



"CBG is an enabler of rural energy independence"

Excerpts from the speech delivered by NDDB Chairman Dr Meenesh Shah during the Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) Session at The Pioneer Biofuels 360 Summit

It is an honour to be part of The Pioneer Biofuels360 Summit — a platform that is uniting the best minds to reimagine India's energy future. I am particularly grateful for the opportunity to chair this session on Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) — a critical pillar of India's circular bio-economy and a game-changer in the rural energy landscape. At the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), our mission has always been holistic — to ensure that the prosperity of rural dairy farmers goes hand-in-hand with environmental stewardship and national priorities like energy security.

For decades, NDDB has supported millions of smallholder farmers in building a robust, cooperative-driven dairy sector. Today, we are advancing that legacy by embedding circularity and climate resilience into rural

systems. Our work in manure management exemplifies this transformation.

In 2018, NDDB initiated the concept of a Manure Value Chain with the development of multiple models to promote efficient dung utilisation. The Zakariyapura model introduced household biogas plants in a clustered manner at farmers' backyards, enabling them to use biogas for cooking and process surplus slurry at centralised slurry processing centres - now operating in 10 locations across various states - creating additional income avenues for small and marginal farmers.

The Varanasi model involves centralised dung procurement for a 4000 m³ biogas plant, where biogas is utilised for steam generation in a dairy plant boiler, and the slurry is processed into highquality organic fertilisers. The Banas model focuses on producing Compressed Biogas (CBG) from dung, which is then used as a vehicular fuel, serving as a sustainable alternative to CNG.

Further to scale up NDDB's concept of manure



new company NDDB Mrida Ltd. in the year 2022. Further, in the year 2024 Suzuki's Indian subsidiary Suzuki R&D Centre India Pvt Ltd has invested in Mrida, which is operating as a joint

Further, at NDDB, we are converting a traditional waste stream cattle dung into a tripleimpact solution which is clean energy in the form of biogas and CBG; organic fertilisers like Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM), Fermented Organic Manure (FOM) and many other liquid fertilisers and most importantly, enhanced livelihoods for dairy farmers.

When NDDB started in 2018, only 25 domestic biogas plants were installed in Mujkuva village of Anand district which has now resulted into over 30000 plants and counting - across cooperative dairies, gaushalas, and individual farms across the country – designed to capture and utilise dung efficiently.

NDDB is able to pump in more than ₹110 crore investment through domestic biogas plants value chain nationally, we have established a projects in rural areas. We have installed and



The Pioneer Printer & Publisher Kushan Mitra lights the lamp at the The Pioneer Biofuels360^o Summit in the august presence of NDDB Chairperson Dr Meenesh Shah

running two large scale biogas plants successfully. These plants are providing biogas for thermal application as well as vehicular fuel in the form of CBG. We have contributed more than ₹3 crores to dairy farmers in two years of operation of Varanasi biogas plant by procuring dung.

In partnership with Suzuki we are installing four new CBG plants and in discussion for five more plants. Through these plants we are looking at investment in the range of ₹500-700 crore over next 2-3 years in rural economy. This investment will create nearly 1000 jobs in rural

sector and an annual pay out of ₹5-7 crore to dairy farmers for the supply of dung.

At the same time dairy cooperatives have shown interest for installation of CBG plants in their respective operational areas. We have standard operating protocols to ensure production of high-quality organic fertilisers from the slurry of CBG/biogas plants. Our initiatives link dung to power, gas to mobility, and slurry to soil health. fostering a closed-loop dairy circular economy.

CBG as the next frontier is more than just an alternative fuel — it is an enabler of Rural energy

LET US NOT FORGET — THE GREEN REVOLUTION EMPOWERED FARMERS WITH FOOD SECURITY. THE WHITE REVOLUTION BROUGHT THEM INTO THE MARKET ECONOMY. NOW, THE GREEN **ENERGY REVOLUTION MUST** EMPOWER THEM AS CLIMATE SOLUTION PROVIDERS

independence, Low-carbon agriculture, and Reduction of fossil LPG and diesel dependence.

With nearly 302 million bovines in India, the CBG potential is enormous. A well-integrated CBG network can fuel milk chilling units, run village transport, and even power rural micro-grids.

NDDB and Mrida are working closely with state governments, cooperatives, and technology partners to integrate CBG into milk logistics. biogas as rural cooking fuel, and even carbon markets under Article 6 frameworks.

To truly scale up this transition, however, we need three things: Policy coherence between agriculture, energy, and rural development; innovative financing models - including cooperatives as energy entrepreneurs; and techenabled traceability to verify emissions reduction and link to carbon credit platforms.

The Pioneer Biofuels 360 Summit is exactly the kind of forum where such integration becomes possible - where innovators, bankers, policymakers, and grassroots practitioners co-create viable solutions. Let us not forget — the Green Revolution empowered farmers with food security. The White Revolution brought them into the market economy. Now, the Green Energy Revolution must empower them as climate solution providers.

In this journey, NDDB reaffirms its commitment to put farmers at the heart of India's clean energy transition, to build resilient rural economies through dairy circularity, and to fuel India's future — sustainably, inclusively, and cooperatively.





AS INDIA RACES AHEAD IN ITS ENERGY TRANSITION JOURNEY. THE PETROLEUM MINISTER'S MESSAGE WAS CLEAR: ETHANOL IS HERE TO STAY, AND THE COUNTRY IS NOT JUST CATCHING UP WITH GLOBAL STANDARDS-IT IS SETTING NEW ONES

"India's ethanol journey is unstoppable"

India is the world's third-largest energy consumer with a demand of about 5.4 million barrels of oil per day. India today imports 80 per cent of its oil and 50 per cent of its natural gas needs. India is now importing oil and gas from as many countries as possible, about 40 countries now, to meet

its demand.

As India races ahead in its energy transition journey, the Petroleum Minister's message was clear: ethanol is here to stay, and the country is not just catching up with global standards-it is setting new ones. The Fireside Chat between Puri and Mitra was part of the larger Pioneer Biofuels 360 Summit, a platform that brought together policymakers, industry leaders, and innovators to discuss the future of sustainable fuels.

ethanol, providing a win-win solution for clean fuel, pollution control, and farmer income. He further highlighted the remarkable growth of maize-based ethanol - from 0 per cent in 2021-22 to 42 per cent this year — calling it a transformational shift.

Responding to a question by The Pioneer printer and publisher Kushan Mitra, on the success of the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) programme, Puri highlighted that ethanol blending gained serious momentum only after 2014, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi assumed office. In 2014, ethanol blending was merely 1.53 per cent.

Puri said by 2022, India achieved 10 percent blending, five months ahead of schedule. The original target of 20 percent blending (E20) by 2030 was advanced to 2025 and has already been achieved in the current Ethanol Supply Year (ESY). This success, the Minister noted, was made possible through sustained policy reforms such as guaranteed pricing for ethanol, allowing multiple feedstocks, and rapidly expanding distillation capacity across the country.

On the issue of Flex-Fuel Vehicles (FFVs). Puri said that the Indian automobile industry has already demonstrated its

Indian OEMs have begun rolling out prototypes for E85-compatible vehicles. Continuous consultations have been held with the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) and other major auto manufacturers, and the direction is progressively moving towards higher ethanol blends.

There has not been a single case of engine failure or breakdown since E20 became a base fuel 10 months ago. Look at Brazil — they've run on E27 for years without issues," Puri stated

The Minister said Ethanol Blending Roadmap (2020-25) has laid a strong foundation, and the successful rollout of E20 five years ahead of target — demonstrates both industry readiness and consumer acceptance. The country will now gradually scale towards E25, E27, and E30 in a phased, calibrated manner with the support of BIS standards and fiscal

Puri stressed that ethanol blending is $not \ just \ about \ mixing \ fuel-it \ is \ about$ empowering Annadatas by turning them into Urjadatas, reducing crude imports, saving foreign exchange, creating green jobs, and honouring India's climate commitments. Over the past 11 years, ethanol procurement has enabled ₹1.21 lakh crore

INDIA IS THE WORLD'S THIRD-LARGEST ENERGY CONSUMER WITH A DEMAND OF ABOUT 5.4 MILLION BARRELS OF OIL PER DAY. **INDIA TODAY IMPORTS 80** PER CENT OF ITS OIL AND 50 PER CENT OF ITS NATURAL **GAS NEEDS**

income to farmers, reduced crude imports by 238.68 lakh metric tons, and saved ₹1.40 lakh crore in foreign exchange.

Speaking about India's efforts in Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), Puri said the Ministry is working closely with oil marketing companies, airlines, and global technology partners to develop and scale up SAF. Like ethanol, India will adopt a phased approach to SAF adoption. A blending mandate has already been initiated, with a target of one percent blending for international flights by 2027, increasing to 2 percent by 2028, and scaling further as supply stabilises. He also cited the example of the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. Refinery in Panipat, which is using used cooking oil to produce SAF — showcasing India's innovative and sustainable pathway forward.

Further Puri said India already have 113 compressed biogas (CBG) plants operating and another 73 under construction. If you look at the car models coming onto the market, many new ones are CNG-compatible. So that's a success story.

Puri pointed to India's liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) distribution as another example of progress in energy access. Today, we are running against all statistics. We have 33.5 crore LPG connections in the country, including 10.5 crore under the Ujjwala Yojana, yet we still import about 60 per cent of our LPG. While acknowledging the import dependency, Puri reaffirmed that the country is taking decisive steps to increase domestic production. Yes, our production is going up by 18 per cent per year, but even there we are still importing around 50 per

Minister Puri stressed on the country's commitment to Atmanirbhar Bharat or self-reliant India. A country like India. which has these challenges, is moving in the direction of self-sufficiency, but it's going to take time," he stated. "Meanwhile, we will import, we will increase our production, and we've already diversified our import sources.'

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And The Pioneer Biofuel360 Award Goes to...



Amity University Senior Vice President, Abhay K Chauhan received the award in the category of 'ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN BIOFUELS RESEARCH' Amity has demonstrated a sustained commitment to biofuels research, with numerous publications in reputed journals on advanced biofuel technologies, second-generation ethanol, biodiesel production, and biomass valorisation.





BUYOFUEL was awarded under the category of 'BIOFUELS STARTUP OF THEYEAR'. India's first B2B online marketplace dedicated to both biofuel andraw-material trading helping bridge a fragmented supply chain with tech-enabled aggregation of suppliers, manufacturers, and consumers. The award was received by Kishan Karunakaran, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of BUYOFUEL.



Zakariyapura village in Gujarat got the award in the category of 'EXCELLENCE IN BIOFUELS ADOPTION AT VILLAGE LEVEL'. Zakariyapura has shown how a small village can lead big change. With strong community involvement and support from NDDB & local groups, the village has successfully switched from traditional fuels to clean, renewable biofuels. This shift has helped reduce pollution and made the village more energy- independent. Zakariyapura is now an inspiring example for rural areas across India in adopting sustainable energy. The award was received by villagers Varshaben Parmar, Champaben Parmar and Madhuben Parmar.



Indore Clean Energy was awarded in the category of 'LARGEST SUCCESSFUL BIOFUELS DEPLOYMENT IN URBAN BHARAT'. Indore Clean Energy has built the largest and most successful urban biofuel initiative in the country. By converting city waste into clean biofuels using advanced technology, it has played a crucial role in improving Indore's waste management system while also addressing the city's energy needs. Their efforts have helped reduce landfill waste, lower emissions, and promote the use of renewable energy in urban settings. The Award was received by Mahesh Girdhar.



Assam Bamboo Ethanol Pvt Ltd received the award in the category of 'BIOFUEL PRODUCTION INNOVATION'. Assam Bamboo Ethanol Pvt Ltd has been recognised for its pioneering work in producing Ethanol from Bamboo – an abundant resource in the Northeast.

By using advanced, eco-friendly technology, the company has developed a sustainable model of biofuel production that is both region-specific and scalable. Award was received by Dr Pranab Kumar Nath of ABEPL.



GROWTH SPUTTERS FOR OIL RETAILER

Crude Awakening for Nayara as Geopolitics Sounds Alarm

Symbol of Indo-Russian ties hit hard by West penalty, amid global & domestic pressures

Kalpana Pathak

Mumbai: In August 2017, nine months after a consortium led by Russia's Rosneft bought Essar Oil's 20-mtpa refinery in Vadinar (Gujarat), it was renamed Nayara Energy. The name derives from the Hindi word 'Naya' (new) and 'Era.' It was chosen to signify its shareholders' vision of bringing a new era of development to the asset.

Nayara was born at a time India's petroleum sector was undergoing reform — the government had deregulated fuel retail prices, giving private fuel retailers such as Nayara an equal footing to expand their outlets.

The reform gave sleepless nights for state-run oil marketing companies, which had hitherto dominated fuel retailing. Now, they feared losing market share to private players Nayara and Reliance Industries.

Sanctions Fallout There are inventory Facing export pile-ups at Vadinar refinery Shipping cos, insurers, and bottlenecks, Expansion is under pressure financiers especially to Europe are wary of dealing with Navara has Navara due diverted export to Rosneft's volume to **49%** stake domestic mkt CEO Alessandro des Dorides resigned postsanctions; new CEO is Sergey Denisov

'OPENING UP PEACE PROSPECTS'

India Welcomes Trump-Putin Meet



India welcomed an understanding reached between the US and Russia for a meeting of leaders of the two countries in Alaska on August 15. **Dipanian Roy Chaudhury** reports. >> 2

All was well with Nayara and it was on a growth trajectory until it was hemmed in by both the US and the European Union (EU), as they stepped up efforts to target Russia over its invasion of Ukraine. Its oil and energy revenue was low-hanging fruit.

The company, once seen as a symbol of India-Russia econo-

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mic cooperation, is now navigating a perfect storm—sanctions, global shipping disruptions, domestic regulatory pressure, a leadership churn and a digital infrastructure scare.

Nayara did not respond to **ET**'s emailed query as of press time.

Russian Connection ►► 7

Russian Link

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For a company that accounts for nearly 8% of India's refining output and 7% of its retail petrol pump network, these challenges are testing Nayara's resilience as well as long-term strategy.

Russia's national energy firm and a consortium of international investors Trafigura and UCP Investment Group had acquired the Essar asset for \$12.9 billion. This was Rosneft's largest foreign investment in India's refining sector, providing it an entry into one of the fastest-growing world markets.

Nayara Energy owns the second-largest private refinery in India, as well as an oil depot terminal, a port, infrastructure and a chain of more than 6,000 fuel stations.

It is this spate of expansion that is now threatened.

On July 18, the EU unleashed its 18th package of sanctions on Russia, which included restrictions on import of fuels refined from that nation's crude, slashing the price cap on Russian oil to \$47.6 per barrel from \$60 and targeting the shadow fleet involved in its transport. The price cap will take effect on September 3. Separately, US President Donald Trump has put 50% tariffs on Indian imports, accusing India of funding Moscow's war on Ukraine via its oil purchases.

Though Nayara is not directly sanctioned, its significant Russian ownership has triggered cascading effects.

SANCTIONS BITING

Within a week of the latest EU sanctions, Nayara Energy chief executive Alessandro Des Dorides resigned and was replaced by Sergey Denisov, who had been with the company since 2017.

On July 28, Microsoft restricted Nayara Energy's access to its own data, proprietary tools and products, de-

spite these being acquired under fully paid-up licences, according to the oil retailer. The US firm later restored services, once Nayara began legal actions against it. But the episode underscored the seriousness of the situation.

"Navara's troubles have just begun. It is not only barred from exporting refined products to Europe, but fearing penalties, shipping companies are pulling back from transporting its products. Insurers and trade finance providers are wary," said a trader familiar with the matter, on condition of anonymity. "This is restricting the company's ability to move product to its export markets-Europe, Southeast Asia and parts of Africa."

As per a Care Ratings note in July, exports constituted 25-30% of Navara's total revenue, while the balance was domestic sales in India. Nayara has negligible direct exports to the EU, while its majority exports are via traders who, in turn, sell to multiple markets. That hasn't stopped Nayara from seeking alternative arrangements for payments as EU's sanctions threaten to bite. It is reportedly seeking a local bank to finance and wire payments for crude oil imports and to help it receive payments for refined fuel product exports.

POTENTIAL SALE

Burdened by the heft of sanctions, Rosneft has not been able to repatriate earnings from Nayara Energy in recent years. The lack of repatriation of earnings from the company is believed to be one of the key reasons it has been mulling selling the Indian unit, said people with knowledge of the matter.

But the latest bunch of sanctions has impeded this too. Talks have been held with Indian conglomerates, with the company being valued at more than \$20 billion.

Separately, UCP Investment Group, one of the largest financial investment groups in Russia, is also looking to sell its stake in Nayara Energy for over \$5 billion. This, after Swiss-headquartered commodity trader Trafigura sold its 24.5% stake to Hara Capital Sarl, a wholly owned subsidiary of Italian energy investment firm Mareterra Group Holding, in January 2023. Industry players, however, said that due to the sanctions, Nayara's valuation could come down, making it an attractive asset for international buyers.

NEW STRATEGIES

Global roadblocks have forced Nayara Energy to look inwards. Last week, it reached out to state-run refiners, offering them its export volumes of petrol and diesel to prevent a build-up of unsold inventory.

While the pivot to domestic markets offers near-term relief, it also squeezes margins. Export markets, especially Europe, historically offered better realisations. Domestic competition, more so from state-owned oil marketing companies, limits pricing power and flexibility.

Ironically, all of this comes at a time when Nayara Energy was planning massive growth investments. It had announced plans to invest over ₹70,000 crore in the long term across petrochemicals. ethanol plants and marketing infrastructure expansion, among other projects. It had invested over ₹14,000 crore since August 2017 in various projects in India, including upgrading existing refining facilities, a new petrochemical plant and other infrastructure projects.

But thanks to the sanctions, the company now risks losing technical support from European technology licensors, which is crucial to its refinery operations. The key question is whether Nayara can continue to push forward on diversification while its core refining-export engine sputters under the weight of western pressure.



Ethanol for Sustainable Development

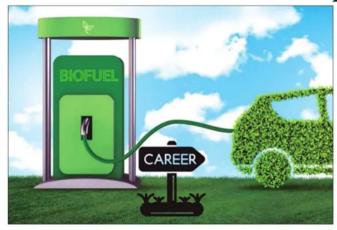
orld Biofuel Day is observed annually on 10 August to honor Sir Rudolf Diesel. Day highlights the role of biofuels as sustainable alternatives to fossil fuels and aims to raise awareness about their benefits. Governments and scientists use this day to promote biofuel technologies and sustainability, emphasizing international cooperation to combat climate change and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

Recent Advances and Innovations

Recent technological advance ments in biofuel production have marked a significant transition from first-generation biofuels derived from food crops to advanced biofuels utilizing waste materials and non-food biomass. Emerging tech-nologies prioritize sustainable and efficient production methods. Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) are increasingly leveraged to optimize biomass yield and enhance biofuel quality. The conversion of bioethanol into fuel-grade biobutanol via homogeneous molecular catalysis improves fuel efficiency and compatibility with existing infrastructure. Concurrently, innovations in food-waste-to-bio gas and food-waste-to-hydrogen processes support renewable energy generation from waste streams. There are concerned efforts being made to make Compressed Biogas, Sustainable Aviation Fuel and Bio-hydrogen tecno-commer cially viable from variety of bio feedstocks. Collectively, these advancements improve the sustainability. economic feasibility, and scalability of biofuel technologies, which are essential for global energy transition efforts and climate change mit-

Ethanol gamechanger for India

Ethanol, a biofuel from biomass, is playing a key role in India's shift to sustainable energy. The Ethanol Blending Program (EBP) aims to mix ethanol with petrol, promoting cleaner transport and technological



advances in biofuel processing. India is developing second-generation plants that turn agricultural waste into fuel, further cutting environmental impact and improving resource efficiency.

Important benefits of EBP are as below

Reducing Oil Imports: India depends on imported crude oil, making it vulnerable to global price shifts. Ethanol blending helps conserve foreign exchange by substituting some gasoline with locally produced fuel.

Enhancing Energy Security: India can boost energy security and protect its economy by diversifying energy sources and reducing reliance on a single one.

Augmenting Rural Economy: Ethanol production creates more markets for crops like sugarcane and maize, increasing farmers' incomes and boosting rural economies.

Environmental Benefits: Ethanol burns cleaner than gasoline, lowering emissions of carbon dioxide and other pollutants. Its use helps improve air quality and addresses climate change. Ethanol, a biofuel from biomass, is playing a key role in India's shift to

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processing.

Cost-Effectiveness: Ethanol may be produced more economically than gasoline, and its use as a blended fuel has the potential to reduce overall fuel expenses for consumers.

Infrastructure Development: EBP has led to more distilleries, better ethanol infrastructure, increased jobs, and industrial growth

Status of Ethanol Blending

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India reached 20% ethanol blending in petrol (E20) by March 2025, ahead of its revised target for the 2025-26 Ethanol Supply Year. This marks a major leap from just 1.5% blending in 2014.

E20 adoption has improved energy security, cut crude oil imports (saving RS1.36 lakh crove in FOREX), and promoted economic growth. Payments of RS1.96 lakh crove to ethanol producers boosted the domestic industry, and RS1.18 lakh crore to farmers supported the rural economy in 2024. EBP, as a renewable fuel, also reduced GHG emissions and enhanced environmental sustainability.

Challenges and concerns There are several factors to consider with E20 fuel blends:

Fuel Efficiency: E20 blends may result in a slight decrease in fuel efficiency for vehicles designed for E10, though engine modifications and tuning can address this.

Older Vehicle Compatibility: Some car owners have noted the possible effects of ethanolblended petrol on older vehicles, including lower mileage and po tential engine damage.

Environmental Impact: Ethanol blending contributes to reduced carbon emissions; however, ethanol production involves water usage and may pose pollution risks.

In addition to these concerns, there remain challenges for the growth of ethanol industry India and few important ones are as below.

Feedstock Availability: Maintaining a consistent and suficient supply of feedstock, particularly sugarcane, for ethanol production presents challenges due to variable agricultural yields and evolving market conditions.

Water Consumption: Some ethanol production methods use large amounts of water and require monitoring of water resources.

Food Security Concerns: It is essential to balance the demand of ethanol production with the imperative of maintaining food security. The government highlights the

The government highlights the environmental benefits and safety standards of E20 fuel, while promoting 2G ethanol from agricultural waste to boost sustainability. Current efforts focus on overcoming challenges and increasing blending targets.

Looking Ahead

In conclusion, India has reached notable point in its ethanol blending initiatives, reflecting ongoing efforts toward clean energy and energy security. Although there are challenges, projections for the future of ethanol in India indicate continued development Government policies supporting increased ethanol blending, along with advancements in ethanol production technology and vehicle compatibility, may help India move toward its blending targets. Ad-dressing these challenges and utilizing available opportunities could enhance energy security, support rural economies, and advance environmental sustainability.

Dr. Ravindra Utgikar, Chief Sales Officer, Wilo India.



From Gaushalas to Global Climate Leadership



(From L-R) Dr W Selvamurthy from Amity University; Mr CV Raman from Maruti Suzuki; Mr Binod Anand from WCoop-EF; Dr Meenesh Shah, Chairman of NDDB; Mr S K Shukla, President, UP Distillers Association; Mr Mahesh Girdhar of EverEnviro.; Mr Deodatta Deshpande of Thermax Bioenergy

BY TEAM AGENDA

In the changing story of Bharat, there are leaders who talk of change and leaders who make it happen. For rural India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been that change-maker — turning what was once dismissed as waste into the fuel of our future. From the humble gobar of our gaushalas to the heaps of crop residue in our fields, he has shown the world that the path to Atmanirbhar Bharat can be lit by the blue flame of our own resources. At the Biofuels360 Summit in New Delhi, organised by The Pioneer Group, this vision came alive. Moderating the flagship session, Binod Anand - Executive Chairman of the World Cooperation Economic Forum said: "This is not just about gas. This is about giving our villages the power to produce, the pride to own, and the wealth to share. It's Sahkar Se Samriddhi in its purest form.'

In the dusty courtyards of rural Bharat, where mornings begin with the bells of grazing cows and the hum of harvest, something transformational is taking shape. The same *gobar* that once only plastered chulhas and courtyard walls is now driving buses, powering tractors,

lighting homes, and putting hard cash into farmers' pockets.

This is compressed bio gas (CBG) — a fuel born from digesting organic waste like dung, crop residues, market leftovers, and kitchen scraps. In the process, it delivers two treasures: bio-CNG, identical in properties to CNG, and bio-slurry, a natural fertiliser that revives our soils and reduces dependence on imported urea. Every tonne of CBG prevents about 2.7 tonnes of CO2-equivalent emissions, directly contributing to India's Panchamrit and Net Zero 2070 goals.

As moderator, Binod Anand anchored the discussion with a sharp reminder of India's energy journey Independence: "Rural India remained only a consumer, not a producer of energy. But since 2014, the story has turned. With GOBARdhan, SATAT, and the cooperative push under Sahkar Se Samriddhi, we're seeing decentralised energy models that cost a fraction of the old mega projects and start paying back in months. For rural Bharat - rich in biomass and cattle wealth — this is a chance to turn every panchayat into a power producer and every farmer into a shareholder in the nation's energy future."

The cooperative model is the spine of this revolution. Panchayats coordinate feedstock collection, Farmer Producer Organisations and dairy cooperatives pool resources, Self-Help Groups run slurry-based businesses, and state federations link plants to oil companies for guaranteed gas offtake under SATAT.

Indore proves the point. Under GOBARdhan, its Municipal Corporation runs a Bio-CNG plant processing hundreds of tonnes of wet waste daily, producing 15–17 tonnes of Bio-CNG for

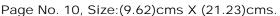
buses and compost for farmers. Landfills have vanished, jobs have sprung up, and the



city's air has grown cleaner — all because Indore treated waste as a resource.

The session also stressed that while the Centre has laid the foundation, states must accelerate the momentum — through clear renewable energy targets, land and low-interest loans for cooperatives, fast-track clearances, guaranteed gas purchase agreements, and municipal-panchayat convergence cells.

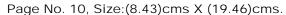






HPCL Profit After Tax soars by 1,128% to `4,371 crore in Q1 FY26

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL) reported a sharp surge in profitability for the quarter ended June 30, 2025, with profit after tax jumping 1128% to ₹4,371 crore from ₹356 crore in the same period last year. Consolidated PAT stood at ₹4,111 crore against ₹634 crore in Q1 FY25. The state-run refiner posted revenue from operations of ₹1,20,135 crore, broadly stable compared to ₹1,20,878 crore a year ago. Gross refining margin was at \$3.08 per barrel versus \$5.03 in Q1 FY25. Refineries recorded a quarterly crude throughput of 6.66 million tonnes (MT), up 15.6%, with an average utilisation of 109%. Visakh Refinery posted its highest-ever quarterly throughput of 4.16 MT, while Mumbai Refinery processed 2.50 MT.





HPCL's PAT soars by 1,128%

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) announcedits financial results for the quarter ended 30 June reporting strong all-round performance. The quarter also marked significant progress in capital projects at refineries and the launch of new initiatives aimed at strengthening profitability.

HPCL has increased its refinery output significantly on back of the recent expansion projects, and also continues to increase its sales volume. Q1 FY26 witnessed a strong operational and financial performance. Refineries recorded quarterly throughput of 6.66 MMT registering a year-on-year growth of 15.6%, and an average utilisation of 109%.



The role of ethanol in India's net-zero transition



(From L-R) Mr Sanjay Ganjoo of IFGE; Mr Vikram Gulati of Toyota Kirloskar Motors; Dr Nutan Kaushik from Amity; Ms Vibha Dhawan, Director General of TERI; Dr KVTS Pawan Kumar of The Catalysts; Mr. Ravi Gupta of Shree Renuka Sugars; Mr S K Shukla, President of UP Distillers Association

BY TEAM AGENDA

Bioethanol offers a win-win for Indiadiversifying the sugar industry, boosting farmer incomes, reducing fuel imports, and cutting emissions. By turning crops and residues into clean energy, it drives rural prosperity, supports sustainability, and strengthens energy security, making it a vital pillar of India's economic and environmental future.

The Pioneer Biofuels360 Summit



hosted a highly engaging and thought-provoking discussion on Powering

the Transition: Ethanol's Strategic Role in India's Clean Energy Future. The panel convened prominent experts from industry, research, and policy to deliberate on the strategic role of ethanol in India's evolving energy landscape. The discussion was anchored in the recognition that bioethanol is not merely a cleaner fuel alternative but also a significant economic driver, with the potential to strengthen energy

security, enhance rural incomes, and contribute towards climate and sustainability goals.

The panel underscored ethanol's economic and environmental significance. Given that much of the global geopolitical conflict revolves around oil, making energy self-sufficiency an imperative for India. With its favourable climate, biodiversity, and agricultural productivity, India has a unique natural advantage in producing ethanol. At the same time, the discussion acknowledged persistent challenges, including production costs, storage infrastructure, dispensing mechanisms, and public debates over the safety of E20 for existing and older vehicles.

India's auto industry has been proactively preparing for the rollout of E20 fuel, with most new vehicles now engineered to run safely and efficiently on 20 per cent ethanol blends. Manufacturers have adapted engine designs, fuel systems, and materials to handle higher ethanol content, while investing in testing and certification to ensure performance, durability, and compliance with emission norms.

The headline of the session, undoubtedly, was the phenomenal progress

already made by India's ethanol blending programme, which has expanded from 35 crore litres in 2013-14 to a projected 1,000 crore litres this year, making it the fastest-growing ethanol blending programme in the world.

Grain-based ethanol production in India, which began modestly in 2017-18 with just 10 crore litres, is set to touch 800 crore litres now, driven largely by proactive government policies. A key factor driving this growth has been a shift in feedstock patterns, particularly the replacement of waterintensive paddy with maize-a crop offering better ethanol recovery and higher returns for farmers.

Minimum support price (MSP) of maize has risen to sustainable levels, mitigating farmer losses thanks to the ethanol blending programme. With seed quality improvements to match global standards, India could reach 100 million tonnes of maize in the coming decades. However, realising this potential would require investment in mechanisation, given India's small landholdings, better logistics to reduce costs for both farmers and industry as well as strong preservation techniques.

CONTINUED ON >> PII

The role of ethanol in India's net-zero...

The future lies in flex fuel vehicles and advanced biofuels, particularly 2G ethanol derived from crop residues-a solution that reduces stubble burning while providing an alternative fuel source. There is the need for comprehensive research to ensure the right crop varieties are

made available to farmers, offering both biomass and food in optimal ratios as well as into making 2G and 3G ethanol solutions viable. From a technology standpoint, the panel examined advancements in enzyme science that are lowering costs and improving efficiency and promise to further enhance the economics of ethanol production. In conclusion, the panel agreed that ethanol must be viewed not in isolation, but as part of a broader clean energy and circular

economy framework. Its success depends on integrating feedstock diversification, technological innovation, farmer incentives, and infrastructure development, while ensuring alignment with ESG principles and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The discussion reinforced ethanol's potential to be both an economic catalyst and an environmental solution-if pursued with strategic vision, scientific rigour, and stakeholder collaboration.



व्यापार शुल्क में रूस का तेल बना अमेरिका के लिए हथियार



के राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने नया पैंतरा अख्तियार किया है। भारत पर दबाव डालने के लिए पहले तो 25 फीसद व्यापार शुल्क लगाने की घोषणा की। फिर रूस से तेल खरीद बंद करने की शर्त रख दी। खरीद जारी रखने पर

पक्षीय व्यापार वार्ता के बीच अमेरिका और 25 फीसद शुल्क लगा दिया। इस तरह भारत पर दो भागों में ट्रंप 50 फीसद शुल्क लगा चुके हैं। तेल के खेल में इस तरह भारत अब सर्वाधिक शुल्क भुगतने वाला देश हो गया है। हालांकि टंप ने इस अतिरिक्त 25 फीसद शुल्क से बचने के लिए 21

दिन की मोहलत दी है। उन्होंने साफ किया है कि शुल्क का मसला निपटे बिना भारत से व्यापार वार्ता का कोई मतलब नहीं है। इससे पहले अमेरिका ने भारत के पड़ोसी देशों में चीन पर 30 फीसद और पाकिस्तान पर 19 फीसद शृल्क लगाया था।

तल का खेल

जनसत्ता सरोकार

दुनिया के दो सबसे बड़े तेल आयातक हैं भारत और चीन

ट्रंप की धमकी के बाद जिस तरह से विदेश ाजस तरह स विदश मंत्रालय ने बयान जारी कर अमेरिका पर पलटवार किया था, उससे जानकारों को लगता है कि रूसी तेल पर अमेरिकी शुल्क और यूरोपीय संघ के प्रतिबंधों का सामना करने के लिए भारत अपना रूख



अमेरिका और यूरोप द्वारा गाजा में इजयहल के युद्ध को लगातार दिस्तर्जीयित और हिप्सार प्रदान करना शामिल है। इसके परिणामप्रवारण कम से कम 4,0,000 किलिस्तरीनी मारे गए। इनमें 18,000 बच्चे भी शामिल हैं। इस वीच कुछ कर किसी पहले हैं। इस वीच कुछ कर किसी पहले हैं पहले के उन्हें पहले हैं पहले हैं पहले हैं पहले हैं पहले हैं पहले हैं पहले के लाइने हैं पहले हैं हैं पहले हैं हैं पहले हैं पहले हैं हैं कि पहले पहले हैं पहले हैं पहले हैं हैं हैं पहले

क्या हैं भारत के लिए विकल्प

पहला विकल्प यह होगा कि रूस से प्रतिस्पर्धी कीमती पर जजी ह्यारीवा जारी रखा जाए और यहां तक कि उसे रीमूना भी किया जाए साथ ही, अमेरिका और पुलेपिय संग्रे ह्यार त्यारा गर्स प्रतिक्षेत्री का सामना किया जाए और रोनों के साथ मुक्त व्यापार साहते जारी रखे जाएं। इस उम्मीद में कि इससे ऐसे दंड कम होंगे। सरकार ने अब तक यही रणनीति अपनाई थी।

अब तरू यहां रणांना अपनाह था।

दूसरे विकल्प के तीर पर ऑसिकी-यूरीपीय
पूर्वमन प्रतिकारों को दरिकनार करने के लिए
ज्यापा के वैकलियक फिकल्पों को कोज करना,
जीतमी, ईएएं, आरहिता, न्यूकीलंड आदि के
साथ चला रही अन्य एफटीए वालीओं को जल्द
समान करने के लिए आगे कुला जाहिता, न्यूकीलंड आदि कर
समान करने के लिए आगे कुला जाहिता को नाल्य
स्काधित करने पर सावानी को भी समाया कर सकता है पा
कहा तक कि 15 प्राप्ट्री के आदिया के नेतृत्व वाले केवेश
ज्यापक आर्थिक भागीवारी (आरसिंदी) में शामिल होने पर
करते कि तर ति हान्य रहता है आरसिंदी भी शामिल होने पर
करते के वार में चिताओं के कारण वाहर आ गाया था।
हालांकि यह कुल इस्त पहले तहने से से प्राप्ट केवेश
वाणियक और उद्योग मंत्री पीयूर गोयल ने आस्तियन को चीन को
बी-टीम' और एक्टाई आइती को मातलीं के रूप में संदर्भित
किया था। लेकिन लक्ता है कर्र्य के अध्यक तीखे हमलों को
देखते हुए संस्कार का दिखाला चला कता है।

रूस के साथ भारत के संबंध

रत और रूस का एक-दूसरे वा समर्थन करने कर रहको पुराग वितास रता है। पूर्व अंतिरका रहको पुराग वितास रता है। पूर्व अंतिरका रहको पुराग वितास रता है। पूर्व अंतिरका रहको पुराग वितास रता है। 1971 के मारत-पाकिरतान पुढ़ के दौरान पारत को धामकों के लिए एक पुढ़कों वे भंता का भारत को धामकों के लिए एक पुढ़कों वे भंता का भारत को धामकों के लिए एक पुढ़कों के प्राची की पिर प्रतास किया राज्य के अपने तीरेवा हिंद महासार में भेज दो वी। दिसंबर 2021 में, माँचे और पुनित ने कई व्यापार और हिंप्यार सार्थों को प्रतास के प्राची तीर के राज्य के आक्रमण की तीरवा कर रही है। आपने वितेस का धिरता कर ही है। आपने सार्थ के भारत में प्रतास के आक्रमण की निया कर रही है। आपने वितेस का धिरता पारत के प्रतास के प्रतास पारत के भारत में प्रतास के अक्रमण की निया कर रही है। आपने की प्रतास के अज़ना है कि रूपती ले क्यार की प्रतास के आक्रमण की निया कर रही है। जानकारों का करना है कि रूपती ले क्यार की पारत के आक्रमण की स्वास पारत के प्रतास पारत कर सार्थ में प्रतास के प्रतास पारत के प्रतास के प्रतास के अपने पारत कर सार्थ में प्रतास के प्रतास के प्रतास के प्रतास कर के प्रतास के प्रतास के प्रतास के प्रतास के प्रतास के प्रतास कर की तीर का प्रतास कर की तिस्थ सार के प्रतास के प्रतास कर की तीर की प्रतास के प्रतास का स्वस्त का हिम्स वाद की प्रतास के प्रतास के प्रतास के प्रतास के प्रतास का स्वस्त का हिम्स वाद की प्रतास के प्रतास क



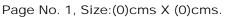
स्टाकहोम इंटरनेशनल पीस रिसर्च इंस्टीट्यूट की 2024 की एक रपट के अनुसार उसने रूसी हथियारों के निर्यात का 38

एक रपट के अनुसार उसमें कसी हिष्मारी के निर्मात का 38 भीनत हिस्सा ख्रामीश ख्रीना हिस्सा ख्रामीश अर्थव्यवस्थाओं का प्रतिनिधन करने वाले साम देशों के समुद्र हाग्र हिस्सार 2022 में रूमती तेल निर्मात को 60 खालर प्रति बेलल कर सीमित कर दिया गया था, जबकि यूरोपीस संघ ने जुलाई में मूल्य सीमा को घटकर 47 डालर प्रति सेलल से थींड़। अधिक कर दिया था। एक जानकार को कहन कि भारत को कहिन विकल्प का सामन करना पहिना है में प्रति है से प्रति में निरास है है है से प्रति में निरास है हैं... हालांकि दोनी धातचीत के दिए राजी हो गए है। भारत के सामन एक किटन विकल्प होंग, लीकन अपर ट्रंप इस्त मूर्ड एप पूरे रिस्त को दांच पर लागों का फासला करते हैं, तो भारत को डेंड़ लाख बेल रूपी करने तीन का आपराज जारी रखना महिकल से होंग से सकता है।



पानीपतरिफाइनरीमेंजहाजकाईंधनबनेगा

नई दिल्ली। भारत पहली बार इस्तेमाल किए गए कूकिंग ऑयल से हवाई जहाज के लिए ईंधन बनाने की दिशा में आगे बढ़ गया है। केंद्रीय सिविल एविएशन मिनिस्टर राम मोहन नायडू ने शनिवार को सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म 'एक्स' पर बताया कि पानीपत रिफाइनरी को देश के पहले सस्टेनेबल एविएशन फ्यूल उत्पादक के रूप में प्रमाणित किया गया है। यह एक तरह का जेट फ्यूल है, जो जीवाशम ईंधन के बजाय टिकाऊ और नवीकरणीय स्रोतों से बनाया जाता है।





रूसी कच्चे तेल की खरीद से भारत ने 3 साल में बचाए 1.25 लाख करोड़ रुपए, अमरीकी प्रतिबंध से होगा बड़ा नुकसान !

नई दिल्ली: भले ही अमरीका भारत पर रूस से कच्चा तेल न खरीदने के लिए दबाव बना रहा हो, लेकिन हकीकत तो यह है कि भारत ने जनवरी 2022 से जून 2025 के बीच सस्ते रूसी कच्चे तेल की खरीद से लगभग 15 अरब डॉलर (करीब 1.25 लाख करोड़ रुपए) की बचत की है। मामले से जुड़े जानकारों का कहना है कि बचत की इस राशि से इस साल के लिए तय की गई 1.2 लाख करोड़ रुपए की यूरिया सबसिडी पूरी तरह चुकाई जा सकती है।



रूसी कच्चे तेल की खरीद से भारत ने 3 साल में बचाए 1.25 लाख करोड़ रुपए, अमरीकी प्रतिबंध से होगा बड़ा नुकसान !

नई दिल्ली, 9 अगस्त (एजैंसी): भले ही अमरीका भारत पर रुस से कच्चा तेल न खरीदने के लिए दबाव बना रहा हो, लेकिन हकीकत तो यह है कि भारत ने जनवरी 2022 से जून 2025 के बीच सस्ते रूसी कच्चे तेल की खरीद से लगभग 15 अरब डॉलर (करीब 1.25 लाख करोड़ रुपए) की बचत की है। मामले से जुड़े जानकारों का कहना है कि बचत की इस राशि से इस साल के लिए तय की गई 1.2 लाख करोड़ रुपए की यूरिया सबसिडी पूरी तरह चुकाई जा सकती है। यह आंकड़ा एक मीडिया हाऊस ने कस्टम्स डाटा, शिप ट्रैकिंग, बजट दस्तावेज और उद्योग सूत्रों के आधार पर निकाला है।

2023 में तेल खरीद से बचाए 7 अरब डॉलर

रिपोर्ट के मुताबिक रुसी कच्चे तेल की खरीद से सबसे ज्यादा करीब 7 अरब डॉलर की बचत 2023 में हुई है। उस समय जी-7 देशों ने रूसी तेल पर प्राइस कैप लगाया था, जिससे रूस ने भारत को कच्चा तेल 15–20 डॉलर प्रति बैरल सस्ता बेचा। अब यह छूट घटकर 2 डॉलर से भी कम रह गई है। इसी वजह से जनवरी-जून 2025 के दौरान बचत घटकर 1.8 अरब डॉलर रह गई है। ऐसे में रूस से यदि भारत को कम तेल मिलेगा तो उसे इराक, सऊदी अरब, नाइजीरिया, यू. ए.ई. और अमरीका से ज्यादा तेल खरीदना पड़ेगा।

इराक और सऊदी अरब भारत के दूसरे और तीसरे सबसे बड़े तेल सप्लायर हैं। रिपोर्ट में तेल विशेषज्ञ नरेंद्र तनेजा के हवाले से कहा गया है कि अमरीकी टैक्स के बाद रूस से आने वाले तेल में



कितनी गिरावट होगी, यह कहना अभी मुश्किल है। आने वाले हफ्तों में होने वाली ट्रेड टॉक्स, क्वाड बैठक, विदेश मंत्री की रूस यात्रा और प्रधानमंत्री की एस.सी.ओ. शिखर बैठक के बाद तस्वीर साफ होगी।

अमरीका से तेल खरीद पर घटेगा रिफाइनिंग मार्जिन

दो सरकारी रिफाइनरी अधिकारियों के हवाले से रिपोर्ट में जानकारी दी गई है कि अगर खाड़ी देशों और अमरीका से तेल लेना पड़ा तो रिफाइनिंग मार्जिन 2–3 डॉलर प्रति बैरल तक कम हो सकता है। अगर तेल के दाम बढ़े तो लागत और बढ़ जाएगी। सऊदी अरब ने सितंबर के लिए एशिया को बेचे जाने वाले तेल पर प्रीमियम बढ़ा दिया है। इसके मुताबिक अरब लाइट तेल 3.2 डॉलर प्रति बैरल महंगा हो सकता है, जबिक सऊदी मीडियम 2.65 डॉलर और सऊदी हैवी 1.3 डॉलर प्रति बैरल महंगा हो सकता है। अगर रूसी तेल की सप्लाई बंद रही तो अक्तूबर में ये प्रीमियम और बढ़ सकते हैं।

निजी कंपनियों पर भी पड़ेगा असर

प्राइवेट कंपनियां रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज

(आर.आई.एल.) और नायरा एनर्जी रूस से आने वाले करीब आधे तेल की खरीद करती हैं। सस्ती रूसी सप्लाई से इनको बड़ा फायदाहुआहै, लेकिन अब खाड़ी का महंगा तेल लेने से इनके मुनाफे पर दबाव बढ़ सकता है।

आर.आई.एल. इस रूसी तेल को प्रोसैस कर यूरोप को ईंधन के रूप में बेचती हैं। डाटा कंपनी कपलर के मुताबिक सरकारी रिफाइनरियों ने 2024 के मुकाबले 2025 में रूसी तेल पर निर्भरता 10 फीसदी कम कर दी हैं। हिंदुस्तान पैट्रोलियम ने जुलाई में सिर्फ 24,000 बैरल प्रतिदिन रूसी तेल खरीदा, जबिक एक साल पहले यह 2.8 लाख बैरल प्रतिदिन था।

छूट घटने और सप्लाई कम होने की वजह से ये खरीद घटाई गई। जून में सरकारी कंपनियों ने 1.1 मिलियन बैरल प्रतिदिन रूसी तेल खरीदा। इनमें से कुछ के लिए सितंबर की डिलीवरी पहले ही तय है।

कितना आसान है खाड़ी से तेल खरीदना

कपलर की विश्लेषक अमीना बक्र के अनुसार 2 मिलियन बैरल प्रतिदिन रूसी तेल को पूरी तरह खाड़ी देशों से बदलना संभव नहीं है। सऊदी अरब, यू.ए.ई. और कुवैत के पास कुछ अतिरिक्त क्षमता है, लेकिन इराक और कजाखिस्तान को ओपेक के नियमों के चलते उत्पादन घटाना होगा, इसलिए इंडियन ऑयल ने सितंबर के लिए अमरीका और यू.ए.ई. से लगभग 70 लाख बैरल हल्का, मीटा तेल बुक किया है, तािक रूसी तेल के बजाय इसे इस्तेमाल किया जा सके।



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जैव ईंधन दिवस

योगेश कुमार गोयल

सुनहरे भविष्य की निधि जैव ईंधन

पिछले कुछ वर्षों से पूरी दुनिया जलवायु परिवर्तन के दुष्प्रभाव झेल रही है और जलवाय परिवर्तन के कारण प्राकृतिक आपदाओं की संख्या एवं तीव्रता निरंतर बढ रही है। जलवाय परिवर्तन के कारण हमारा पारिस्थितिक तंत्र बिगड गया है, जिसका असर जीवन के लगभग हर क्षेत्र में स्पष्ट देखने को मिल रहा है।

जलवायु परिवर्तन का एक बड़ा कारण मनुष्यों द्वारा पारंपरिक जीवाश्म ईंधन का बड़े

स्तर पर दोहन किया जाना भी है, जिसका पर्यावरण पर बेहद खतरनाक प्रभाव देखा जा रहा है। यही कारण है कि पारंपरिक जीवाश्म ईंधन की बजाय अपरंपरागत जीवाश्म ईंधन को इस्तेमाल करने की जरूरत महसूस की जा रही है, और पारंपरिक जीवाश्म ईंधन के विकल्पों के महत्त्व के बारे में जागरूकता बढाने के लिए ही प्रति वर्ष 10 अगस्त को 'विश्व जैव ईंधन दिवस' मनाया जाता

है। यह दिवस मनाने का उद्देश्य वातावरण में ग्रीनहाउस गैसों के उत्सर्जन को कम करने, ऊर्जा सरक्षा को बढावा देने तथा ग्रामीण विकास का समर्थन करने में जैव ईंधन के महत्त्व को पारंपरिक जीवाश्म ईंधन के स्थायी विकल्प के रूप में उजागर करना है। जलवाय परिवर्तन में होती वृद्धि के साथ वैश्विक ऊर्जा खपत पैटर्न में बदलाव अब समय की बड़ी मांग है, इसीलिए जैव ईंधन दिवस के माध्यम से दनिया भर में लोगों को अक्षय ऊर्जा स्रोतों को गैर-नवीकरणीय जीवाश्म ईंधन से बदलने के प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं।

भारत में विश्व जैव ईंधन दिवस पहली बार अगस्त. 2015 में पेट्रोलियम एवं गैस मंत्रालय द्वारा मनाया गया था। दुनिया भर में अब जैव ईंधन को हमारा भविष्य बचाने के लिए उम्मीद के तौर पर देखा जा रहा है। दुबई में हुए 'कॉप-28' में 28वें संयुक्त राष्ट्र जलवाय परिवर्तन सम्मेलन 2050 तक शन्य कार्बन उत्सर्जन का लक्ष्य हासिल करने और जीवाश्म ईंधन से दर रहने का आह्वान किया गया था और संयक्त राष्ट्र जलवाय कॉन्फ्रेंस के इतिहास में

कि जीवाश्म ईंधन को चरणबद्ध तरीके से चलन से बाहर करने का इसमें कोई उल्लेख नहीं था। इससे पहले नई दिल्ली में जी20 शिखर सम्मेलन के अवसर पर 9 सितम्बर, 2023 को प्रधानमंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी द्वारा 'ग्लोबल बायोपयल अलायंस' (वैश्विक जैव ईंधन गठबंधन) की शरुआत भी की गई थी।

पारंपरिक ईंधन का वैकल्पिक संस्करण जैव ईंधन पर्यावरण को बेहतर बनाता है। जैव ईंधन ऊर्जा का नवीकरणीय और जैव निम्नीकरणीय स्रोत होता है, जो नवीकरणीय संसाधनों से बनता है, और जीवाश्म डीजल की तुलना में अपेक्षाकृत कम ज्वलनशील है। यह कृषि अपशिष्ट अथवा पेड-पौधों और फसलों, वनस्पति, पश् अपशिष्ट, शैवाल, औद्योगिक अपशिष्ट इत्यादि किसी भी प्रकार की जैविक सामग्री से उत्पन्न हो सकता है, जिसमें काफी बेहतर चिकनाई वाले गुण होते हैं। जहां कोयले अथवा तेल के जलने से वैश्विक तापमान में वृद्धि होती है और ये ईंधन ग्लोबल वार्मिंग का बड़ा कारण बनते हैं, वहीं जैव ईंधन मानक डीजल की तुलना में कम हानिकारक कार्बन उत्सर्जन का कारण बनता है, और ग्रीनहाउस गैसों के प्रभाव को कम करता है। भारत उन्नत जैव ईंधन क्षेत्र के उत्पादन के लिए विभिन्न परियोजनाओं पर काम कर रहा है। अधिकांश पर्यावरणविद का मानना है कि जहां जीवाश्म ईंधन बहुत कीमती है, वहीं जैव ईंधन सबसे बुद्धिमान ऊर्जा विकल्प है, और जो चीज लागत-प्रभावी, कशल, टिकाऊ एवं नवीकरणीय हो, वह सदैव बेहतर होती है। भारत में विभिन्न प्रकार के जैव ईंधन के उपयोग की ओर कदम

ऐसा सुझाव पहली बार दिया गया था। हालांकि यह अलग बात है बढ़ाए जा चुके हैं, जिनमें बायोइथेनॉल, बायोडीजल, ड्रॉप-इन ईंधन, बायो-सीएनजी, उन्नत जैव ईंधन इत्यादि प्रमख हैं। केंद्र सरकार द्वारा जुन, 2018 में जैव ईंधन पर राष्ट्रीय नीति को स्वीकृति प्रदान की गई थी, जिसका लक्ष्य 2030 तक 20 प्रतिशत इथेनॉल मिश्रण और 5 प्रतिशत बायोडीजल मिश्रण के लक्ष्य तक पहंचना है। यह योजना उन्नत जैव ईंधन के उत्पादन को प्रोत्साहित करती है। बहरहाल, दनियाभर में जैव ईंधन का उपयोग बढाए जाने के कई प्रमुख लाभ हो सकते हैं, जैसे इससे कच्चे तेल पर निर्भरता कम होने से जहां पर्यावरण में अपेक्षित सुधार होने की प्रबल संभावनाएं हैं. वहीं इससे खासकर ग्रामीण इलाकों में रोजगार के अवसर उत्पन्न होंगे और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में भी ऊर्जा पहुंचाई जा सकेगी। परिवहन ईंधन की बढ़ती मांग को भी आसानी से पुरा किया जा सकेगा। इस समय वाहनों के लिए उपयोग होने वाले पारंपरिक ईंधन और प्राकृतिक गैस की कीमतें आसमान छ रही हैं, और आने वाले समय में इनके दाम और बढेंगे।

> ऐसे में जैव ईंधन को बढावा देना समय की मांग है क्योंकि ये ईंधन अन्य ईंधन की तुलना में न केवल सस्ते हैं, बल्कि ऊर्जा के अच्छे स्रोत भी हैं, जो प्रदुषण भी नहीं फैलाते। चुंकि जैव ईंधन नवीकरणीय बायोमास संसाधनों के माध्यम से बनाए जाते हैं. इसलिए इनके उपयोग को बढावा देने से पर्यावरण प्रदूषण से मुक्ति मिल सकती है। जैव ईंधन समाज के बड़े हिस्से के लिए आय और रोजगार पैदा करने में भी मदद कर सकता है। माना जा रहा है कि जैव ईंधन पर्यावरण को कोई नुकसान पहुंचाए बगैर इस सदी की ऊर्जा जरूरतों को परा करने में बड़ी मदद करेगा।

अधिकांश पर्यावरणविद का मानना है कि जहां जीवाश्म ईंधन बहुत कीमती है, वहीं जैव ईंधन सबसे वृद्धिमान ऊर्जा विकल्प है, और जो चीज लागत-प्रभावी, कुशल, टिकाऊ एवं नवीकरणीय हो, वह सदैव बेहतर होती है। भारत में विभिन्न प्रकार के जैव ईंधन के उपयोग की ओर कदम बढ़ाए जा चूके हैं, जिनमें वायोइथेनॉल, वायोडीजल, डॉप-इन ईंधन, वायो-सीएनजी, उन्नत जैव ईंधन इत्यादि प्रमुख हैं। केंद्र सरकार द्वारा जून, 2018 में जैव ईंधन पर राष्ट्रीय नीति को स्वीकृति प्रदान की गई थी, जिसका लक्ष्य 2030 तक 20 प्रतिशत इथेनॉल मिश्रण और 5 प्रतिशत वायोडीजल मिश्रण के लक्ष्य तक पहुंचना है। यह योजना उन्नत जैव ईंधन के उत्पादन को प्रोत्साहित करती है