blood bags, water pipes, mobile phones, trains, cars, and solar panels. Yet about 45% of all plastics made in India are used for packaging, mostly single-use, according to the U.S. non-profit WRAP. Much of this — particularly flexible, low-value sachets, pouches and bags — isn't economical to recycle. It is widely littered and burnt, and can persist in the environment for centuries. A 2014 study published in *Nature* ranked India the world's largest

In the news

■ India has become the world's largest contributor to plastic pollution, accounting for nearly 25% of total global plastic waste.

■ The per capita plastic consumption of an Indian is approximately 13 kg a year. (Source: *Plastics for Change*)

■ In 2025, the United Nations in India launched the Plastic Pollution Literacy Kit, aimed at educating everyone from children to CEOs on India's mounting plastic crisis. (india.un.org/)

contributor to plastic pollution. In the five years since 2020, India's per-capita plastic waste has doubled.

And yet, waste isn't the only problem. As many countries scramble to cut carbon emissions in the face of worsening climate impacts, our reliance on fossil-fuel-based plastics presents a significant obstacle to decarbonisation. At the same time, a rising body of research suggests there are serious health harms linked to plastic production, use and disposal.

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A worker sorts plastic waste at Haldia Dala Incineration, Bengaluru.

coverstory

GETTY IMAGES/ ISTOCK



UNWRAPPING THE PROBLEM

been found in the human placenta, bloodstream and brain. While their impacts on human health are still being determined, in animals they've been found to hamper essential functions, such as growth and reproduction. A November study in the peer-reviewed journal *Environment International* found that inhalable microplastics are a major urban air pollutant in several Indian cities.

No easy fix

The challenge is not simply to reduce plastic waste, but also to curb greenhouse gas emissions, microplastic pollution, and chemical exposure simultaneously. There are no easy answers.

Alternatives bring their own issues. Glass is heavy, it breaks, and is carbon-intensive to produce. Paper is water-intensive, can cause deforestation, and often requires plastic coatings or chemical treatments to resist moisture or grease. Aluminium is unsuitable for food unless lined with plastic that contains BPA, a

controversial chemical linked to hormonal disruption. Bio-based compostable plastics, meanwhile, promise a fossil-free alternative but come with their own complications, from land-use impacts to a lack of composting infrastructure. Compostable plastics that end up in landfills can slowly break down to release methane, a potent greenhouse gas.

Recycling, the industry's foremost solution, has long been economically unviable for a majority of plastics. Reuse, meanwhile, is hindered by major logistical and economic challenges.

One way forward is to drastically simplify the range of plastics – and chemicals – we rely on. Policymakers could greenlight a narrow, carefully vetted set of materials, designs and additives. This would reduce costs and complexity, immediately improving the prospects for both recycling and reuse, while limiting health harms. This more limited array of packaging could be carefully designed to shed fewer microplastics. On top of this, policies to ensure the price of materials reflects their full environmental and social cost could reinforce simplification by driving a shift towards packaging that's easier to reuse or recycle.

Beyond specific policy fixes,

however, a broader reckoning is overdue. Plastic, while a key determinant in creating the convenience culture we're so deeply wedded to, has also been a powerful engine of ever-expanding consumption. As Bhide alluded to nearly 70 years ago, plastic packaging was often deployed less to meet human needs than to stimulate demand. In their rush to harness plastic's many advantages, companies built entire business models around disposability, without pausing to ask what the long-term costs might be.

Those costs are now starkly apparent – in polluted landscapes, rising emissions, and growing evidence about plastic's impacts on human health. Plastic has immense benefits, and I don't believe it will, or should, disappear, but the world could use far less of it, far more carefully. We should preserve the benefits that genuinely matter while unwinding our dependence on the vast quantities of throwaway packaging that have become normalised. Much of it we could live without. Increasingly, we cannot afford to live with it.

The writer is a journalist and the author of Consumed: How Big Brands Got Us Hooked on Plastic (2025).

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A 2024 Norway-funded study identified 16,000 chemicals present in, or potentially used in, plastics. One in four were deemed "of concern" because they persist in air, soil or water; accumulate in human or animal bodies; disrupt hormones; or travel through freshwater and drinking-water systems. Microplastics have

Broad range holds

CRUDE CHECK. Breakout to guide trend

Akhil Nallamuthu
bl. research bureau

After two weeks of fall, crude oil prices rose over the last week. Brent crude oil futures on the Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) (\$99.13/barrel) and crude oil futures in the domestic market (₹8,817/barrel) were up 9.7 per cent and 15 per cent respectively.

BRENT FUTURES (\$99.13)

Brent crude oil futures, after opening with a gap-up, touched a two-week high of \$107.40 on Thursday before moderating to the current level of \$99.13.

The price action since mid-March shows that despite the volatility, Brent crude futures has largely stayed within the \$92-115 price band. Now at \$99, the contract can move either way.

In case the resistance at \$115 is breached, the contract can rise to \$130. But if it breaches the support at \$92, the downswing can extend to \$80.

MCX-CRUDE OIL (₹8,817)

Crude oil futures (May), like Brent crude futures, has been



trading in a broad range since mid-March. It has been oscillating within ₹7,800 and ₹9,500. Note that the 50-day moving average now coincides with ₹7,800, making it a good support.

If the ongoing rally goes beyond the resistance at ₹9,500, it can open the door for an extension to ₹10,500 or even ₹11,000.

On the other hand, if crude oil futures drops below the support at ₹7,800, the near-term outlook can turn weak. In such a scenario, the contract can decline to ₹7,000. A breach of this can drag the contract further lower to ₹6,200.

Overall, as it stands, there is no clarity with respect to the trend for this week.

Trade strategy: Refrain from taking fresh trades.

Brent crude: Spot realities vs futures pricing

Nishanth Gopalakrishnan
bl. research bureau

Two friends get into a discussion about the crude realities of oil pricing

Praveen: While reading the news a few days ago, I came to know that the Dated Brent price touched an all-time high of \$145 a barrel. It felt odd. As I've been tracking oil price since the US-Iran war began, I knew very well that crude was trading just under \$100. I checked on Google to make sure, and crude was trading at only \$96 a barrel. What is this 'Dated Brent' and why is its price different?

Naveen: What you checked on Google is the futures price of Brent crude and what was reported in the news is the price of Dated Brent, which represents the actual price refiners are paying for oil in the physical world — also known as spot market price. This Dated Brent price is also the primary global benchmark for physical oil trades.

Brent as you would know is a grade of light crude oil extracted in the North Sea that is easy to refine, but, would you like to know why it's called 'Dated'?

Praveen: Yes, I'm all ears.
Naveen: You see, crude is transported by oil tankers around the world, and is loaded on to them at a place called the 'loading terminal'.

Based on availability, the terminal operator would give a 3-day loading window/slot to the oil producer.

During these days, the oil buyer has to send a ship to collect the oil. This dating process is by which it came to be known as 'Dated Brent'. There is one more nuance I would like you to know. Today, Dated Brent is at \$113. What this represents is the price of oil that will be loaded on to a tanker (at a terminal) 10-30 days from today, and from there delivered at a later date at the buyer's location. It is not the price of oil being delivered today.

Praveen: Why is it so?

Naveen: Once the seller notifies the loading window dates to the buyer, the buyer will certainly need some time to charter a vessel, arrange insurance and so on. This 10-30 day time-gap is to let the buyer arrange these.

Praveen: I see. Now tell me how I can check this Dated Brent price.

Naveen: Unlike Brent futures which are traded on exchanges, Dated Brent is not, and is instead an assessment made



by agencies such as Platts (S&P) and Argus Media.

These are not available freely in public sites unless reported in the media.

Praveen: Why was Dated Brent at \$145, when futures were trading at \$96?

Naveen: Here some nuances must be understood. The \$96 a barrel you mentioned — that's actually the price of June ICE (Intercontinental Exchange) Brent futures in early April. These futures, are just paper trades settled in cash and entail no physical delivery of crude (unless coupled with EFP-discussed here). These primarily serve as a tool for price discovery and are used for hedging and speculation alike. June futures were at least 70-80 days out in the future, while Dated Brent captured prices of crude that would be loaded on to tankers in the next 10-30 days and thereby, those transactions close by mid-May latest.

With a lower price than the spot market benchmark, the futures market expected the acute oil deficit to ease substantially by June. That's the interpretation for the difference that you asked.

Praveen: Interesting. But this is my understanding of futures. Futures are basically derivatives deriving their value from the underlying. Crude is the underlying here. Shouldn't they move in tandem with the physical market? Won't such a large gap between futures and

spot price give rise to massive arbitrages?

Naveen: Futures eventually have to converge with physical prices and there are three ways this could happen.

But before that, bear with me as I take you on a little detour to the forward market. While the futures market is meant for financial or mere cash-settled trades, the forward market is meant for traders who want to take/give physical delivery of crude. Here, the 25-day BFOET forward market happens to be the benchmark and a reference for Dated Brent prices as well. BFOET refers to North Sea crude grades namely, Brent, Forties, Oseberg, Ekofisk and Troll. The '25-day' period refers to a mandatory 25-day notice a seller of the forward has to give the buyer before the first day of the 3-day loading window. Again, this is to let the buyer arrange logistics.

The front month forward contract as of today, is the June forward. June, here, refers to the delivery month or the month in which crude will be loaded on to a tanker.

However, trading for June forward expires by the end of April itself! This is so structured to accommodate the 25-day notice period, even for contracts struck in the end of April. May will serve as the gap month for the June forward.

When April ends and rolls over to May, the delivery month also rolls a month forward to

July — meaning, for contracts traded in May, deliveries will happen in July, so on and so forth.

With me so far?

Praveen: Oh yeah. Now tell me how the convergence happens between futures and spot price, in the three ways you mentioned.

Naveen: The first is through an exchange settlement mechanism. In case of futures traders on ICE who hold their positions open until expiry, the exchange will publish the ICE Brent Index on the business day following the expiry day and this is the price such traders have to use to square off their positions. For instance, in case of June futures, the expiry day will fall on April 30, and ICE Brent index value will be published on May 1.

Praveen: Got it. So, how does this index help futures and spot prices converge?

Naveen: The answer lies in the index's methodology. It's a bit complex but you can understand that the index largely derives its value from the forward market, I told you about.

For example, ICE Brent index for June futures (April expiry) will largely derive its value from the prices of June forward contracts. As we near April-end, the prevailing Dated Brent and forward prices will have a bearing on this index. The index, thus deriving its value, aids the futures market converge with the spot market.

Look at it this way. There is a

futures market which involves financial speculators. There is a physical market that involves taking delivery, reflecting real demand and supply. These tend to converge as we near expiry.

Praveen: Understood. What are the other two ways?

Naveen: The second way addresses your question about arbitrages. When traders spot large differences between the futures and physical forward market prices, they buy the undervalued futures and simultaneously sell a forward (which trade higher) in the physical market. Now, there is a derivative instrument called EFP (exchange for physical) which lets a futures trader swap his paper long futures position for a physical long forward contract, but at a swap cost. The trader can then square the long and short physical forward positions and pocket the gain (cash settled in general, as these are essentially arbitrage trades). However, when arbitrage windows emerge, traders flock to buy futures in large quantities — thus taking futures price closer to that of physical forwards.

The third way involves a short squeeze.

Traders holding short positions in the futures market face risk of losses if the physical market disconnects to the upside, making no sense to hold on till expiry. When a large population of such traders buy futures to cover their shorts, it triggers a short squeeze, pushing futures price closer to physical market price.

Praveen: I see. You mentioned Dated Brent is at \$113 today, having fallen from \$145 a couple weeks ago. What explains this?

Naveen: A reason why this could be so is that since the ceasefire was announced, military attacks have largely stopped and that could've helped spot prices cool. However, the ongoing blockade, production shut-ins in West Asian countries and depletion of high sea inventory haven't yet eased the flow of crude. Despite this, spot prices have fallen. There could be one possible explanation — demand destruction i.e., demand for crude is coming down due to high prices.

Praveen: That is bad news for economic activity and the stock markets, isn't it?

Naveen: Possibly. That makes it all the more important for investors to keep a close eye on this interplay of crude futures and the physical market.

US imposes sanctions on China refinery, 40 vessels over Iranian oil

WASHINGTON

DONALD Trump's administration is placing economic sanctions on a major China-based oil refinery and roughly 40 shipping companies and tankers involved in transporting Iranian oil.

The move, announced on Friday and first reported by The Associated Press, makes good on Trump's threat to impose secondary sanctions on companies and countries that do business with Iran. It's also part of his Republican administration's overall ramped-up campaign to cut off Iran's key source of revenue — its oil exports.

Concurrently, the US this month imposed a physical blockade on the Strait of Hormuz, the Persian Gulf waterway that is crucial to global energy supplies.

The sanctions, which cut off the companies from the US financial system and penalise anyone who does business with them, come just a few weeks before President Donald Trump and China's Xi Jinping are due to meet in China. Included in Friday's sanctions is Hengli Petrochemical's facility in the port city of Dalian, which has a processing ca-

capacity of roughly 400,000 barrels of crude oil per day, making it one of the biggest independent refineries in China.

The Treasury Department says Hengli has received Iranian crude oil shipments since 2023 and has generated hundreds of millions of dollars in revenue for the Iranian military. The advocacy group United Against Nuclear Iran said in February 2025 that Hengli is one of dozens of Chinese purchasers of Iranian oil.

China is the biggest buyer of Iranian oil, importing 80% to 90% of Iranian oil before the US-Israeli war with Iran broke out, though the crude — transported by a shadow fleet of vessels — often has its origin obscured but arrives in China as oil from countries such as Malaysia. Smaller refineries, known as teapot refineries, typically are the buyers of Iranian oil. Iran has previously said that its demands for ending the war include the lifting of sanctions.

Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said Friday that his agency "will continue to constrict the network of vessels, intermediaries and buyers Iran relies on to move its oil to global markets."



The agency will continue to constrict the network of vessels, intermediaries and buyers Iran relies on to move its oil to global markets

Scott Bessent, Treasury Secretary

AP

Online

Headline	Fuel price hike may trigger near-term market correction; Emkay sees ₹10/litre petrol and diesel rise in first round		
Publication	Fortune India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	25 Apr 2026		

Fuel price hike may trigger near-term market correction; Emkay sees ₹10/litre petrol and diesel rise in first round

<https://www.fortuneindia.com/markets/fuel-price-hike-may-trigger-near-term-market-correction-emkay-sees-10litre-petrol-and-diesel-rise-in-first-round/134271>

The brokerage said that the Nifty 50 has already rallied about 11% from its April 2 lows, leaving little room for valuation comfort.

As crude prices continue to hover near \$100 per barrel and geopolitical tensions in the Middle East remain unresolved, the Indian equity market is likely to face a bumpy road ahead. According to domestic brokerage Emkay Global, petrol and diesel prices in India could see an initial hike of 10 per litre after the ongoing state elections, a move that may trigger short-term volatility in domestic equities.

We expect a 10/litre hike in the first round. While this does not fully neutralise the under-recoveries of OMCs, the inflation shock from a larger hike poses too many macro risks to be seriously considered, Emkay said in a report. The brokerage added that if crude prices do not normalise in the medium term, further rounds of hikes could follow along similar lines.

Emkay noted that the Nifty 50 has already rallied about 11% from its April 2 lows, largely pricing in easing geopolitical tensions. However, this optimism may be running ahead of fundamentals. With the index now trading close to its long-term average valuation of around 19x one-year forward earnings, the cushion from cheap valuations has largely disappeared. In such a scenario, any negative trigger, such as a fuel price hike, could spark a short-term correction.

The Nifty 50 has rallied 10.9% from the lows of April 2, 2026, factoring in the ceasefire but overlooking the stickiness in energy prices. This has eroded valuation comfortthe index now trades at an FY27E P/E of 19.5x, with little discount to its long-term average, the report noted.

While the brokerage remains constructive on earnings recovery for FY27 and FY28, it expects Q1 FY27 to be soft. We believe the rally could pause in the near term, with potential downside if the Strait of Hormuz impasse is not resolved in the next 710 days and fuel price hikes materialise, it said.

A key uncertainty remains the situation in the Middle East. Although a ceasefire has held for the past two weeks, a broader agreement to reopen the Strait of Hormuz is still pending. This has kept global crude prices elevated at around \$100 per barrel, with India's crude basket occasionally trading even higher. Elevated oil prices continue to strain India's macroeconomic stability, given its heavy reliance on imports.

Potential fuel price hike

Emkay believes the government may need to raise retail fuel prices to ease the burden on oil marketing companies (OMCs), which are currently facing significant under-recoveries. At prevailing crude prices, these losses are estimated at 18-20 per litre for petrol and diesel. The brokerage expects a 10 per litre hike in the first round, enough to partially bridge the gap without triggering a sharp inflation spike.

However, if crude prices remain elevated for a prolonged period, further rounds of price hikes may follow. Emkay estimates that if oil sustains above \$100 per barrel over the next few quarters, total fuel price increases could reach 18-20 per litre over the next three to six months.

Emkay estimates that a 10 per litre increase could push inflation higher by around 75 basis points, including second-order effects such as increased transportation and input costs. This could weigh on consumption and impact sectors such as automobiles, cement, and related ancillaries, which are sensitive to fuel prices.

FPIs likely to hit pause

On the flows front, foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) are likely to adopt a wait-and-watch approach, the brokerage said. After heavy selling in recent months, a pause in outflows is possible if macro conditions stabilise. However, a meaningful revival in inflows appears unlikely in the near term, given India's premium valuations relative to global peers.

We believe FPIs will pause their heavy selling for the remainder of 2026, but a sustained wave of inflows is unlikely until valuations moderate, the report noted.

The brokerage added that the gap between domestic institutional investors (DIIs) and foreign institutional investors (FIIs) holdings in BSE 500 companies widened by 90 basis points to 154 basis points, driven by \$14.2 billion of FPI selling in Q4 FY26. FPIs reduced exposure to financials and technology, while reallocating capital towards materials, industrials, and healthcare sectors.

Despite near-term risks, Emkay remains constructive on the medium-term outlook, particularly on earnings growth for FY27 and FY28. However, it expects the current market rally to pause, with potential downside risks if crude prices remain elevated and fuel price hikes materialise.

(DISCLAIMER: The views and opinions expressed by investment experts on fortuneindia.com are either their own or of their organisations, but not necessarily that of fortuneindia.com and its editorial team. Readers are advised to consult certified experts before taking investment decisions.)

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the expected fuel price hike in India?

Emkay Global predicts an initial 10 per litre hike for petrol and diesel in India after state elections, aiming to partially offset oil marketing companies' under-recoveries.

Why are fuel prices expected to increase in India?

Fuel prices are expected to rise due to crude oil hovering near \$100 per barrel and unresolved geopolitical tensions, leading to significant under-recoveries for oil marketing companies.

How might a fuel price hike impact the Indian equity market?

A fuel price hike may trigger a near-term market correction and short-term volatility in domestic equities, as the Nifty 50's valuation comfort has largely disappeared.

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

Headline	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited Receives Stop Production Order for Mori Field Well		
Publication	INV	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	25 Apr 2026		

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited Receives Stop Production Order for Mori Field Well

<https://www.investywise.com/oil-and-natural-gas-corporation-limited-stop-production-order-received/>

ONGC has received a Stop Production Order from the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board regarding its Mori#05 well.

The directive follows environmental violations stemming from an uncontrolled blowout event on January 5, 2026 , during a workover operation by a third-party contractor. The company maintains that the well is currently closed and does not consider the impact of this order significant given the scale of its overall operations.

Incident Overview

On April 24, 2026 , ONGC received an official order from the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board mandating a halt to operations at the Mori#05 well located in the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema District . This regulatory action follows an incident involving a well blowout and subsequent fire that occurred on January 5, 2026 . The facility, which had been handed over to a third-party operator for production enhancement in 2025, has been the subject of scrutiny regarding compliance with environmental safety standards.

Well Status and Environmental Compliance

The Mori#05 well, originally drilled in March 1994 , had remained inactive since April 2009 . Following the blowout incident in early 2026, the company successfully capped the well on January 10, 2026 , with the assistance of its internal crisis management team. The well has remained closed since that date.

Operational Impact

The regulatory authority cited the lack of necessary operational consents and concerns regarding potential environmental damage as the primary reasons for the Stop Production Order . Despite the issuance of this directive, management has stated that the impact on the company's broader financial and operational health is not considered significant. ONGC is currently in the process of reviewing the order in detail to determine the necessary course of action.

Headline	Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited Board Approves Key Leadership Appointment and Strategic JVC Formation		
Publication	INV	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	25 Apr 2026		

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited Board Approves Key Leadership Appointment and Strategic JVC Formation

<https://www.investywise.com/ongc-executive-appointment-and-new-joint-venture/>

ONGC has announced a major leadership update and the launch of a new joint venture to optimize petrochemical operations.

The Board of Directors has appointed Shri Yogish Nayak S. as the new Chief Financial Officer, effective May 1, 2026 . Additionally, the company is spearheading a strategic joint venture with MRPL and OPaL to integrate petrochemical marketing, while committing 79.48 crore in equity toward the Duliajan Feeder Line Project

New Leadership Appointed

Effective May 1, 2026 Shri Yogish Nayak S. will assume the role of Chief Financial Officer for ONGC. Bringing over 30 years of extensive experience in corporate finance, Shri Nayak has a distinguished track record in the oil and gas sector. His previous experience includes serving as the CFO of MRPL and overseeing critical financial integration tasks, including the merger of subsidiary company OMPL and the implementation of SAP systems.

Strategic Petrochemical Joint Venture

ONGC has received board approval to form an Integrated Petrochemicals Marketing & Trading JVC in partnership with its subsidiaries, MRPL and OPaL . The shareholding structure is set at respectively, with ONGC contributing 25 crore toward the equity share capital.

This initiative aims to streamline marketing operations, reduce overall costs, and boost revenues through improved pricing and logistical efficiencies. By focusing on grade optimization and expanding into third-party sales, the JVC is designed to address the nation's import dependency in specific petrochemical segments.

Investment in Gas Infrastructure

The company continues to strengthen India's gas infrastructure through support for the Duliajan Feeder Line Project under the North East Gas Grid. The board has sanctioned an equity investment of up to 79.48 crore and provided corporate guarantee support of up to 185.45 crore to Indradhanush Gas Grid Limited (IGGL) . This project is a crucial component of the regional gas pipeline network, aligning with directives from the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Headline	ONGC Board Announces Key Leadership Change and Strategic Petrochemical Joint Venture		
Publication	INV	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	25 Apr 2026		

ONGC Board Announces Key Leadership Change and Strategic Petrochemical Joint Venture

<https://www.investywise.com/oil-and-natural-gas-corporation-limited-leadership-change-and-strategic-expansion/>

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has appointed Shri Yogish Nayak S. as the new Chief Financial Officer, effective May 1, 2026 . In addition

to this leadership transition, the board has approved the formation of an Integrated Petrochemicals Marketing & Trading Joint Venture with OPaL and MRPL, alongside a significant equity and guarantee commitment for the Duliajan Feeder Line project , aimed at bolstering India's energy infrastructure.

Appointment of New Chief Financial Officer

The Board of Directors has officially approved the appointment of Shri Yogish Nayak S. as the company's new Chief Financial Officer (CFO). A seasoned Chartered Accountant with over 30 years of professional experience in the oil industry, Shri Nayak brings deep expertise in corporate finance and strategic planning. He will assume his new role on May 1, 2026 , bringing extensive knowledge from his previous leadership tenures at Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd. (MRPL).

Strategic Petrochemicals Marketing Venture

ONGC is set to enhance its market synergy by forming a new Joint Venture Company (JVC) alongside its subsidiaries, MRPL and OPaL. The shareholding structure for this initiative is established at a 50:25:25 ratio among ONGC, MRPL, and OPaL respectively. ONGC will contribute 25 crore as initial equity share capital. This JVC is designed to optimize petrochemical marketing, reduce logistics costs, and improve revenue through better pricing mechanisms and grade optimization, while also addressing import dependencies through new third-party sales opportunities.

Investment in Energy Infrastructure

To support the nation's energy grid, the board has authorized a capital commitment for the Duliajan Feeder Line project , which is a key component of the North East Gas Grid. The approval includes an equity investment of up to 79.48 crore and corporate guarantee support of up to 185.45 crore for the Indradhanush Gas Grid Limited (IGGL). This investment underscores ONGC's commitment to expanding critical gas infrastructure across the country in line with government directives.

Headline	Today's News » United Drilling Tools Limited Secures ₹50.4 Million Order from ONGC for Integral Blade Stabilizer Supply		
Publication	Indian Oil and Gas	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	25 Apr 2026		

Today's News » United Drilling Tools Limited Secures ₹50.4 Million Order from ONGC for Integral Blade Stabilizer Supply

<http://www.indianoilandgas.com/viewnews.php?id=64389>

April 25, 2026: United Drilling Tools Limited announced securing a 50,355,686.80 order from Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) for supplying Integral Blade Stabilizer equipment including accessories.

The domestic commercial order has a 4-5 month execution timeline and was disclosed under SEBI Regulation 30 compliance requirements. The company confirmed this represents an arm's length transaction with no related party involvement or promoter interests in the awarding entity.

Headline	Today's News » ONGC, MOL deepen maritime logistics tie as ethane shipping JVs move forward		
Publication	Indian Oil and Gas	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	25 Apr 2026		

Today's News » ONGC, MOL deepen maritime logistics tie as ethane shipping JVs move forward

<http://www.indianoilandgas.com/viewnews.php?id=64388>

April 25, 2026: Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) said in a post on X that the company and Mitsui OSK Lines (MOL), Japan, advanced their strategic dialogue on maritime logistics during a meeting between MOL Chairman Takeshi Hashimoto and ONGC Chairman Arun Kumar Singh at ONGC headquarters in New Delhi. The post said the leaders were steering the future of energy across global waters and were exploring new avenues to strengthen cooperation in energy transportation.

ONGC said the two sides reviewed progress on Bharat Ethane One IFSC Ltd and Bharat Ethane Two IFSC Ltd, the joint ventures formed earlier this year with MOL. In January, ONGC had acquired 50 percent shareholding in each company through private placement, making it a 50:50 joint venture partner with MOL in both entities. Each JV will own one Very Large Ethane Carrier, or VLEC, for transporting ethane for ONGC Petro additions Ltd. (OPaL), a subsidiary of ONGC.

Headline	US-Iran war to fuel petrol, diesel prices. How can stock market investors make money from it?		
Publication	MSN India	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	25 Apr 2026		

US-Iran war to fuel petrol, diesel prices. How can stock market investors make money from it?

<https://www.msn.com/en-in/money/markets/us-iran-war-to-fuel-petrol-diesel-prices-how-can-stock-market-investors-make-money-from-it/ar-AA21GjRA>

Asit Manohar US-Iran war: Despite a rise in international crude oil prices , petrol and diesel prices have not risen in India.

However, the market is estimating a rise in fuel prices in India once the important state assembly polls, especially in West Bengal and Assam, are over. However, this delay comes at a cost. Oil marketing companies have been operating under margin pressure, as they have not fully passed on higher crude costs. If international crude oil prices remain elevated, the Government of India (GoI) may increase petrol and diesel prices after these state assembly elections. For a market investor who always discounts an event well before it occurs, upstream refiners tend to benefit as their realisations improve with rising oil prices. Are petrol and diesel prices set to rise due to the US-Iran war? Speaking on the possibility of petrol and diesel price rise in India due to the US-Iran war, Abhinav Tiwari, Research Analyst at Bonanza, said, On the domestic front, fuel pricing remains closely linked to political timing. While a broader national election cycle may be behind, key state elections, particularly in West Bengal and Assam, are still pending. Historically, governments have avoided fuel price hikes ahead of elections due to their direct impact on consumer sentiment. This suggests that despite rising crude prices, immediate pass-through to retail fuel prices could remain limited in the near term. Opportunity for stock market investors Dhaval Popat, Analyst Energy at Choice International, said, If the US-Iran war extends into the summer season, stronger jet fuel demand and broader distillate tightness in Europe could lift cracks globally, including in Asia, driving robust year-on-year EBITDA growth for pure-play refiners. We therefore prefer pure-play refiners in the current market. Analysing the expected petrol and diesel price rise from an investor perspective, Dhaval Popat said the opportunity lies less in retail fuel and more in refining margins. The disruption is tightening global supplies of diesel and jet fuel, supporting stronger product cracks. This creates a favourable setup for complex pure-play refiners in India, with elevated realisations more than offsetting the impact of government-led discounts for OMCs. Stocks to buy amid petrol and diesel price hike buzz On how stock market investors can make money amid buzz for the petrol and diesel price rise, Gaurav Udani, Founder of Thincredblu Securities, said, When oil prices go up, upstream oil producers like ONGC and Oil India usually do better because they can get more money for their oil. Companies that refine and sell things, like Reliance Industries, can see an increase in their margins; however, that depends on how much they make from refining. Gaurav Udani said that aviation (IndiGo, SpiceJet), paints (Asian Paints, Berger Paints), and chemicals are under pressure due to rising input costs, which could hurt their margins. US-Iran war: Money-making strategy Unveiling the stock market strategy amid the US-Iran war, Gaurav Udani of Thincredblu Securities advised investors to follow the sector rotation trick, saying, If crude oil price stays high, stocks linked to energy may do better than those linked to consumption. Traders can also look at short-term chances in oil-sensitive stocks based on how prices move. Petrol, diesel price in Delhi Prices of regular petrol and diesel have largely remained unchanged since March 2024. In the national capital, petrol is priced at 94.77 per litre by state-run oil marketing companies, while diesel is sold at 87.67 per litre. Private refiners and oil marketing companiesNayara and Shell, which operate around 8,500 of the above 1 lakh petrol pumps in the country have already raised fuel prices. Other retailers have so far not raised the prices of regular petrol and diesel. State-run OMCs have increased the prices of premium diesel and petrol, which account for 4% of total fuel sales, as well as the rate of industrial diesel, which is purchased in bulk by industries and the agriculture sector. Disclaimer: This story is for educational purposes only. The views and recommendations above are those of individual analysts or broking companies, not Mint. We advise investors to check with certified experts before making any investment decisions.

Headline	US-Iran war to fuel petrol, diesel prices. How can stock market investors make money from it?		
Publication	Mint	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	25 Apr 2026		

US-Iran war to fuel petrol, diesel prices. How can stock market investors make money from it?

<https://www.livemint.com/market/stock-market-news/us-iran-war-news-to-fuel-petrol-diesel-prices-how-can-market-investors-make-money-from-it-11777084466718.html>

US-Iran war: According to experts, when oil prices go up, upstream oil producers like ONGC and Oil India usually do better

US-Iran war: Despite a rise in international crude oil prices petrol and diesel prices have not risen in India. However, the market is estimating a rise in fuel prices in India once the important state assembly polls, especially in West Bengal and Assam, are over.

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Stocks to buy amid petrol and diesel price hike buzz On how stock market investors can make money amid buzz for the petrol and diesel price rise, Gaurav Udani, Founder of Thincredblu Securities, said, When oil prices go up, upstream oil producers like ONGC and Oil India usually do better because they can get more money for their oil. Companies that refine and sell things, like Reliance Industries, can see an increase in their margins; however, that depends on how much they make from refining.

Gaurav Udani said that aviation (IndiGo, SpiceJet), paints (Asian Paints, Berger Paints), and chemicals are under pressure because input costs are rising, which can hurt their margins.

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Headline	Energy sector stocks today, April 24: MRPL up 2.68%, BPCL down 1.84%, HPCL falls 1.34%		
Publication	OB News	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	26 Apr 2026		

Energy sector stocks today, April 24: MRPL up 2.68%, BPCL down 1.84%, HPCL falls 1.34%

<https://obnews.co/Index/flowNewsDetail/id/14890613.html?val=d2d45abb4fa67f3fb36eb30d5594be04>

India's energy sector is trading largely in the red on April 24, 2026, with the S&P BSE Energy Index down 0.36% at 11,584.74.

The broader market is also under pressure the S&P BSE Sensex has shed 1.06% to 76,841.11, while the Nifty 50 is off 1.05% at 23,920.20.

Most upstream and downstream names are trading lower. IOC, BPCL, HPCL, and Petronet LNG are all in negative territory, while MRPL and OIL India stand out as gainers.

City gas distributors and pipeline companies are mixed, with GAIL nearly flat and Mahanagar Gas posting a modest gain, while Gujarat Gas and GUJ. State Petronet are seeing selling pressure.

Among lubricant and specialty names, Castrol India and Gulf Oil Lubricants are marginally lower. Bharat Coking Coal is down about 1.3%. Linde India is one of the stronger performers in the energy space today, up 1.66% on BSE.

Renewable names are holding up relatively better than conventional energy peers. Suzlon Energy and INOX Green Energy are both fractionally lower but well within the day's broader market drawdown.

The top gainers in the energy space as of mid-morning are MRPL (+2.68% BSE), OIL India (+2.16% BSE), Linde India (+1.66% BSE), and Mahanagar Gas (+1.24% BSE). Chennai Petroleum is also modestly positive at +0.71%.

The steepest declines are in Gujarat Gas (2.11%), Veedol Corporation (1.82%), BPCL (1.84%), and K.P. Energy (2.52%). ONGC is unchanged on both exchanges.

This article is a factual snapshot of intraday prices reported on BSE and NSE on April 24, 2026. BSE data is as of 10:44 AM IST; NSE data is as of 10:49 AM IST. This is not investment advice. Prices are subject to change throughout the trading session.

Headline	Energy sector stocks today, April 24: MRPL up 2.68%, BPCL down 1.84%, HPCL falls 1.34%		
Publication	Tezzbuzz	Edition	Online Coverage
Published Date	26 Apr 2026		

Energy sector stocks today, April 24: MRPL up 2.68%, BPCL down 1.84%, HPCL falls 1.34%

<https://tezzbuzz.com/energy-sector-stocks-today-april-24-mrpl-up-2-68-bpcl-down-1-84-hpcl-falls-1-34/>

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Oil, gas and refinery stocks

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Headline	ONGC appoints Yogish Nayak CFO May 1, 2026, backs JV		
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Oil & Natural Gas Corpn Ltd ONGC Key development at ONGC

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has approved a senior finance leadership change, naming Shri Yogish Nayak S. as its new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) effective May 1, 2026. The decision was cleared by the company's Board of Directors.

Alongside the appointment, the board also approved two strategic steps linked to downstream and infrastructure priorities. These include the formation of an Integrated Petrochemicals Marketing & Trading Joint Venture with OPaL and Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd. (MRPL), and an equity and guarantee commitment for the Duliajan Feeder Line project.

The set of announcements brings together governance, portfolio coordination, and project support decisions in a single board update, and will be tracked by investors for execution clarity.

Appointment: Shri Yogish Nayak S. to take charge as CFO

ONGC said Shri Yogish Nayak S. will assume charge as Chief Financial Officer from May 1, 2026. He is a Chartered Accountant and has over 30 years of professional experience in the oil industry.

The company highlighted his background in corporate finance and strategic planning. ONGC also referenced his earlier leadership tenures at MRPL, positioning the appointment as one that adds experience across the broader oil and petrochemicals value chain.

The CFO role is central to capital allocation, financial controls, and balance sheet planning for a large upstream operator, especially when the company is simultaneously supporting infrastructure projects and evaluating collaboration structures.

Board approvals beyond the CFO change

In the same board context, ONGC approved the formation of an Integrated Petrochemicals Marketing & Trading Joint Venture with OPaL and MRPL. The announcement does not provide financial terms or timelines, but it signals a formal structure to coordinate marketing and trading activities in petrochemicals.

ONGC also said the board approved a significant equity and guarantee commitment for the Duliajan Feeder Line project. The company framed the Duliajan Feeder Line as part of efforts to strengthen India's energy infrastructure.

Both decisions sit alongside the leadership update, suggesting the company is aligning management responsibilities with multi-part execution across finance, partnerships, and project support.

What ONGC says about its position in India's oil and gas sector

ONGC described itself as India's largest crude oil and natural gas company, contributing around 71 per cent to Indian domestic production. It specialises in the exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas.

The company's disclosures in the provided information also place it in the Oil Refining/Marketing industry classification, while its core description remains upstream-focused.

This mix of upstream dominance and board-approved downstream-linked coordination through the petrochemicals JV provides context for why finance leadership and partnership governance can matter at the same time.

Recent senior management changes mentioned

The provided information also references earlier appointments. ONGC appointed Shri Vinod Seshan as Government Nominee Director effective March 9, 2026, for three years.

It also noted that Shri Vikram Saxena was assigned additional charge of Director (Strategy & Corporate Affairs), effective March 1, 2026.

Separately, the company information states Shri Vivek Chandrakant Tongaonkar has been Director Finance and CFO since July 2, 2024. The new CFO appointment of Shri Yogish Nayak S. is effective May 1, 2026, as per the board approval.

Stock identifiers and snapshot

ONGC is listed on BSE and NSE under the following identifiers: BSE: 500312 and NSE: ONGC.

The provided market snippet includes a price reference of 285 with a 0.96% move on March 30, without further context on the trading session, period, or the reference exchange.

Summary table: appointments and board decisions

Company details provided

ONGC's registered address is Plot No. 5A-5B, Nelson Mandela Road, Deendayal Urja Bhawan, New Delhi, Delhi 110070. The listed contact numbers include 011-26754073 and 011-26754085, with fax 011-26129081.

The company email is secretariat@ongc.co.in and the website is <https://ongcindia.com>. The registrars listed are Alankit Assignment Ltd., 4E/2, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi - 110055, Delhi.

ONGC is described as a public sector group entity and is headquartered in New Delhi.

Why the combined update matters

Leadership changes at the CFO level typically coincide with renewed focus on financial governance, especially when boards are approving joint venture structures and project-related commitments. In this case, ONGC's board actions span a petrochemicals marketing and trading JV and support for the Duliajan Feeder Line project.

At the same time, the company's stated role as a leading domestic producer provides context for why infrastructure projects and downstream coordination can be strategically linked to ensuring reliability and monetisation across the chain.

Conclusion

ONGC's board has cleared Shri Yogish Nayak S. as CFO from May 1, 2026, while also approving an Integrated Petrochemicals Marketing & Trading JV with OPaL and MRPL and support for the Duliajan Feeder Line project. Investors will watch for subsequent disclosures on the JV structure, project milestones, and any additional leadership or implementation updates tied to these decisions.