

## 3 labourers hurt after accidentally damaging gas pipeline

New Delhi: Three labourers sustained burn injuries on Tuesday while digging the ground as part of ongoing works in the Safe City Project. Police said the incident took place when labourers accidentally damaged a gas pipeline belonging to Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL) in north Delhi's Burari. IGL officials were also allegedly roughed up by some inebriated locals when they came to fix the line after the incident. police said, adding that they were taking legal action. TNN



# Centre weighs harmonizing standards for new FAME-III

Ministry may pay quarterly incentives, extend scheme by a year to compensate for delays

Alisha Sachdev

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he ministry of heavy industries (MHI) may combine the standards required for the FAME-II and production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for advanced automotive technologies as it weighs the contours of the next phase of its plan to push manufacturing of hybrid and electric vehicles, a senior government official said on Tuesday.

The move is seen as a way to streamline processes for auto and auto parts makers who currently have to obtain separate certifications from government-affiliated testing agencies in order to qualify for incentives under FAME-II and the PLI for auto, Kamran Rizvi, secretary, MHI said.

The government schemes as they currently stand, including Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (FAME), make for cumbersome form-filling for manufacturers.

FAME-II mandates manufacturers to localize a set of 18 electric vehicle components to qualify for incentives. The PLI auto scheme, on the other hand, requires OEMs and parts makers to show evidence of at least 50% adomestic value addition (DVA). That's in addition to fulfilling the investments they have committed to making.

People privy to recent discussions in the ministry told *Mint* that the government is considering how incentives for EVs, alternative fuel technologies, and



Currently, the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles (FAME) scheme involves cumbersome form-filling for manufacturers.

for the development of infrastructure for new vehicle technologies can be merged in FAME-III.

FAME-III is seen as a potential successor to the ongoing FAME-II scheme,

This is because the procedure for filing claims is still being worked upon. The government may also pay out the incentives on a quarterly basis as it is keen to utilize the nearly \$\frac{3}{2}6,000\$ crore budget-

#### CHASING FAME

THE move helps to streamline processes for certifications for automakers THE govt is eager to use the nearly ₹26,000 crore budgetary allocation for the scheme 23 OEMs will have received the certification by the end of September STAKEHOLDERS sought an extension in the scheme citing the time it takes to

build capacity

which ends in March next year.

The heavy industries ministry will also extend the timeline for the validity of the scheme to allow automakers one more year of sales to claim incentives. ary allocation for the scheme, minister for heavy industries Mahendra Nath Pandey said at a review of the auto PLI scheme on Tuesday.

This was the first time he was chairing

a review of the scheme.

According to Hanif Qureshi, joint secretary, MHI, only two automakers have received DVA certification and two component makers are in the process of obtaining it. However, 23 automakers will have received certification by the end of September, and 35 are expected to complete the process by March next year.

A total 85 firms, comprising 18 automakers and 67 components makers are participating in the PLI scheme.

According to Qureshi, of the ₹67,690 crore investment committed by automakers and suppliers under the scheme, a sum of ₹10,755 crore had been invested till the end of June.

At Tuesday's review meeting, major auto and auto-part makers, testing agencies and industry bodies sought an extension in the scheme citing the time it took to build supply-chain capacity in smaller towns

Additionally, they said, automakers can only claim incentives on sales after obtaining DVA certifications, which is a

process that takes at least 2-3 months. Moreover, the procedure for DVA certification was only published in April this year, which meant automakers could not claim any incentives for the first year of the scheme.

Qureshi said MHI is building a detailed framework of traceability in DAV in order to check "irregularities" by automakers under FAME-II by circumventing norms to use imported parts, routing imports through traders and not maintaining thorough records.



# Crude oil near \$85 on supply concerns

#### Reuters

Crude oil prices crept up on Tuesday as supply concerns from a hurricane hurtling towards the US Gulf Coast limited bearish sentiment about the possibility of another US interest rate hike undercutting demand.

Brent crude rose 53 cents at \$84.95 a barrel by 1235 GMT, while US West Texas Intermediate crude edged 42 cents higher to \$80.52 a barrel.

Tropical Storm Idalia swirled into a hurricane on Tuesday after skirting past Cuba as it closed in on Florida's Gulf Coast. The storm is likely to cause power outages and could impact crude production.

Still, oil demand worries fester in the world's two biggest economies – the US and China.

Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell on Friday said



the US central bank may need to raise rates further to cool stubborn inflation.

China's post-pandemic economic recovery has sputtered due to a worsening property slump, weak consumer spending and tumbling credit growth, prompting Beijing to cut key policy rates to shore up activity in the world's biggest oil importer.

Eyes are also on economic data from key economies this week to help determine the path of interest rates this year and next.



# Domestic LPG cylinder price slashed by ₹200 in steepest-ever cut

New Delhi: The government on Tuesday slashed the price of domestic LPG cylinders by Rs 200, the sharpest-ever reduction that will provide relief to more than 33 crore users amid high inflation, ahead of elections in five states, including politically crucial MP, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh.

The move will also double the relief to Rs 400 for 9.6 crore poor households using free connection given under the 'Ujjwala' scheme, one of PM Modi's flagship social welfare programmes, who get a subsidy of Rs 200 under the Covid relief package announced in May. The reduction will entail a burden of Rs 7,600 crore for the exchequer as additional Ujjwala subsidy. "This is a gift to crores of my sisters of the country on Raksha Bandhan. Our government will always do everything possible that improves people's quality of life and benefits the poor



- Relief to over 33cr users, ahead of polls in 5 states
- > 75 lakh additional connections for women under Ujjwala

and middle class," a government statement quoted the PM as saying. Modi had in his I-Day speech promised steps to tame inflation. TNN

▶75L extra for women, P 14

## 75L extra LPG connections for women

#### ▶ Continued from P 1

The government's move comes ahead of elections in politically crucial states and is seen as a counter to opposition criticism over inflation and Congress offering cylinders at Rs 500 apiece, a programme the party's government in Rajasthan implemented on Monday.

In the spirit of the PM's promise, the government also approved 75 lakh additional connections for women under Ujjwala, aiming to expand the footprint to more than 10.3 crore, I&B minister Anurag Thakur told reporters. It is unclear whether the reduction is due to any fall in benchmark LPG prices in the recent past or the government will later step in with grants to state-run fuel retailers, as it did last year with

### PM: Cut to make life Poll lollipops won't easier for 'sisters'

M Narendra Modi on Tuesday hailed the government's announcement of cut in prices of domestic cooking gas cylinders, saying the festival of Raksha Bandhan is about "increasing happiness within the family" and this reduction will provide more comfort to "sisters" and make their life easier.

"May every sister of mine be happy and healthy, this is my wish from God," Modi said in a post in Hindi on X. TNN

#### a Rs 20,000 crore package.

'We understand the challenges faced by households in managing their budgets. The reduction in cooking gas prices is aimed at providing direct relief to families and individuals, while also sup-

## work, says Kharge

laiming that the Centre had slashed LPG prices out of fear of losing votes, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said PM Narendra Modi was betraying fear of the INDIA group, but warned that such belated piecemeal measures would not wash away the "sins" of the BJP regime. "The BJP government should know that after torturing 140 crore Indians for nine-and-a-half years, handing over electoral lollipops will not work," he said on X. TNN

porting the government's larger goal of ensuring affordable access to essential items," oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri said.

Education minister Dharmendra Pradhan, who had steered the Ujjwala

scheme to Guinness record as oil minister, described the reduction as a "historic step towards improving health, financial and social status of women by providing clean fuel access to every household".

The reduction in the price cooking gas cylinder is expected to be the harbinger of more steps, including a possible reduction in petrol and diesel prices by the stateowned fuel retailers, in the coming weeks. Besides, with the Centre's tax collection remaining buoyant, the Modi administration could unveil more schemes focused on the poor and middle-class. Modi has already announced subsidised loans for affordable housing in urban areas and is due to launch the ambitious PM Vishwakarma Scheme to reach out to the other backward castes.



## 'Fear of INDIA bloc made govt. slash LPG cylinder price'

#### The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Hours after the Narendra Modi government slashed the retail price of domestic LPG cooking gas by ₹200 a cylinder, top leaders belonging to the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) bloc said the fear of losing elections and the Opposition parties coming together prompted the government to do so.

Taking to X (formerly Twitter), Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said, "When the votes are decreasing, election gifts are beginning to start getting distributed! The merciless Modi government, which looted the hardearned money of the people, is now feigning goodwill towards mothers and sisters... Fear of INDIA is good, Modi ji!"

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the sudden slash is also a result of the Karnataka rout of the BIP.

Trinamool Congress president and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee posted on X, "Till now, only TWO meetings have been held in the past TWO months by the INDIA alliance and today, we see that LPG prices have gone down by Rs. 200."

Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav and NCP working president Supriya Sule also echoed the sentiment.

"If govt believes that LPG should be sold at this price, will they return the billions of rupees looted from people since 2014?" asked CPI general secretary D. Raja. CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury said if the Centre stopped collecting cess and surcharges on petroleum products, a cylinder would cost much less even without a subsidy.

SOME



## First food, now fuel: Govt cuts LPG cylinder prices by ₹200 to fight inflation

#### SUBHAYAN CHAKRABORTY

New Delhi, 29 August

**GAS SUBSIDY** 

**INFLATION AS** 

**FOR UPCOMING** 

**KEY PLANK** 

SIGNALS

**POLLS** 

The price of domestic LPG cylinders has been cut by ₹200 for all connections, in all markets across the country, the Union government announced Tuesday. This decision comes amid high inflation and ahead of crucial state and general elections.

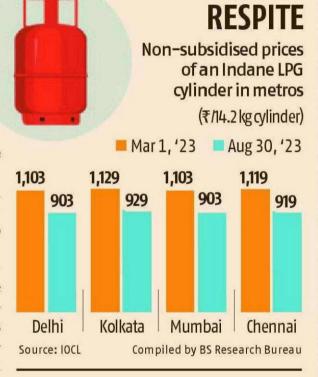
India has a total of 314 million

domestic LPG consumers, according to government data. The across-the-

board reduction in the LPG cylinder price the first change in its price in six months will come into effect on Wednesday. The price of 14.2 kg domestic LPG

cylinders was last changed in March when it was raised by ₹50. Before this, the domestic LPG cylinder price was raised back in July 2022.

"This is a gift to crores of my sisters of



the country on the occasion of Raksha Bandhan. Our government will always do everything possible that improves people's quality of life and benefits the poor and middle class," Prime Minister Narendra Modi posted on X. Turn to Page 6

larly onion and tomato, through its distribution network. The government is also considering to ease import norms for wheat. It has also allowed mills to sell more sugar. It recently imposed a 40 per cent Customs Duty on onion exports to control domestic prices. Additionally, the government has placed export curbs on key categories of rice.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman last week said the government's priority is to tame inflation to ensure sustained economic growth.

The latest reduction in the domestic LPG cylinder price will be in addition to the existing targeted subsidy of ₹200 per cylinder to Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana households. The government, according to a Reuters report, will have to spend an additional ₹4,000 crore for the enhanced cooking gas subsidy, in addition to over ₹7,600 crore it has budgeted for the current fiscal year. India imports about 60 per cent of its liquefied petroleum requirement, and LPG prices globally have risen 303 per cent since April 2020. In Delhi, for instance, the decision will bring down the cost of a 14.2 kg cylinder to ₹903 per cylinder. Meanwhile, PMUY households will receive it for ₹703 per cylinder. Back in May 2022, the government announced a targeted subsidy of ₹200 per cooking gas (14.2 kg) cylinder for 90 million PMUY beneficiaries for up to 12 refills for 2022-23. The subsidy was extended by a year in March at a total cost of ₹7,680 crore. The number of PMUY beneficiaries currently stands at 96 million. On Tuesday, the government announced that it will shortly start distribution of PMUY connections to a further 7.5 million women from poor households who do not have an LPG connection. This will increase the total number of beneficiaries under PMUY to 103.5 million, the Centre said.

### LPG...

The decision will impact millions of households that have been feeling the pinch of the rise in food prices over the past few months. India's annual retail inflation hit a 15-month high of 7.44 per cent in July and food price inflation touched 11.5 per cent. In a battle against high food inflation, being driven by uneven and scanty rainfall, the government has taken a series of measures to boost supplies of essential food items, including rice, onion, and tomato.

It has stepped up sales of subsidised vegetables, particu-



# Gadkari launches world's 1st BS 6-compliant flex-fuel car

#### **DHRUVAKSH SAHA & AGENCIES**

New Delhi, 29 August

Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari on Tuesday unveiled the prototype of the world's first Bharat Stage (BS)-VI-compliant electrified flex-fuel car, developed by Toyota Kirloskar Motor.

The car, which runs on 100 per cent ethanol (E100), is based on the Toyota Innova HyCross. It can cover 40 per cent of its distance on ethanol and the remaining 60 per cent on

electric, with the petrol engine shut off. Increased demand for ethanol for blending with petrol and diesel will transform India's agricultural economy, making farmers 'urja daata' (energy provider)," Gadkari said during the prototype launch.

While flex-fuel vehicles have been introduced internationally before, and Toyota launched a flex-fuel version of its Corolla last year, this is the first flex-fuel vehicle compliant with India's BS-VI emission standards, according to the company.



## Gadkari: Ethanol key to political fortunes in 189 constituencies

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New Delhi: Pointing out how the government's ethanol blending programme is politically crucial, Union road transport minister Nitin Gadkari said on Tuesday that there are 189 parliamentary constituencies where farmers grow sugarcane. Had the ethanol blending programme not been accelerated, he said, pending sugarcane dues of farmers would have posed serious problems to leaders.

He said if the cane dues were not paid in time, it would have been difficult for leaders to travel to their constituencies or be in decision making roles in Delhi. "If farmers didn't get their dues, we can't come here (Delhi) even for taking decisions," he said.

Speaking at the unveiling of the first prototype of the electric flex fuel vehicle by Toyota Kirloskar, Gadkari said because of the decline in availability of sugar in the international market and increased manufacturing of ethanol, Indian sugar is getting good prices.



### HINDUSTAN TIMES, Delhi, 30.8.2023

Page No. 12, Size:(7.13)cms X (10.15)cms.

#### IndianOil organises a conference on Carbon Finance

IndianOil organised a conference on "Leveraging Carbon Finance for Affordable Solar Cooking" marking a significant milestone in addressing India's clean cooking challenges. The event was conducted in New Delhi through its knowledge partners Finovista and Modern Energy Cooking Services (MECS). Industry experts, dignitaries of Union and State Governments, key stakeholders, policymakers, and manufacturers participated in the event. The path forward and strategies were deliberated & developed by IndianOil.



## LPG price cut by ₹200

FPJ NEWS SERVICE / NEW DELHI

The government on Tuesday Rs200 announced per cylinder reduction in the price of domestic cooking gas, which was hyped as a Raksha Bandhan and Onam gift, but may have more to do with the Congress promising to make LPG cheaper, ahead of Assembly elections in states like Madhya Pradesh. Women voters, who have backed the BJP in a big way in the past, were not too happy at an essential item like LPG sending their household budget for a toss.

At present, a 14.2-kg LPG cylinder in the national capital costs Rs1103, which is more than twice what it cost in May 2020. Once the price cut comes into force on Wednesday, these cylinders will cost roughly Rs 900. This across-the-board reduction is



in addition to the existing targeted subsidy of Rs200 per cylinder to PMUY (Ujjwala) households, which will continue. Thus, Ujjwala beneficiaries will have to pay Rs703. The government will also provide an additional 75 lakh Ujjwala connections, which will take the total PMUY beneficiaries to 10.35 crore.

CONTD. ON NATION

### LPG price cut by ₹200

Cooking gas prices have shot up in the last couple of years and have burnt a hole in the household budgets, becoming a major election issue. The Congress, which had raised the issue of high LPG prices during the last Assembly elections in Karnataka, has promised to give LPG at Rs500 per cylinder if voted to power in Madhya Pradesh, where elections are due in November-December. The Congress is providing LPG at that price in Rajasthan. Union Minister Anurag Thakur did not clarify how the reduction in price would be financed but said it was a gift from the government to women on Onam and Raksha Bandhan; however, he refused to link the price cut to the elections.



## LPG price cut by ₹200 per cylinder in inflation fight

Puja Das & Rituraj Baruah

NEW DELHI

n a relief to consumers, the Union government on Tuesday cut the price of a 14.2-kilogramme (kg) cooking gas cylinder by ₹200, terming it a gift for women ahead of the Raksha Bandhan this week.

The move comes as the central government faces growing criticism over rising inflation and its impact on households.

"On the occasion of Raksha Bandhan and Onam, the government has decided to reduce the price of domestic cylinders by ₹200," said information and broadcasting minister Anurag Thakur. "This is a gift from Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the women of the country."

At present, a 14.2kg LPG (liquified petroleum gas) cylinder costs ₹1,103 in Delhi. Effective Wednesday, the price will fall to ₹903.

The price reduction also applies to beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY). For beneficiaries of PMUY, the price will be ₹703. In March, the Centre had extended a ₹200 per LPG cylinder subsidy under the scheme.

"The government will also provide 7.5 million new LPG

TURN TO PAGE 6

# LPG price cut by ₹200 per cylinder in inflation fight

#### FROM PAGE 1

connections for free under the Ujjwala scheme," Thakur announced. At present, there are 96 million beneficiaries of the scheme.

Oil marketing companies had in July raised the price of LPG cylinders by ₹50, adding to two increases in May.

The subsidy for PMUY beneficiaries was introduced in May 2022 as part of a series of steps announced by the government to give relief amid a rally in global energy prices.

The latest price cut will be a welcome relief for consumers at a time of rising inflation. Retail inflation in July reached 7.44% from 4.87% in June, with consumers facing a sharp II.5% spike in food prices. This is the fastest pace of retail inflation since April 2022 and the first time since September 2022 that prices have scaled 7%.



Effective Wednesday, a 14.2kg cylinder will cost ₹903.

MINT

Rural residents faced a higher overall inflation rate of 7.63% in July, according to the National Statistical Office.

The Centre has been under severe criticism from the Opposition over the high inflation. The cut in LPG price also comes ahead of assembly elections in five states and general elections in 2024. Cooking gas is a politically sensitive commodity given its impact on household budgets.

Taking to social media site X,

formerly known as Twitter, the primer minister said the move would help "my sisters" and make their life convenient.

"PM Sh @narendramodi Ji has taken the bold step of reducing LPG cylinder price by ₹200/cylinder for all LPG consumers (33 crore connections) PM Ujjwala Yojana consumers will continue to the get the subsidy of ₹200/cylinder in their accounts," Hardeep Singh Puri, oil minister, said in a post on X.

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## Net-zero goal: ONGC to invest ₹2 trn

PSU aims to achieve Scope-I and Scope-II emissions targets by 2038

MANISH GUPTA New Delhi, August 29

OIL AND NATURAL Gas Corporation (ONGC) plans to invest ₹2 trillion to achieve Scope-I and Scope-II emission targets by 2038, chairman and CEO Arun Kumar Singh said at a press meet after its annual general meeting on Tuesday. "We have announced our Scope-I and Scope-II transition by 2038. Our multiple green initiatives will require ₹1 trillion by 2030. There are various parts to it like green ammonia, hydrogen, solar, PSP and offshore windmills," he said.

ONGC is actively exploring collaborations with leading players to leverage various low-carbon energy opportunities, including renewables, green hydrogen, green ammonia and other derivatives of green hydrogen.

The company has adopted vari-



Our net worth is around ₹2.5 trillion and considering a debt-equity ratio of 2:1, we can borrow ₹5 trillion

ARUN KUMAR SINGH CHAIRMAN, ONGC

ous de-carbonisation levers that enabled it to lower its Scope-I and Scope-II emissions by 17% in the last five years. In FY23, it reduced emissions by 2.66% to 8.89 MMTCO2e, from 9.14 MMTCO2e in FY22.

Itplans to scale up its renewable portfolio to 10 giga watt (GW) by 2030. There's an increasing focus on research and development in carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) technologies to mitigate emissions from existing processes.

Singh said it makes a strong economic sense in investing in green initiatives as there is a carbon market in the offing. There is also a big export opportunity of green products and the financing cost for such projects is much lower.

However, the chairman made it clear that the company would continue focusing on its conventional business of upstream and downstream. He said India's energy story will remain different from others for the next 10-20 years. "ONGC has enough financial muscleto carry on both India's energy story and the transition story simultaneously for next 5-10 years. Our net worth is around ₹2.5 trillion and considering a debt-equity ratio of 2:1, we can borrow ₹5 trillion."

Speaking at the AGM, Singh said dome stic production is expected to

enhance with the incremental output from the KG deep-water field in the eastern offshore over the next few years. It has deployed two drill ships and has commenced drilling of exploratory wells in deep-sea of Mahanadi basin of eastern offshore.

The company has constituted an empowered in-house 'production squad' for rejuvenation of western offshore. The multi-disciplinary squad will focus on production enhancement, reservoir pressure management, equipment availabilityand expediting project execution.

ONGC, which has set a target to bring 500,000 sq km of area under active exploration by 2025, has a capex programme of over ₹30,000 crore.

Its overseas arm ONGC Videsh (OVL) said the production level of Sakhalin-1 has reached the level of about 180,000 barrels perday, close to the pre-crisis production level of about 200,000 barrels per day.

In case of Mozambique, where OVL is executing its largest project, security situation has continued to improve and construction boots are on the ground. The company expects revocation of force maje ure anytime this fiscal, Singh said.





The firm is charting a roadmap for opportunities in renewables and low-carbon sector, ONGC chairman Arun Kumar Singh said.

# ONGC backs its net zero goal with ₹2 tn

The firm had

announced its

plans to invest

₹1 tn over the

next 7 years on

energy transition

initiatives

Rituraj Baruah rituraj.baruah@livemint.com NEWDELHI

S tate-owned ONGC plans to invest around ₹2 trillion towards its energy transition efforts until 2038, said chairman and chief executive Arun Kumar Singh.

At a press briefing following its annual general meeting, Singh said it is focussing on many aspects of energy transition, including green hydrogen, offshore endeavors, and solar initiatives. The company

hadannouncedits plans to invest ₹1 trillion over the next seven years on energy transition initiatives. "We announced scope 1 and scope 2 transitions by 2038. It requires ₹2 trillion. ₹1 tril-

lion will be (invested) by 2030 and it has various parts. Primarily initial expenditure will be to reduce the Scope I first and then we go to Scope 2. So there are two parts."

"It has all the components, from green ammonia to solar and hydrogen. It has PSP and then you have offshore. Everything is there," he added.

Addressing the shareholders, he said the firm is charting a roadmap for opportunities in renewables and low-carbon sectors and plans to scale up its renewable portfolio to 10 GW by 2030. "ONGC is actively exploring collaborations with leading players to leverage various low carbon energy opportunities including renewables, green hydrogen, green ammonia and derivatives of green hydrogen. Moreover, there's increasing focus on research and development in carbon capture, utilization, and storage technologies to mitigate emissions from the existing

processes."

ONGC signed a deal to establish a 5 GW solar power plant in Rajasthan and is scouting for another 5 GW of renewable energy capacity. It also plans to have 25 compressed bio

gas plants by FY26. "It makes a strong economic sense in investing in green initiatives with a carbon market in the making." That said, the company will continue to focus on conventional hydrocarbon exploration and production business. "ONGC has enough financial muscle to carry India's energy story and the transition story simultaneously for the next 5-10 years," he said.



## ONGC to invest ₹2 trn to meet net-zero goals

#### SUBHAYAN CHAKRABORTY

New Delhi, 29 August

Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Arun Kumar Singh on Tuesday said the country's top explorer would invest up to ₹2 trillion by 2038 in two phases (Scope-I and Scope-II) to achieve emission targets.

These investments will involve components of green ammonia, hydrogen, solar, and other measures, he said.

Scope I refers to emissions from direct company-owned and controlled resources. Scope II pertains to purchase of fossil fuel based electricity, cooling or heating solutions deployed by a company in its processes.

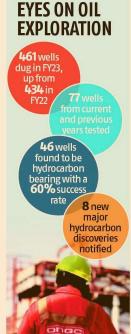
The company remains on track to scale up its renewable portfolio to 10 gigawatt (Gw) by 2030, Singh told the shareholders of the company at its annual general meeting earlier in the day. The CEO said the upstream oil and gas sector had seen renewed vitality with various global majors scaling back plans to cut output. "We now believe that the world is embracing conventional fuel "and, not or" renewable energy, unlike a few past years. India is likely to grow strong in oil & gas and renewables.

#### Overseas assets

Singh said the production level of the Sakhalin-1 oil and gas field in Russia had reached the level of about 180,000 barrels per day (bpd), very close to the pre-crisis production level of about 200,000 bpd.

The production timeline of other international assets of ONGC Videsh (OVL), the overseas arm of the company, in Colombia and Mozambique are also on track. OVL owns a 20 per cent equity stake in the offshore Sakhalin-1 oil and gas field in the Russian Far East.

In response to international sanctions imposed on Russia following its invasion of Ukraine, Moscow had assigned the Sakhalin-1 project and operatorship to a regional subsidiary of Russian oil producer Rosneft. Russia then asked foreign shareholders in the project, including American major Exxon



and SODECO from Japan, to apply to reinstate their shareholdings in the project before mid-November.

ONGC officials said the company had subsequently applied and had its share-holding reinstated. The company expects smoother operations to soon push the levels beyond the pre-crisis level. Singh said another of OVL's major overseas assets, the Block CPO-5 in Colombia, was producing 17,000 bpd.

"Two wells are awaiting regulatory approval and soon after production is expected to reach 25,000 bpd," he said. Initially awarded to OVL in 2008, the bloc saw commercial oil being struck in 2020. OVL currently holds 70 per cent participating interest.

In Mozambique, where OVL is executing its largest project, the security situation continues to improve and construction boots are already on the ground, the chairman said.

OVL holds 30 per cent in the \$20 billion 'Offshore Area 1' project.

To further step up oil exploration, ONGC has deployed two drill ships and have commenced drilling of exploratory wells in the deepsea of Mahanadi Basin of Eastern Offshore, Singh said.



## 'ONGC to Invest ₹2 lakh cr to Meet Net-Zero Target'

New Delhi: Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) will need to invest Rs 2 lakh crore to reach its net zero emissions target by 2038, said its chairman Arun Singh.

Half of the required Rs 2 lakh crore investment will be made by 2030, Singh said on Tuesday, adding that funding these projects won't be difficult as the company has very low debt levels and can access green bonds where cost of borrowing is much lower than others.

The company plans to invest in a range of green projects, including green ammonia, hydrogen, solar and offshore wind.

ONGC will begin oil production from its KG basin field from October, said Pankaj Kumar, director (offshore).

The company is yet to receive about \$130 million of dividend from its Russian projects, said ONGC Videsh managing director Rajarshi Gupta. Most of these dividends will be used in ONGC's project expenditure in Russia itself, he said.

Force majeure at the ONGC's mega gas project in Mozambique may end "anytime this year", Gupta said. ONGC-led Indian consortium of oil companies has a 30% stake in Mozambique field, which is operated by France's Total.—Our Bureau



## ONGC to invest ₹2 lakh crore to achieve zero carbon emissions by 2038: CEO

### PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 29

STATE-OWNED Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) will invest about Rs 2 lakh crore to achieve zero carbon emissions by 2038, its chairman Arun Kumar Singh said on Tuesday.

The firm will invest Rs 1 lakh crore by 2030 in setting up 10 gigawatts of renewable energy capacity, green ammonia plant, and offshore wind energy projects, he told reporters here.

The remaining would flow

thereafter to achieve Scope-1 and 2 net zero carbon emissions.

All this while it continues to hunt and produce more oil and gas.

"It is not an 'or' strategy. It is an 'and' story. ONGC will continue to invest in oil and gas exploration and production and also in energy transition projects," he said. The company will pursue both simultaneously.

"ONGC has enough heft, financial muscle to do both," he said. The company currently has 189 MW of capacity to generate electricity from renewable sources. It is targeting 10 GW by 2030. The firm already has signed MoU for 5 GW in Rajasthan and is scouting for projects for similar size, he said.





## 'ONGC to invest ₹2L cr to achieve zero carbon emissions by 2038'

#### **OUR CORRESPONDENT**

NEW DELHI: State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) will invest about Rs 2 lakh crore to achieve zero carbon emissions by 2038, its chairman Arun Kumar Singh said on Tuesday.

The firm will invest Rs 1 lakh crore by 2030 in setting up 10 gigawatts of renewable energy capacity, green ammonia plant, and offshore wind energy projects, he told reporters here. The remaining would flow thereafter to achieve Scope-1 and 2 net zero carbon emissions.

All this while it continues to hunt and produce more oil and gas.

"It is not an 'or' strategy. It is an 'and' story. ONGC will continue to invest in oil and gas exploration and production and also in energy transition projects," he said.

The company will pursue both simultaneously. "ONGC has enough heft, financial muscle to do both," he said.

The company currently has 189 MW of capacity to generate electricity from renewable sources. It is targeting 10 GW by 2030.

The firm already has signed MoU for 5 GW in Rajasthan and is scouting for projects for similar size, he said.

Besides, it wants to set up 25 compressed bio gas plants that will convert agri-residue into gas that can be used to run automobiles (CNG) or used in industries to generate electricity and fertilizer. The company is also scouting for opportunities to set up a 1 million tonnes per annum green ammonia plant, he said.

India's largest crude oil and natural gas producer said it has detailed a "roadmap to scale up its low-carbon energy portfolio significantly".

Integrating sustainable practices into core operations has enabled a reduction in Scope-1 and Scope-2 emissions by 17 per cent in the last five years. ONGC has reduced its emissions by 2.66 per cent in FY23 (April 2022 to March 2023 fiscal year).

"ONGC plans to significantly increase its spending on green initiatives to reduce its carbon footprint as a broader effort to achieve net-zero for Scope-1 and Scope-2 emissions by 2038," he said.

The firm is in an advanced stage of crafting collaborations with leading players in the energy space on various low-carbon energy opportunities including renewables, green hydrogen, green ammonia and other derivatives of green hydrogen.

ONGC is also planning to set up two green-field oil-tochemical (O2C) plants.

Singh however said oil and gas exploration and production (E&P) will remain the cornerstone of its energy business. Extensive exploration in known basins as well as frontier plays, sustained production from existing fields and exploitation of deep-water fields remain the central areas of emphasis, he said.

Crude oil, which companies like ONGC pump out from below seabed and from underground reservoirs, is a primary source of energy. It is processed in oil refineries to produce petrol, diesel and jet fuel. With the world looking to transition away from fossil fuel, companies around the globe are looking at new avenues to use crude oil.

Petrochemicals are chemical products derived from crude oil and are used in the manufacturing of detergents, fibres (polyester, nylon, acrylic etc.), polythene and other manmade plastics.

Crude oil-to-chemicals (COTC) technology allows the direct conversion of crude oil to high-value chemical products instead of traditional transportation fuels.

Scope 1 emissions are from directly emitting sources that are owned or controlled by a company. Scope 2 emissions are from the consumption of purchased electricity, steam, or other sources of energy generated upstream from a company's direct operations.

ONGC produced 19.584 million tonnes (MT) of oil in 2022-23, up from 19.545 MT of previous year. The output is likely to rise to 20.232 MT in the current fiscal (April 2023 to March 2024) and to 21.265 MT in 2024-25.

Natural gas output is slated to rise from 20.636 billion cubic meters (bcm) in 2022-23 to 20.882 bcm in 2023-24, 22.171 bcm in the following year and 23.708 bcm in 2025-26.



# ONGC's KG-DWN-98/2 block to produce 10,000 b/d by November, says Chairman

Our Bureau

New Delhi

State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), on Tuesday, said that crude oil production from its KG-DWN-98/2 block in the Krishna-Godavari basin is expected to touch 10,000 barrels per day (b/d) by November 2023.

Besides, the output from the block will double to 20,000 b/d by the end of the current financial year. It is also targeting to reach an output of 45,000 b/d by FY25.

The company has also increased its capex on E&P activities during FY24 to around ₹10,000 crore, which is around one-third of the E&P major's total capex for the fiscal year. It will incur a capex of around ₹10,000 crore annually for the next five years on exploration.

The company will continue with its capex pro-



AK Singh, Chairman, ONGC, addressing apress conference, in New Delhi, on Tuesday

gramme of over ₹30,000 crore with emphasis on focussed exploration and enhanced investment for rejuvenation of mature western offshore fields.

At present, the company has 22 major projects of over ₹100 crore under implementation, with a total capex of around ₹60,000 crore, with envisaged lifecycle gain

AK Singh said ONGC will invest a total of ₹2-lakh crore by 2038 to achieve net zero carbon emissions

of around 94 million tonnes of oil equivalent (MTOE). It has a strong pipeline of more than 40 upcoming projects with an estimated capex of ₹83,000 crore.

#### OIL PRODUCTION

Earlier during the day, at the Maharatna's annual general meeting (AGM), ONGC Chairman AK Singh said the company notified eight new hydrocarbon discoveries (three new prospects and five new pool discoveries) in its operated acreages, including one discovery in OALP (Open Acreage Licensing Policy) block, one in NELP block, and six discov-

eries in nomination blocks. "Looking forward, over the next few years, domestic production is expected to enhance with the incremental output from our KG deepwater field in the Eastern Offshore, 'U' field of this project has been fully monetised and oil production from 'M' field will commence in the current fiscal. We are happy to share with you that we have deployed two drill ships have commenced drilling of exploratory wells in the deep-sea of Mahanadi Basin of Eastern Offshore."

#### GREEN ENERGY

Singh said ONGC will invest a total of ₹2-lakh crore by 2038 to achieve net zero carbon emissions. The company will first invest ₹1-lakh crore by 2030 on enhancing its green energy products and services footprint, including 10 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy capacity and green ammonia, among other initiatives.



# आईजीएल पाइपलाइन के फटने से 3 लोग झुलसे

सेफ सिटी प्रोजेक्ट के

तहत कैमरे लगाने के

लिए चल रही थी खुदाई

नई दिल्ली, 29 अगस्त (नवोदय टाइम्स): बुराड़ी इलाके में आईजीएल पाइपलाइन के फटने से तीन लोग मामुली रूप से झुलस

गए। बताया जा रहा है कि जब सेफ सिटी प्रोजेक्ट के तहत कैमरे लगाने के लिए खुदाई चल रही थी। उसी दौरान खंबे लगाए जा रहे थे। जब वहां पर काम

करने वाले कर्मचारी वेल्डिंग कर रहे थे। इसी दौरान अचानक स्पार्क हुआ और वेल्डिंग कर रहे तीन कर्मचारी मामूली रूप से उसकी चपेट में आ गए। हालांकि कुछ देर के लिए इलाके में अफरातफरी मच गई। हादसा बुराड़ी थाने के पास हुआ है। आगे की जांच की जा रही है।

उत्तरी जिला डीसीपी सागर सिंह कलसी

ने इस मामले की पुष्टि करते हुए बताया कि दोपहर के समय इस मामले की सूचना मिली थी। मौके पर पता चला कि सेफ सिटी प्रोजेक्ट के तहत ठेकेदार

वर्कर से काम करवा रहा था उसी दौरान आईजीएल पाइपलाइन डैमेज हो गई और बेल्डिंग कर रहे तीन वर्कर झुलस गए। उन्हें नजदीक के अस्पताल भर्ती कराया गया और प्राथमिक उपचार के बाद छुट्टी दे दी गई।



## आईजीएल पाइपलाइन हादसे में 3 कर्मचारी झुलसे

नई दिल्ली,आईएएनएस। राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में आईजीएल पाइपलाइन पर काम करने के दौरान दुर्घटनावश पाइपलाइन से टकराने के वाद तीन कर्मचारी झुलस गए। सोमवार दोपहर 2.44 वजे पुलिस को सूचना मिली कि उत्तरी दिल्ली के बुराड़ी में आग लगने की घटना हुई है। अधिकारी ने कहा कि पुछताछ करने पर पता चला कि सेफ सिटी परियोजना के लिए काम करने वाला ठेकेदार ट्रेंचलेस खुदाई करते समय गलती से आईजीएल पाइपलाइन से टकरा गया, जिससे कुछ क्षति हुई और तीन वेल्डिंग कर्मचारी झुलस गए। उनका अस्पताल में इलाज किया गया ओर मामुली चोटों के कारण उन्हें छुड़ी दे दी गई।

उन्होंहने कहा कि बाद में गैस आपूर्ति बहाल करने के लिए आईजीएल इंजीनियरों को मौके पर बुलाया गया। लेकिन तीन लोगों ने वर्करों को मरम्मत करने से रोक दिया और काम में बाधा पहुंचायी। मामले को सुलझाने के लिए पुलिस पार्टी भेजी गई। इसको लेकर बुराड़ी पुलिस स्टेशन में मामला दर्ज किया गया है।



## एलपीजी सिलेंडर 200 रुपये सस्ता

नयी दिल्ली, २९ अगस्त (एजेंसी)

सरकार ने मंगलवार को आम लोगों को महंगाई से राहत देते हुए घरों में

उज्जवला योजना में अब 400 रुपये की सब्सिडी

इस्तेमाल वाले रसोई सिलेंडर (एलपीजी) के दाम 200 रुपये घटा दिये। इसके अलावा उज्ज्वला योजना के

तहत 75 लाख नये एलपीजी कनेक्शन मुफ्त दिए जाएंगे। सरकार के इस फैसले को मध्य प्रदेश जैसे राज्यों में आगामी विधानसभा चुनावों में कांग्रेस के सस्ता एलपीजी सिलेंडर देने के वादे की काट और चनावीं तैयारियों के रूप में देखा जा रहा है। कांग्रेस ने मध्य प्रदेश में सत्ता में आने पर 500 रुपये में सिलेंडर देने का वादा किया है। कांग्रेस राजस्थान में भी इसी कीमत पर एलपीजी उपलब्ध करा रही है। दोनों राज्यों में नवंबर-दिसंबर में चुनाव होने हैं।

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने यहां संवाददाताओं से कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की



रक्षा बंधन का उपहार केंद्रीय मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने इस फैसले को चुनाव से जोड़ने से इनकार करते हुए कहा कि यह ओणम और रक्षा बंधन के अवसर पर महिलाओं को मोदी सरकार की ओर से एक उपहार है। उन्होंने यह नहीं बताया कि कीमत में कटौती की भरपाई कैसे की जाएगी।

अध्यक्षता में मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक में सभी लोगों के लिए एलपीजी सिलेंडर के दाम 200 रुपये कम करने का निर्णय किया गया। इस फैसले के बाद राजधानी दिल्ली में 14.2 किलो के एलपीजी सिलेंडर की लागत बुधवार से 903 रुपये होगी, जो अभी 1103 रुपये है। इसके साथ ही अब उज्ज्वला योजना के लाभार्थियों को कुल 400 रुपये की गैस सब्सिडी मिलेगी। उन्हें पहले से 200 रुपये की सब्सिडी मिल रही है। इससे उज्ज्वला योजना के लाभार्थियों को एलपीजी सिलेंडर अब 703 रुपये में मिलेगा। ठाकुर ने कहा कि इस पहल का मकसद इन परिवारों को राहत उपलब्ध कराना है।

🥤 रक्षाबंधन का पर्व अपने परिवार में खशियां बढाने का दिन होता है। गैस की कीमतों में कटौती होने से मेरे परिवार की बहनों की सहलियत बढेगी। उनका जीवन और आसान होगा। मेरी हर बहन खुश रहे, स्वस्थ रहे, सुखी रहे, ईश्वर से यही कामना है। 9

-नरेंद्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री

🍎 रसोई गैस की कीमतों में कटौती किया जाना कर्नाटक चुनावों में भाजपा की हार और दो 'बेहद सफल' विपक्षी बैठकों का परिणाम है। लोगों को ऐसे और भी 'उपहारों' की उम्मीढ़ करनी चाहिए क्योंकि प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी 'अपनी कुर्सी से चिपके रहने के लिए और अधिक बेचैन' हो गए हैं।

-जयराम रमेश , कांग्रेस महासचिव

🍑 अब तक. बीते दो महीने में 'इंडिया' गठबंधन की केवल दो बैठकें हुई हैं और आज, हमने देखा कि एलपीजी का मूल्य २०० रुपये घटा दिया गया। यह है 'इंडिया' का दम! 篣

-ममता बनर्जी, सीएम, प. बंगाल



## खुदाई के दौरान गैस पाइपलाइन क्षतिग्रस्त तीन श्रमिक घाराल

एजेंसी ≫। नई दिल्ली

उत्तरी दिल्ली के बुराड़ी में सुरक्षित शहर परियोजना (सेफ सिटी प्रोजेक्ट) के तहत खुदाई कर रहे तीन श्रमिक



उस वक्त झलस गए जब उनसे एक गैस पाइपलाइन क्षतिग्रस्त हो गई। पुलिस ने मंगलवार को यह जानकारी दी। यह हादसा सोमवार को हुआ। पुलिस उपायुक्त (उत्तर) सागर सिंह कलसी ने बताया कि सुरक्षित शहर परियोजना से संबंधित एक ठेकेदार के श्रमिकों ने खुदाई करते समय इंद्रप्रस्थ गैस लिमिटेड (आईजीएल) की एक पाइपलाइन को क्षतिग्रस्त कर दिया। पुलिस अधिकारी ने बताया कि इस हादसे में वेल्डिंग करने वाले तीन श्रमिक झुलस गए और पाइपलाइन को भी नुकसान पहुंचा है। श्रमिकों को इलाज के बाद अस्पताल से छुट्टी दे दी गई। उन्होंने बताया कि इसके बाद आईजीएल के अभियंताओं को पाइपलाइन की मरम्मत के लिए बुलाया गया। हालांकि तीन लोगों ने उन्हें मरम्मत करने से रोक दिया जिसके बाद पुलिस ने पहुंचकर मामले को सुलझाया। पुलिस के अनुसार, यह आरोप लगाया गया है कि कुछ लोगों ने आईजीएल के कर्मचारियों के साथ बदतमीजी की थी। हालांकि बाद में मरम्मत कार्य परा हो गया। कलसी ने बताया कि आईजीएल के कर्मचारी की शिकायत पर भारतीय दंड संहिता (आईपीसी) की धारा 323 (स्वेच्छा से चोट पहुंचाने), 341 (गलत तरीके से रोकने), 506 (आपराधिक धमकी) और 34 (सामान्य इरादा) के तहत मामला दर्ज किया गया है। दिल्ली के उपराज्यपाल वी के सक्सेना ने अप्रैल में दिल्ली पुलिस को सार्वजनिक स्थानों पर महिलाओं के खिलाफ अपराधों को रोकने के लिए अगस्त तक सुरक्षित शहर परियोजना को चालू करने का निर्देश दिया था।



## दिल्ली में खुदाई के दौरान गैस पाइपलाइन क्षतिग्रस्त, तीन श्रमिक घायल

वीर अर्जन संवाददाता नई दिल्ली। उत्तरी दिल्ली के बुराडी में सुरक्षित शहर परियोजना (सेफ सिटी प्रोजेक्ट) के तहत खदाई कर रहे तीन श्रमिक उस वक्त झलस गए जब उनसे एक गैस पाइपलाइन क्षतिग्रस्त हो गई। पलिस ने मंगलवार को यह जानकारी दी। यह हादसा सोमवार को हुआ। पुलिस उपायुक्त (उत्तर) सागर सिंह कलसी ने बताया कि सरक्षित शहर परियोजना से संबंधित एक ठेकेदार के श्रमिकों ने खुदाई करते समय इंद्रप्रस्थ गैस लिमिटेड (आईजीएल) की एक पाइपलाइन को क्षतिग्रस्त कर दिया। पुलिस अधिकारी ने बताया कि इस हादसे में वेल्डिंग करने वाले तीन श्रमिक झलस गए और पाइपलाइन को भी नकसान पहुंचा है। श्रमिकों को इलाज के बाद अस्पताल से छुट्टी दे दी गई। उन्होंने बताया कि इसके बाद

आईजीएल के अभियंताओं को पाइपलाइन की मरम्मत के लिए बुलाया गया। हालांकि तीन लोगों ने उन्हें मरम्मत करने से रोक दिया जिसके बाद पुलिस ने पहुंचकर मामले को सुलझाया।पुलिस के अनुसार, यह आरोप लगाया गया है कि कुछ लोगों ने आईजीएल के कर्मचारियों के साथ बदतमीजी की थी। हालांकि बाद में मरम्मत कार्य पूरा हो गया।

कलसी ने बताया कि आईजीएल के कर्मचारी की शिकायत पर आईपीसी की धारा 323, 341, 506 और 34 के तहत मामला दर्ज किया गया है। दिल्ली के उपराज्यपाल वी के सक्सेना ने अप्रैल में दिल्ली पुलिस को सार्वजनिक स्थानों पर महिलाओं के खिलाफ अपराधों को रोकने के लिए अगस्त तक सुरक्षित शहर परियोजना को चालू करने का निर्देश दिया था।



## कैबिनेट की मंजूरी: आम लोगों के लिए सरकार ने एलपीजी पर 200 रु. कम किए तो उज्जवला योजना के हितग्राहियों को मिलेगा 400 का फायदा

## पीएम मोदी का बहनों को 'राखी का गिफ्ट'

अब आम उपभोक्ता को दिल्ली में 903 रु. और उज्जवला के लाभार्थियों को 703 रुपए में मिलेगा एलपीजी का घरेलू गैस सिलेंडर

केंद्रीय मंत्री अनुराग टाकुर ने कहा कि गैस सिलेंडर सस्ता हुआ फिर एक बार. राखी और ओणम पर देश की करोड़ों बहनों को पीएम ने दिया उपहार

पीएम मोदी का ट्वीट-मेरी हर बहन खुश और स्वस्थ रहे, सुखी रहे, ईश्वर से यही कामना

एजेंसी 🕪 नई दिल्ली

केंद्र सरकार ने मंगलवार को घरेलू गैस सिलेंडर (14.2 किलोग्राम) के दामों में 200 रुपए की कटौती की है। राजधानी दिल्ली में 1103 रुपए में मिलने वाला घरेलू गैस सिलेंडर अब आम उपभोक्ता को 903 रुपए में मिलेगा। लेकिन उज्जवला योजना के लाभार्थियों को मात्र 703 रुपए एक घरेलू सिलेंडर के चुकाने होंगे।

दरअसल, मोदी सरकार ने एलपीजी के दाम 200 रुपए कम करने की घोषणा के साथ उज्जवला योजना के लाभार्थियों को 200 रुपए अतिरिक्त (सब्सिडी) छूट देने की घोषणा की है। उज्जवला योजना के हितग्राहियों को मौजूदा बाजार मूल्य से 400 रुपए कम दाम यानी 703 रुपए में मिलेगा। गैस डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर्स के अनुसार घटे घरेलू एलपीजी पर अगर जीएसटी की मी कमी हुई तो 5 फीसदी जीएसटी की दर भी घटेगी और उपभोक्ताओं को करीब 20 रुपए का और लाम मिलेगा।



एलपीजी सिलेंडर की कीमतों में कटौती के एलान के बाद प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने ट्वीट किया-रक्षाबंधन का पर्व अपने परिवार में खुशियां बढ़ाने का दिन होता है। गैस की कीमतों में कटौती होने से मेरे परिवार की बहनों की सहूलियत बढ़ेगी और उनका जीवन और आसान होगा। मेरी हर बहन खुश रहे, स्वस्थ रहे, सुखी रहे, ईश्वर से यही कामना है।

करीब 20 रुपए का और लाभ मिलेगा। रक्षाबंधन की पूर्व संध्या पर कैबिनेट की बैठक के बाद केंद्रीय मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने इसका ऐलान किया। इससे पहले 1 अगस्त को पेटोलियम ने कहा कि गैस सिलेंडर सस्ता हुआ फिर एक बार, राखी और ओणम पर देश की करोड़ों बहनों को प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने उपहार दिया है। कैबिनेट ने चंद्रयान 3 से जुड़े हर व्यक्ति की

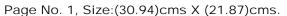


### 75 लाख महिलाओं को नए मुफ्त गैस कनेक्शन मिलेंगे

केंद्रीय मंत्री ने रक्षाबंधन की पूर्व संध्या पर प्रधानमंत्री मोदी की अध्यक्षता में हुई बैठक में लिए गए निर्णयों की जानकारी देते हुए कहा कि 75 लाख महिलाओं को मुफ्त गैस कनेक्शन भी द्विया जाएगा। उन्हें पाइप और चूल्हा भी मुफ्त में दिए जाएंगे। प्रधानमंत्री उज्जवला योजना के तहत 75 लाख नए गैस कनेक्शन दिए जाएंगे।

### प्रमुख शहरों में घरेलू गैस सिलेंडर की कीमत रु. में

शहर	नए दाम	पुराने दाम
दिल्ली	903.00	1103.00
मुंबई	902.50	1102.50
कोलकाता	929.00	1129.00
चेळाई	918.50	1118.50
भोपाल	908 50	1108.50





# रक्षाबंधन पर मोदी सरकार का तोहफा

## ★एलपीजी 200 रुपए सस्ता, उज्ज्वला योजना के तहत 75 लाख नए कनेक्शन

#### विशेष प्रतिनिधि

नई दिल्ली। सरकार ने मंगलवार को आम लोगों को महंगाई से राहत देते हुए घरों में इस्तेमाल वाले रसोई गैस सिलेंडर के दाम 200 रुपये घटा दिये। इसके अलावा सरकार उज्ज्वला योजना के तहत मुफ्त में 75 लाख नये एलपीजी कनेक्शन भी देगी।

सरकार के इस फैसले को मध्य प्रदेश जैसे राज्यों में आगामी विधानसभा चुनावों में कांग्रेस पार्टी के सस्ता एलपीजी सिलेंडर देने के वादे की काट और चुनाव तैयारियों के रूप में देखा जा रहा है। सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने यहां संवाददाताओं से कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक में सभी लोगों के लिये एलपीजी सिलेंडर के दाम 200 रुपये कम करने का निर्णय किया गया। इस फैसले के बाद राजधानी दिल्ली में 14.2 किलो का एलपीजी सिलेंडर की लागत बुधवार से 903 रुपये होगी, जो अभी 1,103 रुपये है। मई, 2020 के मुकाबले अभी रसोई गैस सिलेंडर का दाम दोगुना से अधिक है। इसके साथ ही अब उज्ज्वला



कैविनेट बैठक के बाद सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर संवाददाता सम्मेलन को सम्बोधित करते हुए। (एएनआई)

योजना के लाभार्थियों को कुल 400 रुपये की गैस सब्सिडी मिलेगी। उन्हें पहले से 200 रुपये की सब्सिडी मिल रही है। इससे उज्ज्वला योजना के लाभार्थियों को एलपीजी सिलेंडर अब 703 रुपये में मिलेगा। ठाकुर ने कहा कि इस पहल का मकसद परिवारों को राहत उपलब्ध कराना है। इसके साथ सरकार उज्ज्वला योजना के तहत 75 लाख परिवारों

को नये एलपीजी कनेक्शन देगी। इससे प्रधानमंत्री उज्ज्वला योजना के लाभार्थियों की संख्या 10 35 करोड हो जाएगी। पिछले एक-दो साल में रसोई गैस की कीमतें बढ़ी है और यह एक प्रमुख चनावी महा बन गया है। कांग्रेस पार्टी ने एलपीजी की ऊंची कीमतों के कारण लोगों की जेब पर पड रहे असर को भांपते हए इस मुद्दे को जोर-शोर से उठाया है। हालांकि, ठाकर ने इस फैसले को चुनाव से जोड़ने से इनकार करते हुए कहा कि यह ओणम और रक्षा बंधन के अवसर पर महिलाओं को मोदी सरकार की ओर से एक उपहार है। उन्होंने यह नहीं बताया कि कीमत में कटौती की भरपाई कैसे की जाएगी। यह माना जाता है कि खुदरा ईंधन बेचने वाली सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की पेटोलियम कंपनियां बुधवार से कीमतें कम करेंगी। बाद में सरकार इसकी भरपाई करेगी। अभी यह पता नहीं चला है कि इस फैसले से सरकार के खजाने पर कितना असर पडेगा।

# कीमतों में कटौती से महिलाओं की

सहलियत बढेगी: मोदी

नई दिल्ली, (विप्र)। प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी ने मंगलवार को कहा कि रसोई गैस की कीमतों में कटौती से महिलाओं की सहलियत बढेगी तथा उनका जीवन और भी आसान होगा। केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने महंगाई से लोगों को राहत देते हुए घरों में इस्तेमाल होने वाले रसोई गैस सिलेंडर ाएलपीजी। के दाम 200 रुपये घटाने की घोषणा की।इस घोषणा के कुछ देर बाद प्रधानमंत्री ने एक्स (पूर्व में दिवटर) पर एक पोस्ट में कहा. रक्षाबंधन का पर्व अपने परिवार में खशियां बढाने का दिन होता है। गैस की कीमतों में कटौती होने से मेरे परिवार की बहनों की सहलियत बढेगी और उनका जीवन और आसान होगा। मेरी हर बहन खश रहे, स्वस्थ रहे, सुखी रहे, ईश्वर से यही कामना है।



## रसोई गैस सिलिंडर सस्ता हुआ

नई दिल्ली। पांच राज्यों के विधानसभा चुनाव की घोषणा से ठीक पहले केंद्र सरकार ने बड़ा फैसला किया है। केंद्र ने घरेलू रसोई गेस सिलिंडर की कीमत में बड़ी कटौती का ऐलान किया है। मंगलवार को हुई घोषणा के मुताबिक घरेलू गैस सिलेंडर के दामों में दो सो रुपए की कटौती की है। इस कटौती के साथ ही दिल्ली में अब रसोई गैस की कौमत 1,103 रुपए से घट कर 903 रुपए हो जाएगी। चुनाव वाले राज्यों- मध्य प्रदेश में इसकी कीमत 908 और राजस्थान में 906 रुपए हो जाएगी। नई कीमत 30 अगस्त यानी रक्षाबंधन के दिन से लागू होगी। हालांकि राजस्थान में पहले ही कांग्रेस की अशोक गहलोत सरकार ने पांच सो रुपए में रसोई गैस सिलिंडर देना शरू कर दिया है।

बहरहाल, केंद्रीय मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने मंगलवार को कहा कि ओनम और रक्षाबंधन के त्योहार पर दाम घटाकर प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने वहनों को बड़ा तोहफा दिया है। उन्होंने बताया कि देश के 33 करोड़ उपभोकाओं को इस कटोती का फायदा मिलेगा। इस फेसले से सरकार पर विच वर्ष 2023-24 में 7,680 करोड़ का बोझ केंद्र के ऊपर आएगा। केंद्रीय मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने यह भी कहा कि सरकार 75 लाख नए उज्ज्वला कनेक्शन बांटेगी। गौरतलब है कि दो महीने बाद पांच राज्यों में विधानसभा चुनाव है और अगले साल अप्रैल-मई में लोकसभा के चनाव हैं।

गौरतलब है कि चुनाव वाले राज्य राजस्थान में कांग्रेस सरकार ने इसी साल एक अप्रैल से गरीबी रेखा के नीचे रहने वाले परिवारों को पांच सो रुपए में गैस देने की योजना लागू कर दी है। मध्य प्रदेश में भी कांग्रेस ने पांच सो रुपए में गैस सिलंडर देने का वादा किया है। बहरहाल, पिछले कई वरसों से रसोई गैस सिलंडर की कीमतों में बढोतरी हो रही थी।



# राहतः सिलेंडर ₹ 200 सस्ता



**75** 

लाख एलपीजी कनेक्शन मुफ्त दिए जाएंगे उज्ज्वला योजना में



रुपए में आज से दिल्ली में मिलेगा 14 .2 किलो का सिलेंडर

703

रुपए में सिलेंडर मिलेगा उज्ज्वला योजना में

नई दिल्ली, 29 अगस्त (एजैंसी): सरकार ने मंगलवार को लोगों को महंगाई से राहत देने के मकसद से घरों में इस्तेमाल वाले रसोई गैस सिलेंडर (एलपीजी) के दाम 200 रुपए घटा दिए हैं। इसके अलावा उज्ज्वला योजना के तहत मुफ्त में 75 लाख नए एलपीजी कनेक्शन देने का भी निर्णय किया है।

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री अनुराग ठाकुर ने यहां संवाददाताओं से कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की अध्यक्षता में मंत्रिमंडल की बैठक में सभी लोगों के लिए एलपीजी सिलेंडर के दाम 200 रुपए कम करने का निर्णय किया गया। इस फैसले के बाद राजधानी दिल्ली में 14.2 किलो का एलपीजी सिलेंडर की लागत बुधवार से 903 रुपए होगी, जो अभी 1,103 रुपए है। मई, 2020 के मुकाबले अभी रसोई गैस सिलेंडर का दाम दोगुना से अधिक है। साथ ही अब उज्ज्वला योजना



मंत्रिमंडल के फैसलों की जानकारी देते अनुराग ठाकुर।

के लाभार्थियों को कुल 400 रुपए का लाभ मिलेगा। उन्हें पहले से 200 रुपए की सब्सिडी मिल रही है। इससे उज्ज्वला योजना के लाभार्थियों X

रक्षाबंधन का पर्व अपने परिवार में खुशियां बढ़ाने का दिन होता है। गैस की

कीमतों में कटौती होने से मेरे परिवार की बहनों की सहूलियत बढ़ेगी और उनका जीवन और आसान होगा। मेरी हर बहन खुश रहे, स्वस्थ रहे, सुखी रहे, ईश्वर से यही कामना है।



- नरेंद्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री

को एलपीजी सिलेंडर अब 703 रुपए में मिलेगा। ठाकुर ने कहा कि इस पहल का मकसद परिवारों को राहत उपलब्ध कराना है। सरकार उज्ज्वला योजना के तहत 75 लाख परिवारों को नए एलपीजी कनेक्शन देगी। इससे प्रधानमंत्री उज्ज्वला योजना के लाभार्थियों की संख्या 10.35 करोड़ हो (शेष पठ 11 कालम 1 पर)

#### राहतः सिलेंडर...

जाएगी। पिछले एक-दो साल में रसोई गैस की कीमतें बढ़ी हैं और यह एक प्रमुख चुनावी मुद्दा बन गया है। कांग्रेस ने मध्य प्रदेश में सत्ता में आने पर 500 रुपए में एलपीजी देने का वादा किया है। राजस्थान में भी कांग्रेस सरकार इसी कीमत पर एलपीजी उपलब्ध करा रही है। दोनों राज्यें में नंबंबर-दिसंबर में चुनाव होने हैं। हालांकि, ठाकुर ने इस फैसले को चुनाव से जोड़ने से इनकार करते हुए कहा कि यह ओणम और रक्षा बंधन के अवसर पर महिलाओं को मोदी सरकार की ओर से एक उपहार है। माना जाता है कि खुदरा ईंधन बेचने वाली सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की पेट्रोलियम कंपनियां बुधवार से कीमतें कम करेंगी।

ठाकुर ने कहा कि उज्ज्वला योजना के तहत ग्राहकों को 200 रुपए प्रति सिलेंडर एलपीजी सब्सिडी दी जा रही है, उसकी लागत चालू वित्त वर्ष 2023-24 में 7,680 करोड़ रुपए बैठेगी। उज्ज्वला लाभार्थी केवल 9.6 करोड़ हैं, जबकि 33 करोड़ उपभोक्ता खाना पकाने के लिए रसोई गैस का उपयोग करते हैं। सरकार ने जून, 2020 में एलपीजी पर सब्सिडी देना बंद कर दिया था। देशभर में रसोई गैस की कीमत का निर्धारण बाजार आधारित था। इससे राष्ट्रीय राजधानी दिल्ली में एलपीजी सिलेंडर की कीमत 1,103 रुपए हो गई, जिसमें अब 200 की कमी होगी। सरकार अगर कीमतों में 200 रुपए की कटौती का बोझ खुदरा पेट्रोलियम कंपनियों पर नहीं डालकर स्वयं वहन करती है, तो इसका मतलब है कि सब्सिडी व्यवस्था वापस लाई गई है।



## विपक्षी गठबंधन इंडिया के प्रभाव के कारण रसोई गैस सिलेंडर का मूल्य घटाया गया: ममता

कोलकाता, (भाषा)। पश्चिम बंगाल की मुख्यमंत्री ममता बनर्जी ने मंगलवार को कहा कि रसोई गैस सिलेंडर (एलपीजी) का मूल्य 200 रुपये घटाने का केंद्र का फैसला विपक्षी दलों के गठबंधन इंडिया का प्रभाव है।इससे पहले दिन में, केंद्र सरकार ने घरेलू रसोई गैस सिलेंडर का मूल्य 200 रुपये घटाने का फैसला किया। वहीं, केंद्र के इस फैसले को मध्य प्रदेश जैसे राज्यों में आगामी विधानसभा चुनावों में कांग्रेस पार्टी के सस्ता एलपीजी सिलेंडर देने के वादे की काट और चुनाव तैयारियों के रूप में देखा जा रहा

है।ममता ने एक्स (पूर्व में ट्विटर) पर कहा, अब तक, बीते दो महीने में इंडिया गठबंधन की केवल दो बैठकें हुई है और आज, हमने देखा कि एलपीजी का मूल्य 200 रुपये घटा दिया गया। यह है इंडिया का दमउ तृणमूल कांग्रेस प्रवक्ता कुणाल घोष ने भी केंद्र के कदम को लोकसभा चुनावों से पहले एक चुनावी छलावा करार दिया। कोलकाता में 14.2 किलोग्राम रसोई गैस सिलेंडर का मूल्य अभी।,129 रुपये है,और बुधवार को नया मूल्य प्रभावी होने पर यह घटकर 929 रुपये हो जाएगा।

