

US-Nato's threat to Russian oil buyers masks a bid to check China and corner the arms market

The Real West Side Story



Saibal Dasgupta

Nato secretary general Mark Rutte may have thought he would cause jitters in India, China and Russia if he spoke the strident language of Donald Trump. That he caused no disquiet was evident in the stock markets in India, China and the Western world.

Rutte 'ordered' India, Brazil and China—all BRICS members—to stop buying Russian oil after Trump threatened to punish them for non-compliance by imposing an additional 100% tariff. Curiously, he omitted mentioning Türkiye, a Nato member, being the third-biggest importer of Russian crude after India and China.

It is amazing that some of the best strategists in the Western world would come up with a simplistic solution for resolving the Ukraine crisis: provide Ukraine with top-notch weapons and weaken Russia by blocking oil exports. Choking distribution of Russian oil, which accounts for 15% of global supply, would shoot up international crude prices, possibly by 20-30% from the present level of \$68 a barrel.

Markets were indifferent because they knew that European countries, and even the US, would not seriously commit themselves to such self-harm. Though the EU has moved away from Russian oil, it still purchases 19% of its natural gas requirements from Russia.

So, why should India, which saves more than \$11 bn a year by buying discounted Russian oil, accept this 'diktat', which is equal to an additional tariff? Indian officials prefer to wait. An earlier statement by S Jaishankar after US senator Lindsey Graham proposed a 500% tariff on buyers of



Play ball, our way

Russian oil is an indicator of New Delhi's thinking. 'So, we have been in touch with Senator Graham. Our concerns and our interests on energy security have been made conversant to him. So, we'll then have to cross that bridge when we come to it, if we come to it,' Jaishankar said earlier this month.

Why should India, which saves more than \$11 bn a year by buying discounted Russian oil, accept the new diktat?



China has protested the move, while Russian leaders are literally joking about it. 'China believes dialogue and negotiation are the only viable solution to the Ukraine crisis. We categorically oppose all illegal unilateral sanctions and long-arm jurisdiction,' Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Lin Jian said on Wednesday. 'Coercion and pressure cannot resolve fundamental issues.'

Trump, who consistently opposed high-spent support for Ukraine, and relied on his 'friendship' with Vladimir Putin to resolve the crisis, made a volte-face, offering top-notch military equipment to Kyiv. Some commentators have credited Rutte for bringing about this change by enticing Trump with promises of higher

sales of US-made military hardware.

But there is more to it. Trump, and a section of European leaders, have been looking for ways to keep Beijing under pressure as they find Chinese companies surging ahead of Western businesses in sales and innovation. Cutting off Russian oil supplies could be a good way to force China, the biggest oil buyer, to pay more while weakening a supposed India-Russia-China 'alliance'.

They are also hassled by the expansion and rising clout of BRICS, which Trump recently described as an 'anti-American' group. He takes the de-dollarisation threat more seriously than some BRICS members like India. The fact that the Russian economy has survived nearly four years of, in Putin's words, a 'special military operation' is seen by many as a direct affront to the supposed power of economic sanctions and Western plans to weaken the nation. India and China are blamed in some quarters for Russia's endurance.

India is the second-biggest arms buyer in the world after Ukraine. Russia remains the largest arms supplier, meeting 36% of India's arms requirements.



Trump, once wary of Ukraine aid and banking on Putin ties, flipped after Rutte dangled big US arms sales

nts—though the number has declined from 72% during 2010-14, suggesting major changes in GoI's approach on the issue. According to Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (Sipri), 'India is shifting its arms supply relations towards Western suppliers, most notably France, Israel and the US.'

A key element in the growth of the defence industry is the existence of enemies and threat perception. Russia, China, Iran, North Korea and, to a smaller extent, India help to meet this requirement for Western defence manufacturers. Qatar and Saudi Arabia are the third- and fourth-biggest buyers, mainly because of the threat perception from Iran.

Trump recently said that his success in persuading European countries to spend 5% of their GDP on defence has thrown up a potential market of \$1 tn for the sector. It is obvious that American defence companies and politicians do not want China to start bidding for a piece of the new market by offering discounted rates. They don't want to share the fate of US construction and railroad companies, which failed to stop Chinese players from penetrating parts of Europe over the past decade-and-a-half.

They also want a share of the Indian defence market, even if it's necessary to ensure continued discord between Asian neighbours, India, Pakistan and China. Trump's repeated claims about ending the recent India-Pakistan conflict should be seen in this context.

So, the goals set out by the Trump-Nato combine cover several aspects other than oil. They include countering China's influence, weakening BRICS and enlarging the market potential of Western arms producers. The question is whether it will succeed in bringing India closer to the West (read: the US). Or, make New Delhi and Beijing strange tactical bedfellows.

The writer is former ToI correspondent in Beijing

AMID TRUMP'S SECONDARY TARIFF THREAT...

Crude may Hit \$140 Per Barrel if Russia Supply is Cut: Puri

'India would quickly switch to alternative sources'

Our Bureau

New Delhi: Oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Thursday warned that taking Russian supplies off the market could push oil prices to \$130-140 per barrel, detailing the potential impact of secondary sanctions, while adding that US President Donald Trump's tariff threats were not yet a cause for concern for India. "I'm not worried at all. If something happens, we'll deal with it," Puri told an industry gathering, referring to Trump's threat on Monday to impose secondary tariffs of 100% on countries that trade with Russia if Moscow fails to conclude a peace deal with Ukraine within 50 days.

Russia produces about 9 million barrels per day, or roughly 10% of global output and consumption, Puri said. Removing such large volumes would be difficult and require the world either to consume less or let prices soar, he added.

"There are two possibilities: one, the whole world consumes 10% less—which means some people won't get heating in winter; some won't get air conditioning in summer; some of the transport will stop flying," Puri said. "Or, you start buying more from the remaining 90% (suppliers). You know what that would do to prices? The prices would skyrocket," he added.

India would quickly switch to alternative sources to meet its oil demand if any supply were cut off, Puri said, adding that the world is currently awash in oil, which is helping keep prices in check.

Oil prices will remain around \$65 per barrel over the next few months, Puri said.



ON THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF REMOVING RUSSIAN SUPPLIES

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HARDEEP SINGH PURI
Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas

"We will go back to pre-Ukraine days," said Indian Oil chairman A S Sahney, responding to how the nation's top refiner would cope with secondary tariffs on Russia. India sourced just 0.2% of its crude from Russia before Ukraine war. That share quickly rose to around a third of India's imports as western buyers shunned Russian oil, making it available at a discount to Indian refiners.

Puri also said the government was taking new measures to boost exploration and production in the country.

ET ROUNDTABLE **NITIN GADKARI**
MINISTER FOR ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS

Trial on to raise ethanol's calorific value to match that of petrol for making 100% green fuel use viable

Flex Fuel and Electric to Sit at the Same Table in CAFÉ 3

Team ET
NEW DELHI

The Centre is working on balancing regulations under the third edition of the Corporate Average Fuel Efficiency (CAFÉ 3) norms to encourage customer adoption of flex fuel and electric vehicles, minister for road, transport & highways (MoRTH) Nitin Gadkari said.

This will help rein in crude imports and vehicular emissions.

While CAFÉ norms have so far been skewed in favour of electric vehicles, the upcoming regulations will take into account the contribution of flex fuel and battery technologies in its new avatar. Flex fuel refers to blends, such as ethanol and petrol.

"The old CAFÉ norms were electric-centric," Gadkari said at an ET Roundtable on Thursday. "The new CAFÉ 3 norms will balance both electric and flexi fuel engines."

A high-level meeting of top officials from the ministry of road transport and highways and ministry of power as well as the principal scientific adviser was held on

ON BIG VS SMALL CARS
Despite different lobbies working on it, we have to work in the interest of the country, keeping in mind pollution, cost, import and benefits for agriculture



ANUPAMA

Wednesday to firm up the norms.

The minister had called for consultations with industry stakeholders earlier this month on the matter.

CAFÉ 3 regulatory norms are set to come into effect from April

2027. A car's CO₂ emissions are directly proportional to the amount of fuel it consumes. This means that some models can have higher emissions if the manufacturer has fuel-efficient vehicles in its portfolio.

CAFÉ 3 regulations set fuel efficiency standards for car manufacturers with the aim of lowering fuel consumption and emissions. These norms apply to a manufacturer's entire model range, not individual models.

While the industry is divided over the proposal on differential treatment to big and small cars under CAFÉ 3 norms, Gadkari said a final decision will align with the country's needs.

"Despite different lobbies working on it, we have to work in the interest of the country, keeping in mind pollution, cost, import and benefits for agriculture," he said.

Small cars don't have a separate standard under the existing CAFÉ 2 norms that are in force through March 2027.

According to the existing rules, the average emissions of all passenger vehicles weighing less than 3,500 kg — including CNG, hybrids and electric vehicles — sold by each manufacturer should not be more than 113 grams of CO₂ per kilometre.

Vehicles in the local market currently run on petrol with a blend of 20% ethanol. While ethanol-blended fuel helps in reducing crude oil consumption, the lower calorific value of ethanol increases fuel consumption and therefore emissions, according to experts.

'Prepping for Euro VII Norms' → 14

'Prepping for Euro VII Norms'

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According to Gadkari, trials are being held in the ministry of petroleum and natural gas on Russian technology that can raise the calorific value of ethanol to match that of petrol. This will eventually make 100% ethanol viable in the country, he said.

Responding to a query on tightening emission norms, Gadkari said there had been much resistance when India decided to jump from BS-IV to BS-VI in 2020. "India's emission norms are comparable to the world. Now there is talk of Euro VII. We are preparing for it," he said.

Commenting on the ban on end-of-life vehicles in the National

Capital Region, Gadkari said, "This should be addressed by taking a studied legal position on the issue," but added that converting a petrol or diesel vehicle into CNG makes economic sense.

He also said the Delhi government has the authority to make laws on the petrol-diesel vehicle ban, and take measures to address concerns regarding the legality of the move while keeping public health in mind.

Petrol vehicles older than 15 years and diesel vehicles older than 10 aren't allowed in the national capital region (NCR), according to the National Green Tribunal order upheld by the Supreme Court.



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ONGC, BP Team Up for Stratigraphic Drilling Push

New Delhi: ONGC has signed an agreement with BP to collaborate on drilling multiple stratigraphic wells in India. The partnership will enhance geological understanding and unlock untapped hydrocarbon potential, strengthening India's long-term energy security, ONGC said in a post on X. The MoU was signed in the presence of Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri on the sidelines of Urja Varta 2025 event here. This is the first of the series of such initiatives which will be done. As part of the pact, ONGC will be putting in money and BP will provide expertise, said Pankaj Jain, secretary, petroleum ministry. — **PTI**

‘India can secure oil from other sources if Russian imports are sanctioned’

Our Bureau

New Delhi

Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Puri on Thursday expressed strong confidence that India can meet its energy requirements from alternative sources if Russian supplies are impacted by secondary sanctions.

“I don’t feel any pressure in my mind. India has diversified its sources of supply, and we have expanded from approximately 27 countries to around 40 countries now,” he stated at the Urja Varta annual conference of the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH). Puri highlighted the emergence of new suppliers, such as Guyana, and noted that supplies could also be ramped up from existing producers Brazil and Canada.

Earlier this week, US President Donald Trump warned that countries purchasing Russian exports could face sanctions if Moscow fails to reach a peace agreement with Ukraine within 50 days. This threat comes amid ongoing legislative efforts in the US Congress.

Senators Lindsey Graham and Richard Blumenthal have introduced a bipartisan Bill, the Sanctioning Russia Act of 2025, which proposes imposing tariffs as high as 500 per cent on countries, including India and China, that continue to purchase Russian oil, gas or uranium.

This Bill has significant support from other lawmakers, and aims to exert strong economic pressure on Russia.

Puri also emphasised India’s increasing exploration and production activities. “I’m not worried at all. If something happens, we’ll deal with it,” he affirmed.



Hardeep Puri, Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, at UrjaVarta 2025 in New Delhi on Thursday PTI

CRUDE OIL PRICES

Furthermore, he indicated that India has the scope to cut fuel prices if crude oil prices remain at current levels for the next two to three months. “The price of oil will come down as more sources of supplies are coming. We have enough oil around,” said the Minister, highlighting India’s proactive strategy in securing energy supplies from a wider range of countries.

Commenting on the threat of US’ secondary sanctions against countries engaging with Russia, the Minister noted: “Russia accounts for 10 per cent of global production. Our analysis suggests that if Russia was not included, prices would have surged to \$130 a barrel. Even Turkey, China, Brazil, and even the EU, have bought oil and gas from Russia.”

TOP SUPPLIER TO INDIA

India’s oil imports from Russia increased marginally in the first half of this year, with private refiners – Reliance Industries Ltd and Nayara Energy – accounting for about half of the overall purchases from Moscow. Russia continued to be the top supplier to India, contributing approximately 35 per cent of India’s overall supplies, followed by Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

ONGC inks MoU with bp for offshore drilling

ARUNIMA BHARADWAJ
New Delhi, July 17

STATE-OWNED OIL and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) on Thursday signed a strategic Memorandum of Understanding with bp to collaborate on drilling stratigraphic wells in India's Category II & III offshore sedimentary basins: Andaman, Mahanadi, Saurashtra, and Bengal.

This partnership will enhance geological understanding and unlock untapped hydrocarbon potential, strengthening India's long-term energy security, the company said. The MoU was signed in the presence of oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri, on the sidelines of Urja Varta 2025 reaffirming the government's commitment to deepen global collaboration in India's energy journey.

"We are excited to underpin our existing alliance with ONGC in this project of national and strategic significance. We



believe drilling of new stratigraphic wells will be very valuable and can lead to a new understanding and potential. Bp's experience in deep water exploration supported by new seismic technologies would be of great assistance during the evaluation and subsequent drilling of stratigraphic wells," said Kartikeya Dube, Head of Country, bp India.

Earlier, ONGC has also selected bp as the technical service provider for enhancement of its Mumbai High oil and gas field providing up to 60% increase in the production over baseline levels.

BRENT CRUDE PRICES HOVER AROUND \$68.96/BBL

Puri hints at fuel price cut if crude is stable

FE BUREAU

New Delhi, July 17

OIL MINISTER HARDEEP Singh Puri said on Thursday that the prices of petrol and diesel could be cut in the coming months if (crude) prices remained at current levels. "If things remain like this, I think moving forward in the next quarter there is scope for reduction," he said.

Brent crude prices were hovering around \$68.96/bbl on Thursday. India has kept diesel and petrol prices unchanged since March 2024.

With Venezuelan crude already under US tariffs and Russian flows potentially facing similar restrictions, Indian refiners are likely to diversify oil supplies further primarily from the US, Brazil, West Africa, and the Middle East.

India's crude oil inflows from the US surged more than 50% in the first half of 2025, compared with the same period of 2024, while flows from Brazil rose 80% over the same period, as per data from the S&P Global



commodity Insights.

According to data from S&P Global Commodities at Sea, India imported 271,000 barrels per day of crude oil from the US in the year's first half, up around 51% from 180,000 b/d imported in the same period in 2024.

India currently imports energy worth \$15 billion from the US and may increase it to \$25 billion.

India is also doubling down on domestic oil and gas exploration as it targets to reduce the country's dependency on energy imports. The government has opened up 2.57 lakh

square kilometres— biggest ever—for bidding under the 10th round of the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP). A total of 22 states are participating in the exploration drive.

"We had 3.5 million sq km of sedimentary area. We've already opened up 1 million sq km, including previously declared no-go zones," Puri said.

The government is also encouraging more private and global participation in the country's oil exploration drive by compensating technical partners for surveys and offering first right of refusal on finds.

ONGC & BPCL REFINERIES 50% crude buy pact to cement Aramco tie-ups

PRASANTA SAHU
New Delhi, July 17

STATE-RUN ONGC AND BPCL, which are setting up refineries on the country's west and east coasts, respectively, in joint ventures with Saudi Aramco, may commit to buying at least 50% of the crude to be processed at these facilities from the West Asian kingdom, sources familiar with the matter told FE.

Saudi Aramco is likely to pick up 20% stake in each of the new refineries. India has already indicated that the two refineries would procure at least 50% of its crude requirement from Saudi Arabia for the next 15-20 years, the sources said. From India's perspective, committed supply of crude to the two refineries is essential, given global uncertainties and potential supply disruptions.

Though the details are still being worked out, Aramco's initial investment in both units could be around ₹24,000 crore (around \$2.8 billion at the current exchange rate), including a debt component commensurate with the equity, sources said. The investments could later be jacked up to \$5 billion as Aramco is likely to increase its debt exposure in the two units.

The two refining facilities, each with a capacity to process 12 million tonne of crude annually, will be set up at a cost of roughly ₹1 lakh crore each.

However, Saudi Arabia has not accepted the demand by the Indian side for a waiver of the Asian premium on crude imports. Asian premium is the effective high price that Asian

CUTTING A DEAL

■ Saudi Aramco is likely to pick up 20% stake each in the two refineries of ONGC & BPCL



■ Aramco's initial investment in these two refineries could be around ₹24,000 crore

■ Each of these two refineries will have a capacity to process 12 million tonne of crude annually

■ The units on the east & west coasts of India will be set up at estimated cost of ₹1 lakh crore each

»INSIDE«

ONGC INKS PACT WITH BP FOR OFFSHORE DRILLING

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countries such as India and China pay to import crude from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), sources said. The Indian side also pitched for a fixed price for the crude imports, which has not been agreed to yet. The two countries agreed to set up the refineries during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Riyadh on April 23.

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Aramco tie-ups...

SAUDI ARAB HAS been a reliable and stable oil supplier for India, even though its share in India's total oil imports has come down to around 14% from 20% due to a rise in imports from Russia in the last couple of years. All such imports are currently subjected to Asian premium. Aramco has been one of the major exporters of crude into the country for decades, and its downstream investments in the country are expected to cement the ties. ONGC, in partnership with Aramco, plans to set up a refinery in Gujarat, while BPCL will set up the refinery in Andhra Pradesh. Senior government officials described Aramco's willingness to invest in the ventures as a "big milestone" as India aims to set up a chain of new oil refineries and emerge as the leader in Asia in this line of business.

GOVT FLAGS 'DOUBLE STANDARDS', SAYS WILL CONTINUE TO BUY OIL FROM RUSSIA

India dismisses NATO threat

ARUNIMA BHARADWAJ
New Delhi, July 17

UNFAZED BY NATO secretary general Mark Rutte's blunt warning of "100% secondary sanctions," the government on Thursday indicated it felt "no pressure" as far as purchase of oil from Russia or any other country of its choice was concerned. "We will buy from wherever we have to because the prime minister's commitment is to the Indian consumer," oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri said, without explicitly referring to Russia.

Separately, ministry of external affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, "Let me reiterate that securing energy needs of our people is understandably an overriding priority for us. In this endeavour, we are guided by what is on offer in the markets, and by the prevailing global circumstances."

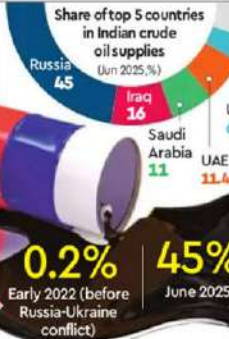
India, which meets 85% of its crude oil requirements via

SUPPLY BASKET

Crude oil import bill (\$ billion)



Source: PPAC



HARDEEP SINGH PURI
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS MINISTER

We will buy (oil) from wherever we have to because the prime minister's commitment is to the Indian consumer



Petrol, diesel prices may be cut: Puri

OIL MINISTER HARDEEP

Singh Puri on Thursday said the prices of petrol and diesel could be cut in the coming months if crude prices remained at current levels. "If things remain like this, I think...in the next quarter there is scope for reduction," he said, reports

fe Bureau. ■ PAGE 3

imports, has ramped up purchases of Russian crude since the Eurasian country's war with neighbouring Ukraine broke out in early 2022 (see chart). The discounted Russian oil helped the country control the forex outgo for the key energy source. Rutte's latest statement was

directed not only at India but also China and Brazil, and was a reiteration of what US President Donald Trump has often said in this regard. "My encouragement to these three countries (India, China and Brazil), particularly, is: if you live now in Beijing, or in Delhi, or you are the

president of Brazil, you might want to take a look into this (importing oil from and trading with Russia), because this might hit you very hard," Rutte said.

When asked for a response, Jaiswal said, "We would particularly caution against any double standards on the matter."

Puri said India is not worried of the secondary sanctions by the US over Russian crude oil imports and would continue sourcing oil from wherever necessary to ensure energy security.

Continued on Page 10

India dismisses NATO threat...

PURI SAID THE country has enough supply options to ensure uninterrupted fuel availability even in turbulent times.

Speaking at Urja Varta 2025 here, he noted that there are new players coming to the oil market which will likely bring crude prices down.

"Prices of oil will come down because there is more oil available in the market. Today, two major suppliers of crude oil are sanctioned. Will the sanctions remain forever? There is more oil coming to the market from the western hemisphere. Brazil, Guyana, Canada, all are non OPEC members. I'm not worried at all. If something happens, we will deal with it. If major suppliers of oil go off the market, you divert," Puri added.

The US recently said it could impose 100% tariffs on Russia and "secondary tariffs" on countries importing its oil — mainly India and China — if Russia did-



n't agree to a deal to end the Ukraine war in 50 days.

Analysts, however, warn that the US's proposed secondary tariff on countries buying Russian oil could severely disrupt Indian supplies while also resulting in an increase in the country's oil import bill, as the country will lose its access to discounted barrels.

"Suppose Russian crude is priced out due to tariffs or tighter compliance risks, we anticipate a gradual but steady

reallocation toward WTI, Brazilian pre-salt barrels, and a resurgence in Middle Eastern term flows," Summit Ritolia, lead research analyst, refining & modeling at Kpler had earlier told FE.

As per latest data from Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell, the country's import bill during Apr-Jun FY26 declined by almost 19% on-year to \$30.6 billion owing to discounts on Russian oil.

Ritolia had highlighted that

if secondary tariffs are imposed and actuality is coming hard on Russian crude, India's oil import bill could rise significantly, potentially by \$3-6 per replacement barrel, depending on origin. "This would impact refiner margins, retail fuel pricing unless mitigated via new term contracts or discounts," he had said.

Even with longer haul and shadow fleet reliance, Russian barrels remain \$3-8/bbl cheaper than Middle Eastern or US grades on a landed-cost basis. If tariffs are levied on Russian oil, India is highly likely to experience a rise in its overall oil import costs.

Puri noted that the country has significantly diversified its sources—buying oil from 40 countries now compared to 27 earlier—and is ready for any global supply disruption, including a hypothetical closure of the Strait of Hormuz.

Petrobras likely to redirect oil to Asia

Brazilian state-run oil firm Petrobras may redirect the oil it sells to the United States, sending more to Asia and Pacific markets due to higher tariffs the US announced on Brazil, its chief executive told *Reuters* on Thursday.

Although oil and gas exports make up a hefty share of Brazil's exports to the United States, Petrobras CEO Magda Chambriard said it is not an essential market for the firm.

"It is not much that we export (to the US). In general, we are not very worried," she said in her first public comments about the 50% tariff US President Donald Trump announced last week.

The US is also unlikely to feel a major impact if Brazil ceases exports, as the South American country has supplied less than 3% of the oil the country has consumed so far in 2025, according to consultancy StoneX.

REUTERS

‘Not worried about US sanctions on Russia oil imports’

Rituraj Baruah

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NEW DELHI

India is not worried about threats of US sanctions on countries that buy Russian oil as there is enough supply in the market, petroleum minister Hardeep Singh Puri said.

Addressing Urja Varta 2025, an annual upstream oil and gas conclave, Puri added that more oil would come in, easing prices further.

President Donald Trump recently said the US could impose 100% tariffs on Russia and “secondary tariffs” on countries importing its oil—mainly China and India—if Moscow didn’t agree to a deal to end the Ukraine war in 50 days.

Responding to a question on India’s likely measures in case of secondary sanctions, he said, “My own view is the price of oil will come down. It will come down only because there is more oil available in the international market. There is more oil coming on the global market from the western hemisphere. I mean countries such as Brazil, Guyana and Canada. They’re not even OPEC+ members. I’m not worried at all. If something happens, we’ll deal with it.” He added that India felt “no pressure” and had enough supply options to ensure uninterrupted availability even in turbulent times.

Citing estimates, Singh said



Petroleum and natural gas minister Hardeep Singh Puri.

Russian oil accounted for about 10% of global oil production and that if India and other countries didn’t buy it at all, prices could shoot up to \$130-140 a barrel.

China and India are the largest importers of Russian oil. After the West sanctioned Russia and imposed price caps on its oil in 2022 over the invasion of Ukraine, India increased imports of Russian oil as the country offered steep discounts.

In February 2022, at the start of the Russia-Ukraine war, Russian oil comprised of 0.2% of India’s oil imports. It has now increased to around 36%.

India has maintained that its strategy for sourcing energy prioritises its national interest and that of Indian consumers. “We will buy from wherever we have to because the prime minister’s commitment is to the Indian consumer,” Puri said during the fireside chat.

PM to unveil projects worth over ₹5,000 cr

The new development projects will be launched in West Bengal



STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, 17 JULY

P rime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stones for several new development projects and dedicate to the nation completed ones during a visit to Durgapur in West Bengal, a government statement said on Thursday.

The projects, valued at over Rs 5,000 crore, span key sectors including oil and gas, power, road, and rail infrastructure, and are aimed at boosting connectivity, clean energy, and industrial development in the state.

During the visit, Mr Modi will launch Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd's City Gas Distribution (CGD) project for Bankura and Purulia districts. The Rs 1,950 crore project will supply piped natural gas (PNG) to households, commercial, and industrial units, and compressed natural gas (CNG) to transport networks. The initiative is expected to generate employment and improve clean fuel access in the region.

The Prime Minister will also dedicate the Durgapur-Kolkata section of the Durgapur-Haldia Natural Gas Pipeline to the nation.

The 132-km stretch, developed under the Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga project, cost more than Rs 1,190 crore and runs through the districts of Purba Bardhaman, Hooghly, and Nadia. It aims to deliver natural gas to thousands of homes and industries, creating jobs during both construction and operational phases.

In a push for cleaner energy, Mr Modi will dedicate Flue Gas Desulphurization (FGD) systems at the Durgapur Steel Thermal Power Station and Raghunathpur Thermal Power Station, developed by Damodar Valley Corpora-

tion. The pollution control systems, valued at over Rs 1,457 crore, are expected to reduce sulphur emissions and contribute to air quality improvement in the region. On the rail front, the doubling of the 36-km Purulia-Kotshila rail line in Purulia district, built at a cost of Rs 390 crore, will also be inaugurated. The project is aimed at enhancing connectivity between key industrial hubs including Jamshedpur, Bokaro, and Dhanbad with Ranchi and Kolkata, enabling smoother freight movement. Additionally, the Prime Minister will inaugurate two road overbridges (ROBs) at Topsis and Pandabeshwar in Paschim Bardhaman district. The ROBs, constructed under the Setu Bharatam programme at a combined cost of Rs 380 crore, are expected to decongest traffic and enhance safety by replacing railway level crossings.

Prior to arriving in Bengal, the Prime Minister will visit Motihari in Bihar, where he is scheduled to lay the foundation stones for and inaugurate and dedicate to the nation multiple development projects worth over Rs 7,200 crore. He will also address a public function. The PM is scheduled to reach Durgapur at 3 p.m. and will also address a public function there.



India buys oil from 40 nations, not worried by US rider on Russian oil: Hardeep Puri

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI, 17 JULY

Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri on Thursday said India has diversified its sources for buying oil in the global market, due to which the government is not "unduly worried" over any US crackdown on Russia's oil exports.

Speaking at the Urja Varta 2025, the minister said India currently buys oil from 40 nations, as compared to 27 countries in 2007, and the global market is well-supplied.

"There is a lot of oil available in the market. Iran and Venezuela are currently under sanctions. But are they going to be under sanctions forever? Many countries, including Brazil, Canada and others, are ramping up output. I am not unduly worried about supplies as of now. We have diversified our sources," Puri said.

The minister's statement came against the backdrop of US President Donald Trump announcing that secondary sanctions would be imposed on countries buying Russian oil.



On 15 July, Trump had threatened to impose serious trade restrictions on Russia unless a peace deal with Ukraine is reached within 50 days. Trump said US tariffs on Russian exports would be increased to 100 per cent, while also threatening to impose secondary sanctions on countries such as India and China that buy oil from Russia.

On Trump's threats, Puri said: "I have heard these threats. Some statements are made to ensure two disputants settle an issue."

Puri further stated that India's oil purchases from Moscow had played an important role in stabilising

prices in the global market.

He said crude oil prices could have skyrocketed to \$130 per barrel in the absence of India-Russia oil trade when the Ukraine war began in 2022.

Prior to the Russia-Ukraine war, India used to buy a mere 0.2 per cent of its crude imports from Moscow. This, today, stands close to 40 per cent.

The minister said that Russian crude was always under a price cap of \$60 per barrel but never under sanctions. India continues to stay firm on its stance of not buying crude oil from a country which is under sanctions, said Puri.

No worry over potential Russian oil disruption: Puri

SANJAY KAW ■ New Delhi

India does not see any oil supply disruption if its Russian crude imports get impacted as the country has diverse sources of oil and enough supply is available in the market, Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said Thursday.

Puri's comments come a day after NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte said that countries like India, China, and Brazil could be hit very hard by secondary sanctions if they continued to do business with Russia.

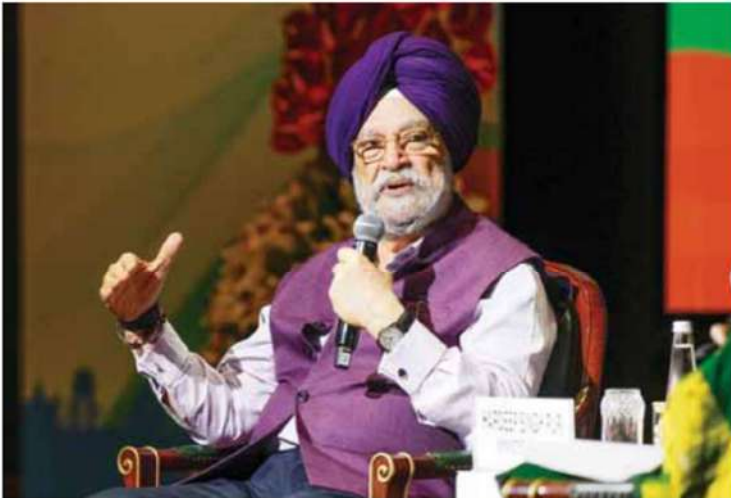
The NATO chief's remarks come amid tariff uncertainties and global trade wars with the US and India's own trade with Russia, particularly oil imports. Weeks ago, there were concerns in India over a controversial Bill in the US that proposed 500 per cent tariffs on countries that continue to trade with Russia. More recently, US President Donald Trump also threatened "bit-

ing" secondary tariffs at the rate of 100 per cent on buyers of Russian exports unless there is a Russia-Ukraine peace deal within 50 days.

"I don't feel any pressure in my mind. India has diversified the sources of supply, I'm not worried at all. If something happens, we'll deal with it, there is sufficient supply available," Puri said.

The minister added that India in recent years has expanded its crude sourcing slate from 27 countries to around 40 countries.

In a firm response to Rutte's threat of secondary sanctions, India also cautioned against "double standards" on the matter and asserted that its energy procurement from Russia is based on national interests and market dynamics. "We have seen reports on the subject and are closely following the developments. Let me reiterate that securing energy needs of our people is understandably an overriding priority for us," external



Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri speaking during the UrjaVarta 2025 in New Delhi on Thursday

PTI

affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said at his weekly media briefing.

"In this endeavour, we are guided by what is on offer in

the markets, and by the prevailing global circumstances. We would particularly caution against any double standards on the matter," he said.

India and China are the top importers of Russian crude, and New Delhi is engaging with US lawmakers and the Trump administration to raise

concerns regarding the country's energy security.

New Delhi depends on imports to meet around 88 per cent of its crude oil needs, and Russia has been the mainstay of India's oil imports for nearly three years now. Russia currently accounts for around 40 per cent of India's total oil imports. Puri said that the massive market share of Russian crude in India's oil imports doesn't mean that New Delhi is dependent on Moscow for oil, and other suppliers can quickly come in to replace Russian volumes if there is any major disruption.

Even in the case of Russia, the country used to account for less than two per cent of India's oil imports prior to the war in Ukraine, but quickly displaced heavyweights like Iraq and Saudi Arabia to become the top supplier after much of the West began shunning Russian crude due to Russia's February 2022 invasion of Ukraine. Russia then began offering discounts on its

oil to willing buyers, and the Indian refiners were quick to avail the opportunity, ramping up imports of discounted Russian barrels.

India has so far not scaled back on its oil imports from Russia, maintaining that it is willing to buy oil from who ever offers the best price, as long as the oil is not under sanctions. While Russian oil itself is not sanctioned, the US and its allies have imposed a price cap of \$60 per barrel, as per which Western shippers and insurers cannot participate in Russian oil trade if the price of Moscow's crude is above that level.

In case the US goes ahead and imposes new tariffs, India is likely to be pushed to cut down oil imports from Russia and increase imports from other suppliers, primarily its traditional West Asian suppliers like Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, which would increase the cost of imports by a few dollars a barrel.

Have other sources, says India as US threatens more tariffs on Russia oil

Slams NATO's double standards as many nations still relying on Moscow crude

AJAY BANERJEE
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JULY 17

Amid the US threat to impose "secondary sanctions" on Russian crude oil, India on Thursday said it was confident of meeting its energy requirements from alternative sources.

Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said the world's third largest oil importer should be able to deal with any problems with Russian imports by seeking supplies from other countries. "India has diversified the sources of supply," Puri said at an event.

India meets more than 85 per cent of its crude oil needs through imports, with Russia accounting for 42 per cent (2.08 million barrels per day) of it. The Russian crude is capped at \$60 a barrel, lower



Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri releases a book on India's Hydrocarbon Outlook in New Delhi. ANI

than the prevailing international rate of \$80.

Russia has been India's main supplier for nearly three years now since 2022 when much of the West shunned Moscow's crude following its invasion of Ukraine. Russia had then offered steep discounts to attract alternative buyers.

US President Donald Trump had on Tuesday announced 100 per cent secondary tariffs targeting Russian trade partners if Moscow did not resolve its war with Ukraine in 50 days.

NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte also echoed Trump, saying India, Brazil and China could be hit "very

hard" by the secondary sanctions if these countries continued to do business with Russia.

At his weekly media briefing, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said it was the government's priority to secure the energy needs of its people. He said India would pursue the "best offer available" to meet its needs.

New Delhi also cautioned against "double standards" in the enforcement of sanctions. The "double standards" remark was aimed at NATO as several European countries (that include NATO allies) are expected to continue remaining dependent on Russian gas supplies until 2027. "Isn't this double-speak... will Europe also face these additional tariffs too," asked an official.



ONGC inks agreement with BP to collaborate on drilling multiple stratigraphic wells in India

NEW DELHI: State-owned ONGC has signed an agreement with global energy giant BP to collaborate on drilling multiple stratigraphic wells in India.

This partnership will enhance geological understanding and unlock untapped hydrocarbon potential, strengthening India's long-term energy security, ONGC said in a post on X.

"#ONGC has signed a strategic Memorandum of Under-

standing (MoU) with @bp_plc on 17 July 2025, to collaborate on drilling stratigraphic wells in India's Category II & III offshore sedimentary basins: Andaman, Mahanadi, Saurashtra, and Bengal," the oil major said.

The MoU was signed in the presence of Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri on the sidelines of Urja Varta 2025 event in the national capital.

Pankaj Jain, Secretary, Min-

istry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, said this was one of the initiatives that "we have been talking about sometime ... called stratigraphic wells."

This is the first of the series of such initiatives which will be done. ONGC has taken the leap to tie up with BP in terms of well design, well location, understanding geology etc. As part of the agreement, ONGC will be putting in money, BP will provide expertise, he said.

In a statement, Kartikeya Dube, Head of Country, bp India, and Senior Vice President, bp group, said: "We believe drilling of new stratigraphic wells will be very valuable and can lead to a new understanding and potential. bp's experience in deep water exploration supported by new seismic technologies would be of great assistance during the evaluation and subsequent drilling of stratigraphic wells."

MPOST

'INDIA UNFAZED BY RUSSIAN OIL DISRUPTION'

Puri warns Russian oil cut off could push prices to \$130-\$140/barrel

SIMONTINI BHATTACHARJEE

NEW DELHI: Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Thursday cautioned that taking Russian supplies off the market could push oil prices to \$130-140 per barrel, detailing the potential impact of secondary sanctions. He added that U.S. President Donald Trump's tariff threats were not yet a cause for concern for India.

At the same time, he said India does not see any oil supply disruption if its Russian crude imports get impacted as the country has diverse sources of oil and enough supply is available in the global market. Puri's comments come a



Union Petroleum Minister
Hardeep Singh Puri

PTI

KEY POINTS

- » He added that U.S. President Donald Trump's tariff threats were not yet a cause for concern for India
- » At the same time, he said India does not see any oil supply disruption if its Russian crude imports get impacted as the country has

diverse sources of oil and enough supply is available in the global market

- » Puri's comments come a day after NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte said that countries like India, China, and Brazil could be hit very hard by secondary sanctions if they continued to do business with Russia

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ness with Russia.

The NATO chief's remarks come amid tariff uncertainties and global trade wars with the US, and India's own trade with Russia,

particularly oil imports. In recent times, there have been concerns in India over a controversial Bill in the US that proposed 500 per cent tariffs on

Continued on P4

Puri warns Russian oil cut off could push prices to \$130-\$140/barrel

Continued from Page 1

Countries that continue to trade with Russia. More recently, US President Trump also threatened "biting" secondary tariffs at the rate of 100 per cent on buyers of Russian exports unless there is a Russia-Ukraine peace deal within 50 days.

On the international front, Puri defended India's insistence on going ahead with crude oil imports from Russia despite Western criticism, in terms of both legality and national interest.

He said, "In February 2022, when the Russia-Ukraine war began, we were importing 0.2 per cent of our crude oil from Russia. Today, we have increased — yes — but our diversification has also increased. Now, we import from around 40 countries, whereas in the past it was 27."

Replying to the critics who advise against buying Russian oil, Puri remarked, "Some said — do not buy Russian oil. But I ask — is it sanctioned? No, it's not. Not for us. So why should we not buy from wherever we can, especially if it is good for the Indian consumer?" He added with conviction, "I do not feel any pressure."

The minister again reasserted that consumer-first is the guiding philosophy behind India's oil import policy. "The Prime Minister has been clear as daylight — our commitment is to the Indian consumer. We will do whatever is required to safeguard their interest and provide energy availability at the best possible prices," he stated.

The oil and gas sector in India is currently experiencing a significant transformation marked by bold policy initiatives, increased exploration activities, and a clear movement towards enhancing energy security and diversification.

The minister articulated a forward-thinking vision during a conclave attended by industry leaders and stakeholders in the national capital, prioritising national interest and consumer welfare in the decision-making process, thereby challenging traditional paradigms.

One of the biggest pluses in the minister's statement was the ninth round of the Open

Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP), its success. He announced that "38 per cent of the bids received came from a one million square kilometre area that was previously considered a 'no-go' zone," referring to areas that had long been off-limits because of defence and strategic activities by the Indian Navy, Coast Guard, or DRDO.

Describing how these entrenched obstacles were removed, Puri added, "Earlier, if you wanted to conduct exploration, these agencies would use their influence and say this has to be a no-go area. But the Prime Minister made a bold decision. He said, 'You are doing excellent work, but I am still giving a million square kilometres for exploration.' That has changed the game."

This policy shift has already resulted in a major spike in activity. ONGC has drilled 578 wells during the current year, a record high in almost four decades. "The CMD ONGC has drilled more wells this year than likely in the last 37 years altogether," Puri said, highlighting the record scale of investment. "Just consider — it takes a \$100 million offshore well and a \$4 million onshore well. This is no small investment."

The minister attributed some of this pace to a leadership strategy shift at the core of public sector initiatives. "Before, oil company CMDs used to come for four-and-a-half months or six months. What strategic calls can they possibly make?" he wondered. "Now, we're making appointments for the complete 10-year term. They are taking long-term calls, putting money into exploration and production — and it's paying dividends."

The minister also referred to the reform of the law introduced by the Offshore Areas Mineral (Development and Regulation) Amendment Act (ORD Act). He referred to the pre-existing legal regime, which was from 1948, as antiquated. "Be it a mine in Odisha or a petroleum lease in the Andamans, the same law used to apply. Mining acquired a new law in 1976, but the oil industry remained saddled with the 1948 Act. The ORD Act is a paradigm shift," he added.

Fuel prices may fall next qtr if global crude remains stable

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

PETROLEUM minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Wednesday said oil marketing companies (OMCs) may reduce petrol and diesel prices in the next quarter if global crude oil prices remain around \$65 per barrel.

Speaking at the Urja Varta 2025 event organised by the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons, the minister said If things remain stable (crude price), there is a scope for reduction. "We are one of the a few countries in the world where prices have come down over the last three-and-a-half years... Now, the inventory I'm holding was bought at \$75 a barrel, a month ago. As this inventory gets consumed slowly, if prices remain at current levels, my short answer is yes," said the minister.

He stated that despite global conflicts — including those in Iran, Israel, Gaza, and elsewhere — which could have affected crude supply and prices,



Now, the inventory I'm holding was bought at \$75 a barrel, a month ago. As this inventory gets consumed slowly, if prices remain at current levels, my short answer is yes

Hardeep Singh Puri, petroleum minister

the global oil market has remained largely stable. "In fact, even amid concerns that the Strait of Hormuz might be shut — a real possibility in a military scenario — the market didn't react in a way that caused prices to spiral," he said. Puri added that during recent ten-

sions between Iran and Israel, Indian oil companies maintained healthy stock levels of crude, ranging from 21 to 25 days. "Despite all this, prices have remained within current band," he said. The last revision in domestic prices was a ₹2 per litre cut in mid-March 2024, ahead of the general elections. As of now, petrol is priced at ₹94.72 per litre in Delhi, while diesel is at ₹87.62.

When asked about former US President Donald Trump's recent threat of imposing secondary sanctions on countries importing Russian crude, Puri said India remains unconcerned. "I'm not worried at all. If something happens, we'll deal with it. India has diversified its sources of oil supply — we've gone from buying oil from 27 countries to around 40 now," he said. Trump recently warned of tariffs of 100% on buyers of Russian exports unless a peace deal is reached in Russia-Ukraine conflict within 50 days.

NATO CHIEF THREATENED SANCTIONS OVER RUSSIA TRADE

Securing energy needs overriding priority: Govt's firm reply to NATO

Guard against double standards, says MEA; feel no pressure: Minister Puri

SHUBHAJIT ROY & SUKALP SHARMA
NEW DELHI, JULY 17

IN A sharply-worded response to NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte's warning that countries like India, China and Brazil could be hit very hard by secondary sanctions if they continued to do business with Russia, the Ministry of

External Affairs Thursday cautioned against "double standards" and underlined that "securing the energy needs of our people is understandably an overriding priority for us".

Also Thursday, a day after Rutte's remark, Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said he didn't "feel any pressure", making clear that India does not see any oil supply disruption if



Sufficient supply: Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri

its Russian crude imports get impacted because the country has diverse sources of oil and there is enough supply available in the market.

Randhir Jaiswal, spokesperson for the Ministry of External

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

EXPLAINED

E Amid efforts to seal deal

THE NATO chief's warning comes at a time when Delhi and Washington are working to seal a trade deal. Geopolitical shifts, freight and refinery economics will shape India's crude sourcing decisions, diversification strategy.

Securing energy needs overriding priority: Govt on NATO warning

Affairs, said, "We have seen reports on the subject and are closely following the developments. Let me reiterate that securing the energy needs of our people is understandably an overriding priority for us. In this endeavour, we are guided by what is on offer in the markets, and by the prevailing global circumstances. We would particularly caution against any double standards on the matter."

He was responding to Rutte who, while speaking to reporters after meeting US senators Wednesday, said, "If you are the President of China, the Prime Minister of India, or the President of Brazil, and you continue to trade with Russia and buy their oil and gas, then you know: if the man in Moscow doesn't take the (Ukraine war) peace negotiations seriously, I will impose 100 per cent secondary sanctions."

"My encouragement to these three countries, particularly, is: if you live now in Beijing, or in Delhi, or you are the President of Brazil, you might want to take a look into this, because this might hit you very hard," he said.

Rutte also urged the leaders

of the three nations to directly urge Putin to commit to peace talks. "So please make the phone call to Vladimir Putin and tell him that he has to get serious about peace talks, because otherwise this will slam back on Brazil, on India, and on China in a massive way," he said.

Petroleum Minister Puri, speaking at the Urja Varta 2025 event in New Delhi, said, "I don't feel any pressure in my mind. India has diversified the sources of supply... I am not worried at all. If something happens, we will deal with it... There is sufficient supply available."

He said India, in recent years, had expanded its crude sourcing slate from 27 countries to around 40 countries.

India and China are the top importers of Russian crude, and Delhi is engaging with US lawmakers and the Trump administration to voice concerns regarding India's energy security. India depends on imports to meet around 88 per cent of its crude oil needs, and Russia has been the mainstay of India's oil imports for nearly three years now. Russia currently accounts for around 40 per cent of India's to-

tal oil imports.

According to Puri, the massive market share of Russian crude in India's oil imports doesn't mean that the country is dependent on Russia for oil, and other suppliers can quickly come in to replace Russian volumes if there is any major disruption.

Even in the case of Russia, the country used to account for less than 2 per cent of India's oil imports prior to the war in Ukraine, but quickly displaced heavyweights like Iraq and Saudi Arabia to become the top supplier after much of the West began shunning Russian crude after the February 2022 invasion of Ukraine. Russia then began offering discounts on its oil to willing buyers, and Indian refiners were quick to avail the opportunity, ramping up imports of discounted Russian barrels.

So far, India has not scaled back on its oil imports from Russia, maintaining that it is willing to buy oil from whoever offers the best price, as long as the oil is not under sanctions. Russian oil itself is not sanctioned, but the US and its allies have imposed a price cap of \$60 per barrel, as per which Western

shippers and insurers cannot participate in Russian oil trade if the price of Moscow's crude is above that level.

It is yet to be seen if the recent tariff threats made against countries like India and China for their energy imports from Russia will translate into tangible tariff action. The Trump administration has been rather mercurial on trade tariffs: making sweeping announcements, then pausing and negotiating. The hope in India's oil sector is that the US won't actually implement tariffs related to India's oil imports from Russia, as it is in the interest of the US and the global economy that the international oil market remains well-supplied. If Russia is unable to supply its crude, global oil prices are bound to rise due to lower supply being available.

But if the US goes ahead and imposes such tariffs, India would be pushed to cut down oil imports from Russia and increase imports from other suppliers, primarily its traditional West Asian suppliers like Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, which would push up the cost of imports by a few dollars a barrel.



TTD and IOCL to build LPG storage plant in Tirumala

METRO INDIA NEWS | AMARAVATI

A new chapter in infrastructure development at Tirumala began on Thursday with the ground-breaking ceremony for an LPG storage facility. The project, a joint venture between Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) and Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), aims to cater to the growing energy needs of the temple town, including the preparation of its famed laddu prasadam and daily annadanam meals.

TTD Chairman B.R. Naidu shared the development through social media, stating, "For the future needs of TTD, we have laid the foundation stone for an LPG storage centre with a capacity of 45 metric tonnes on the Outer Ring Road in Tirumala."

IOCL has been a consistent supplier of LPG to TTD for the past two decades. A new agreement between the two entities will ensure uninterrupted supply for the next 30 years.

The state-of-the-art facility, being built at an estimated cost of Rs.8.13 crore over 1.86 acres, is slated for completion within six months.

Highlighting the significance of the initiative, Naidu said, "This gas will be utilized primarily for the preparation of laddu prasadam and annaprasadam, which are central to the services offered to devotees visiting the temple."

In addition to the new LPG plant, IOCL is already constructing a bio-gas facility near the Tirumala dumping yard. With an investment of Rs.12.05 crore, the plant will process 40 tonnes of organic waste daily, out of the 55 tonnes, generated into 1,000 kilograms of bio-gas, contributing to Tirumala's sustainability efforts.

TTD Executive Officer Satyanarayana, Executive Engineer Subrahmanyam, Deputy Engineer Chandrasekhar, along with other senior officials from TTD and IOCL, participated in the ceremony.

India warns against 'double standards' over Russian oil

Centre responds to U.S. Bill seeking to impose duties on countries buying Russian oil, and threat from NATO chief; Petroleum Minister says the sanctions will be 'dealt with' when they are passed

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

India has cautioned against "double standards", even as U.S. lawmakers consider a Bill that would impose 500% duties on India and other countries buying Russian oil.

The Ministry of External Affairs's (MEA) comments comes after indications that U.S. President Donald Trump is backing the Russian Sanctions Act, 2025, introduced by Republican Senator Lindsey Graham, and threat of secondary tariffs of 100% on countries that continue trade on sanctioned Russian products.

On Wednesday, NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte, who met with Mr. Trump and members of

Strong stand

The 'Sanctioning Russia Act of 2025', expected to be introduced in U.S. Congress in August, mandates 500% duties on goods and services from countries buying Russian oil

What the NATO chief said

- India, China, and Brazil should tell Vladimir Putin to be serious about peace talks with Ukraine
- Continuing to do business with Russia will 'slam back' on these countries
- The secondary sanctions by U.S. will hit these countries 'very hard'

Centre's response

- Securing energy needs is an 'overriding priority' for the government
- India is guided by what markets offer and global circumstances
- Maintain caution against double standards on the matter



the U.S. Congress, also issued a threat, in particular to China, India, and Brazil, who are among the top buyers of Russian crude oil, oil products, and coal. "Beijing and Delhi" should push Russian President Vladimir Putin towards

ending the war in Ukraine, or face tariffs, the chief of the military alliance said.

Responding to questions on the issue on Thursday, the MEA said it was following the developments closely. "Securing the energy needs of our pe-

ople is understandably an overriding priority for us. In this endeavour, we are guided by what is there on offer in the markets, as also by the prevailing global circumstances," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said. "We would particularly caution against any double standards on the matter," he added.

'Diverse sources'

At an industry event in Delhi on Thursday, Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Puri said that India would "deal" with sanctions when they are passed, pointing out that India has diversified its supply sources, buying oil from about 40 countries now, as opposed to 27 in the past.

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India warns U.S. against 'double standards'

The MEA's comments came in a possible reference to the fact that European Union members continue to procure oil, LNG, and pipeline gas from Russia despite the sanctions, and are also major buyers of processed products that go through Indian refineries, including Gujarat's Nayara Energies, which has minority control by Russia's ROSNEFT.

However, while Russia sells about half its oil exports to China, and about 38% to India (as of February 2025), it exports only about 6% to EU countries.

However, despite requests from Tehran, India has so far not reversed a decision taken under pressure from the first Trump administration in 2017, to stop all oil imports from Iran.

Talks on trade, tariffs, deportees

Amidst intense negotiations over tariffs, as well as market access to India, particularly in the areas of agriculture, dairy and genetically modified produce, New Delhi has also been coordinating with the U.S. government about the deportation of Indians illegally resident in the U.S.

On Thursday, Mr. Jaiswal said that 1,563 Indian nationals have been deported in the first six months of Mr. Trump's second tenure, from January 20 to July 15 this year.

According to ICE statistics, 1,529 immigration violators were deported in all of 2024, and far less than in the three preceding years.

India warns against 'double standards' over Russian oil

Centre responds to U.S. Bill seeking to impose duties on countries buying Russian oil, and threat from NATO chief; Petroleum Minister says the sanctions will be 'dealt with' when they are passed

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NEW DELHI

India on Thursday cautioned against "double standards", even as U.S. lawmakers consider a Bill that would impose 500% duties on India and other countries buying Russian oil.

The comments by the External Affairs Ministry come after indications that U.S. President Donald Trump is backing the Russian Sanctions Act, 2025, introduced by Republican Senator Lindsey Graham. Mr. Trump had even threatened secondary tariffs of 100% on countries that continue trade on sanctioned Russian products.

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PNGRB asks city gas firms to supply piped gas to all households at uniform rate

N. Ravi Kumar
HYDERABAD

The Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) directed city gas distribution (CGD) entities to supply piped natural gas at a uniform rate to all domestic household consumers, irrespective of daily consumption levels.

The oil regulator said this while taking note of a telescopic pricing structure for the gas supply to domestic consumers that certain CGD entities were implementing in which the per standard cubic metre (SCM) price of the commodity escalated as consumption crossed a predefined threshold.



The directive comes in context of a telescopic pricing by CGDs.

“Such pricing practices may inadvertently facilitate unauthorised use of subsidised APM (administered pricing mechanism) gas by commercial consumers who may be misclassified as domestic consumers. Additionally, genuine domestic consum-

ers with higher consumption levels may be unfairly subjected to elevated charges, despite natural gas being supplied to CGD entities at a uniform APM rate,” PNGRB said.

Thorough review

It advised CGD firms to undertake a ‘thorough review of consumption patterns and investigate anomalous cases where domestic consumers exhibit significantly higher usage relative to industry average and take corrective measures.

It also cited government norms where natural gas is allocated at concessional rates to boost its adoption by households and the transport sector.

BP to help ONGC with tech to unlock 4 basins

New Delhi: BP will help ONGC dive deeper for unlocking four untapped basins as part of govt's thrust on fully exploiting India's hydrocarbons potential through enhanced exploration. The two companies signed an MoU, where BP will offer technology to drill deep in layered formations — in the Andaman, Saurashtra, Mahanadi and Bengal basins. TNN

Fuel Folly

Washington's new tariff plan for those who buy Russian oil is hypocritical & will hurt US too

After insulting Zelenskyy in Feb, pausing intelligence sharing with Kyiv in March, and weapons supplies in March and May, Trump finally has a plan to stop Putin. He's going to hit Russia and its trade partners with "very serious tariffs". Not immediately – Putin gets 50 days to finish the business he started in 2022. But as a big buyer of Russian oil, India should take note. Trump's threatened to impose 100% tariff on countries that buy Russian goods after the expiry of his deadline, and if he doesn't waver, or forget – neither unlikely – the concessions won through a trade deal could be lost.

Will tariffs work? Not directly, because Russia and US have never been more decoupled economically since the collapse of Soviet Union. US bought goods worth just \$3bn from Russia last year, and sold \$500mn worth, down from \$29bn and \$6bn, respectively, before the start of the war in 2022. That's why Putin must be checkmated



through secondary tariffs on his major oil buyers like China, India and Brazil.

Fossil fuels are a very big part of Russia's GDP (16%), and make up over half of its exports (55%). By the third anniversary of the war, Russia had earned about \$1tn from fossil fuel exports. India, which used to buy just 1% of its oil from Russia before the war, now sources 40%, so the threat of 100% tariff on exports could make it pivot again. And China, which buys 20% of its oil from

Russia, might also find 100% tariff discouraging.

Russia could be hurt, but at what cost? Plugging the Russian pipeline is bound to drive up oil prices, which could increase inflation in most places, including US. Add to that the US-specific price rise resulting from 100% tariff on China, India and other US trade partners, and the political risk might be too much for Trump's Republicans.

Above all, Trump's threat – backed by Nato secretary-general Mark Rutte – smacks of hypocrisy. After ordering the world not to buy Russian oil, US continued buying enriched uranium from Russia for its nuclear plants. Even when it announced a ban on Russian uranium imports from 2027, it gave a waiver to its largest operator of reactors. Likewise, Rutte's Europe is still buying gas from Russia, and won't stop till the end of 2027. So, Trump and Rutte's threat is less about conviction than convenience. India must play by the same rule.

India warns West on energy security double standards 'Have Alternatives To Russian Oil'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: India can arrange alternative supplies if Russian oil exports are sanctioned, petroleum minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Thursday in what is seen as the first official reaction to the US and EU threat of secondary sanctions for buying those barrels.

"India has diversified the sources (of oil). I am not worried at all. If something happens, we will deal with it. There is sufficient supply available," Puri said at an industry event. Separately, the foreign ministry said govt's overriding priority was to secure the energy needs of its people, while also cautioning against any double standards on the issue.

The comments, in response to media queries, followed NATO chief Mark Rutte's threat, echoing the US, that countries like India, China and Brazil would take a battering for buying Russian exports. "Let me reiterate, and I have said this in the past as well. Securing energy needs of our people is understandably an overriding priority for us," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

"In this endeavour, we are guided by what is there on offer in the markets, as also by the prevailing global circumstances. We would particularly caution against any double standards on the matter," he added. India has in the past too accused the West of having double standards on the issue, saying that European countries have themselves benefited



India has built up 'navigational resilience' by expanding the sourcing of oil from the earlier 27 countries to 40 nations now, the petroleum minister said

from importing Russian energy for prolonged periods.

Puri said India has built up "navigational resilience" by expanding the sourcing of oil from 40 countries against 27 countries earlier. "India has been clear that it will buy oil from wherever it has to. The prime minister's commitment, in the final analysis, is to the Indian consumer," he said.

In addition, Puri said, more oil was coming into the global market from countries such as Brazil, Guyana and Canada that are not members of the OPEC+ grouping. "If a major source goes off the market, you diversify. The current debate in the oil market is whether prices will be in the range of \$65-70 or \$60-65 (per barrel)," he said.

On purchase of Russian oil by Indian refiners, Puri argued that those barrels were currently subjected to a price cap of \$60 and "not sanctioned". "We are happy to buy below the price cap. Our companies float tenders as per their requirement and whoever supplies the cheapest, they buy it (from them)," he said.

नाटो चीफ ने कहा था- भारत पर 100% टैरिफ लगाएंगे रूस से तेल खरीदने पर नाटो की धमकी... भारत का करारा जवाब

कहा-हम अपनी जरूरतों
के हिसाब से फैसले लेंगे

भास्कर न्यूज़ | नई दिल्ली

भारत ने नाटो प्रमुख मार्क स्टे की उस धमकी को सिरे से खारिज कर दिया है, जिसमें उन्होंने रूस से तेल और गैस खरीदने वाले देशों पर 100% टैरिफ लगाने की बात कही थी। विदेश मंत्रालय ने स्पष्ट किया कि भारत की प्राथमिकता अपनी ऊर्जा आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करना है। इसके लिए वह बाजार में उपलब्ध विकल्पों और वैश्विक परिस्थितियों के आधार पर निर्णय लेता है। मंत्रालय ने पश्चिमी देशों को चेताया कि वे इस मुद्दे पर दोहरे मापदंड न अपनाएं।

मंत्रालय का यह बयान ऐसे समय में आया है जब अमेरिका और नाटो, रूस को आर्थिक रूप से अलग-थलग करने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं। स्टे ने भारत, ब्राजील और चीन को चेतावनी दी थी कि अगर रूस ने यूक्रेन के साथ शांति समझौते को गंभीरता से नहीं लिया, तो इन देशों पर कठोर आर्थिक प्रतिबंध लगाए जाएंगे।

भारत के पास वैकल्पिक
आपूर्तिकर्ता मौजूद : पुरी

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने भी स्टे की धमकी पर चिंता नहीं जताई। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत के पास तेल आपूर्ति के कई विकल्प हैं। भारत गयाना जैसे उभरते उत्पादक देशों के साथ-साथ ब्राजील और कनाडा जैसे पारंपरिक आपूर्तिकर्ताओं से भी तेल खरीद सकता है। पुरी ने स्पष्ट किया कि भारत किसी एक देश पर निर्भर नहीं है और अपनी ऊर्जा जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए विविध स्रोतों से आपूर्ति सुनिश्चित करता है।

ऊर्जा सुरक्षा हमारी प्राथमिकता

विदेश मंत्रालय के प्रवक्ता रंधीर जायसवाल ने कहा कि भारत की प्राथमिकता जनता की ऊर्जा जरूरतों को सुरक्षित करना है। भारत बाजार में उपलब्ध विकल्पों और वैश्विक परिस्थितियों के आधार पर ही निर्णय लेता है। जायसवाल ने कहा, हमने इस विषय पर रिपोर्ट देखी है और हमारी प्राथमिकता ऊर्जा सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करना है।

अंडमान सागर में कई तेल क्षेत्र मिलने की उम्मीद

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी) : केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने गुरुवार को कहा कि उन्हें उम्मीद है कि भारत में शुरू हो रहे हाइड्रोकार्बन एक्सप्लोरेशन के नए दौर में गुयाना के आकार के कई बड़े तेल क्षेत्र मिलेंगे। केंद्रीय मंत्री ने 'ऊर्जा वार्ता 2025' कार्यक्रम के दौरान कहा कि हम ओएएलपी (ओपन एकरेज लाइसेंसिंग पॉलिसी) राउंड-10 के तहत 2,00,000 वर्ग किलोमीटर से अधिक क्षेत्र में अधिक हाइड्रोकार्बन की खुदाई और एक्सप्लोर करेंगे। हमारा लक्ष्य 2025 तक एक्सप्लोरेशन सेक्टर को 5 लाख वर्ग किलोमीटर और 2030 तक 10 लाख वर्ग किलोमीटर तक बढ़ाना है। मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि हमें गुयाना के आकार के कई क्षेत्र खासकर अंडमान सागर में मिलेंगे। हरदीप पुरी ने कहा कि हम एक्सप्लोरर्स के लिए उच्च-गुणवत्ता वाले डेटा की उपलब्धता, वित्तीय प्रोत्साहन, स्थिर नियामक ढांचे, निवेश को जोखिम-मुक्त बनाने और ईज-ऑफ डूइंग बिजनेस जैसे क्षेत्रों पर काम कर रहे हैं ताकि भारत को ऑयल एंड गैस एक्सप्लोरेशन और प्रोडक्शन (इंटरडिपेंडेंसी) के लिए अगला वैश्विक अग्रणी बनाया जा



सके। केंद्रीय मंत्री ने यह भी बताया कि 'ऊर्जा वार्ता 2025' में आयोजित 'मंच मंत्री का' कार्यक्रम में उनकी उत्साहवर्धक बातचीत हुई। यह भारत के ऊर्जा क्षेत्र के प्रमुखों, पेट्रोलियम मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों, ऊर्जा पेशेवरों और प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के निर्णायक और गतिशील नेतृत्व में ऊर्जा सुरक्षा और हरित ऊर्जा परिवर्तन की दिशा में भारत की यात्रा के हितधारकों का एक अनूठा सम्मेलन था। उन्होंने कहा कि दुनिया के कई हिस्सों में भू-राजनीतिक तनावों के बावजूद, भारत ने ऊर्जा को लेकर तीन बड़ी चुनौतियों उपलब्धता, सामर्थ्य और स्थिरता का सफलतापूर्वक सामना किया है।

ऊर्जा के क्षेत्र में 4 लाख करोड़ का निवेश: पुरी

केंद्रीय मंत्री हरदीप पुरी ने आगे बताया कि भारत ने पिछले एक दशक में ऊर्जा अवसंरचना में 4 लाख करोड़ से अधिक का निवेश किया है। उन्होंने कहा, "इन निवेशों ने न केवल राष्ट्रीय क्षमता को मजबूत किया है, बल्कि राज्य स्तर पर भी ठोस मूल्य सृजन किया है।" अगले 10 वर्षों में 30-35 लाख करोड़ के अनुमानित निवेश के साथ, आने वाला दशक पूरे देश में ऊर्जा अवसंरचना विकास के लिए महत्वपूर्ण होगा। पुरी ने बताया कि देश के नागरिकों की ऊर्जा जरूरतें सरकार की प्राथमिकता बनी हुई हैं और जिन देशों से तेल और गैस का आयात किया जाता है, उनका दायरा भी विस्तृत हो गया है।

चिंता की बात नहीं भारत 40 देशों से खरीदता है तेल

पंजाब केसरी/नई दिल्ली

केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने गुरुवार को कहा कि भारत ने वैश्विक बाजार में तेल खरीदने के अपने स्रोतों में विविधता ला दी है, इसलिए सरकार रूस के तेल निर्यात पर अमेरिका की किसी भी कार्रवाई को लेकर चिंतित नहीं है।

ऊर्जा वार्ता 2025 में केंद्रीय मंत्री पुरी ने कहा कि भारत वर्तमान में 40 देशों से तेल खरीदता है, जबकि 2007 में यह संख्या 27 थी और वैश्विक बाजार में इसकी पर्याप्त आपूर्ति है। केंद्रीय मंत्री पुरी ने कहा, बाजार में बहुत सारा तेल उपलब्ध है। ईरान और वेनेजुएला वर्तमान में प्रतिबंधों के अधीन हैं। लेकिन क्या वे हमेशा के लिए प्रतिबंधों के अधीन रहेंगे? ब्राजील, कनाडा और अन्य सहित कई देश उत्पादन बढ़ा रहे हैं। मैं



अभी आपूर्ति को लेकर अनावश्यक रूप से चिंतित नहीं हूँ। हमने अपने स्रोतों में विविधता ला दी है। केंद्रीय मंत्री का यह बयान अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप द्वारा रूसी तेल खरीदने वाले देशों पर सेकेंडरी सेंक्शन लगाने की घोषणा की पृष्ठभूमि में आया है।

15 जुलाई को ट्रंप ने धमकी दी थी कि अगर यूक्रेन के साथ 50 दिनों के भीतर शांति समझौता नहीं हुआ तो वे रूस पर गंभीर व्यापार प्रतिबंध लगा देंगे। (पृष्ठ 4 भी देखें)

प्रधानमंत्री पहले बिहार के मोतीहारी में फिर तीन बजे के बाद पश्चिम बंगाल के दुर्गापुर में करेंगे जनसभा को संबोधित

पीएम आज बिहार-बंगाल को देंगे कई प्रोजेक्ट्स की सौगात

■ बिहार में रेल योजनाओं का शिलान्यास करेंगे
नई दिल्ली

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी आज बिहार और पश्चिम बंगाल का दौरा करेंगे। इस दौरान पीएम मोदी दोनों राज्यों में हजारों करोड़ रुपये की परियोजनाओं की शुरुआत करेंगे। बिहार के मोतीहारी और पश्चिम बंगाल के दुर्गापुर में जनसभाओं को भी संबोधित करेंगे। पीएम मोदी बिहार के मोतीहारी में 7,200 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक की तमाम विकास परियोजनाओं का शिलान्यास और उद्घाटन करेंगे। इसके बाद वे पश्चिम बंगाल का दौरा करेंगे और दोपहर करीब 3 बजे दुर्गापुर में तमाम विकास परियोजनाओं की आधारशिला रखने के अलावा कुछ प्रोजेक्ट को राष्ट्र को समर्पित करेंगे। प्रधानमंत्री मोदी का लगभग सुबह 11:30 बजे बिहार दौरा शुरू होगा। वे बिहार से कई नई रेल परियोजनाओं को राष्ट्र के नाम समर्पित करेंगे, जिसमें लागत 580 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक की दरभंगा-समस्तीपुर दोहरीकरण



चार नई अमृत भारत ट्रेनों को करेंगे रवाना

प्रधानमंत्री मोदी शुक्रवार को बिहार के तमाम स्थानों से लखनऊ और दिल्ली के लिए चार नई अमृत भारत ट्रेनों को हरी झंडी दिखाकर रवाना करेंगे। पीएम राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-319 के आस बाईपास के 4-लेन निर्माण की आधारशिला रखेंगे, जो आस-मोहनिया राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-319 और पटना-बक्सर राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-922 को जोड़ता है। प्रधानमंत्री मोदी राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-319 के परिया से मोहनिया तक के 4-लेन खंड का भी उद्घाटन करेंगे, जिसकी लागत 820 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक है। यह खंड आस शहर को राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-02 से जोड़ता है।

परियोजना भी शामिल है। इससे रेल संचालन की क्षमता बढ़ेगी और देरी कम होगी। प्रधानमंत्री कई नई रेल परियोजनाओं का भी शिलान्यास करेंगे। इन परियोजनाओं में पार्टीलपुर में बंद भारत ट्रेनों के रखरखाव के लिए बुनिबादी ढांचे का विकास शामिल है।

लगभग 4,080 करोड़ रुपये की दरभंगा-नरकटियागंज रेल लाइन दोहरीकरण परियोजना का भी शिलान्यास होगा। इससे अधिक यात्री ट्रेन और मालगाड़ियों का संचालन संभव होगा, और उत्तर बिहार की कनेक्टिविटी देश के अन्य हिस्सों से मजबूत होगी।

पक्की सड़क के साथ दो लेन का निर्माण

इसके अलावा राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग-333सी के सारवा से चक्काई तक पक्की सड़क के साथ दो लेन का निर्माण शामिल है, जो माल और लोगों की आवाजाही को सुगम बनाएगा और बिहार और झारखंड के बीच एक महत्वपूर्ण कड़ी के रूप में कार्य करेगा। पीएम मोदी दरभंगा में नए सॉफ्टवेयर टेक्नोलॉजी पार्क और ईडिया (एसटीपीआई) और पटना में आईटी/आईटीईएस/ईएसडीएम उद्योग और स्टार्टअप को बढ़ावा देने के लिए अत्याधुनिक इनक्यूबेशन सुविधा का उद्घाटन करेंगे। बिहार के बाद प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी शुक्रवार को बांकुरा, पुरुलिया, दुर्गापुर और वर्धमान जिलों समेत पश्चिम बंगाल के अन्य क्षेत्रों को भी तोहफा देंगे। प्रधानमंत्री पश्चिम बंगाल के बांकुरा और पुरुलिया जिले में लगभग 1,950 करोड़ रुपये की लागत वाली भारत पेट्रोलियम कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड (बीपीएलसी) सिटी गैस डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन (सीजीडी) परियोजना की आधारशिला रखेंगे।

मत्स्य विकास परियोजनाओं की सीरीज का उद्घाटन

बिहार में मत्स्य पालन और जलीय कृषि क्षेत्र को मजबूत करने की दिशा में एक बड़े कदम के रूप में पीएम नरेंद्र मोदी 'प्रधानमंत्री मत्स्य संपदा योजना' (पीएमएमएसवाई) के तहत स्वीकृत मत्स्य विकास परियोजनाओं की एक सीरीज का उद्घाटन करेंगे। इसके अलावा, प्रधानमंत्री मोदी बिहार में लगभग 61,500 स्वयं सहायता समूहों को 400 करोड़ रुपये की सहायता राशि जारी करेंगे। इस दौरान 'प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना' के तहत 12,000 लाभार्थियों को 'गृह प्रवेश' की चाबियां सौंपी जाएंगी, जबकि 40 हजार लाभार्थियों के लिए 160 करोड़ रुपये की राशि जारी की जाएगी।

132 किमी की नेचुरल गैस पाइपलाइन

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी शुक्रवार को दुर्गापुर से कलकत्ता तक (132 किमी) की नेचुरल गैस पाइपलाइन को राष्ट्र को समर्पित करेंगे, जो प्रधानमंत्री उज्ज्वला गंगा (पीएमयूजी) परियोजना के तहत जगदीशपुर-हल्दिया और बेंकोर-धामरा पाइपलाइन का हिस्सा है। पीएम मोदी दुर्गापुर स्टील थर्मल पावर स्टेशन और दामोदर वादी निगम के रघुनाथपुर थर्मल पावर स्टेशन की 1,457 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक की लागत वाली रेट्रोफिटिंग प्रदूषण नियंत्रण प्रणाली-फ्लू गैस डिसल्फराइजेशन (एफजीडी) भी राष्ट्र को समर्पित करेंगे।

ओएनजीसी और बीपी इंडिया में हाइड्रोकार्बन खोज के लिए साझेदारी

आज समाज नेटवर्क

नई दिल्ली। तेल एवं प्राकृतिक गैस निगम लिमिटेड (ओएनजीसी) ने गुरुवार को बीपी इंडिया के साथ एक रणनीतिक समझौता ज्ञापन (एमओयू) पर हस्ताक्षर किए, जो भारत के हाइड्रोकार्बन एक्सप्लोरेशन में नए आयाम स्थापित करेगा और भारत के अपस्ट्रीम सेक्टर में डीपर एक्सप्लोरेशन को बढ़ावा देगा। ओएनजीसी ने सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म एक्स पर जारी एक बयान में कहा कि इसका उद्देश्य भारत के कैटेगरी ब्लॉक और ब्लॉक के अपतटीय तलछटी बेसिनों अंडमान, महानदी, सौराष्ट्र और बंगाल में स्ट्रेटीग्राफिक कुओं की ड्रिलिंग में सहयोग करना है। सरकारी निगम ने कहा, "यह साझेदारी भूवैज्ञानिक समझ को बढ़ाएगी और अप्रयुक्त हाइड्रोकार्बन क्षमता को उजागर करेगी, जिससे भारत की दीर्घकालिक ऊर्जा सुरक्षा मजबूत होगी।"

'ऊर्जा वार्ता 2025' के अवसर पर केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी की उपस्थिति में इस समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए, जिससे भारत की ऊर्जा यात्रा में वैश्विक सहयोग को गहरा करने की सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता की पुष्टि हुई। ओएनजीसी ने कहा, "वैश्विक विशेषज्ञता राष्ट्रीय महत्वाकांक्षाओं से मिलकर आत्मनिर्भर भारत के मार्ग को सशक्त बनाती है।" बीपी इंडिया ने कहा कि यह सहयोग ऊर्जा सुरक्षा और अप्रयुक्त भंडारों की खोज की दिशा में एक और कदम है।

बीपी इंडिया के कंट्री हेड कार्तिकेय दुबे ने कहा, "राष्ट्रीय और रणनीतिक महत्व की इस परियोजना में



ओएनजीसी के साथ अपने मौजूदा गठबंधन को मजबूत करने के लिए हम उत्साहित हैं। हमारा मानना है कि नए स्ट्रेटीग्राफिक कुओं की ड्रिलिंग बहुत मूल्यवान होगी और इससे नई समझ और क्षमता का विकास हो सकता है।" इस कार्यक्रम में केंद्रीय मंत्री पुरी ने कहा कि उन्हें उम्मीद है कि भारत में शुरू किए जा रहे हाइड्रोकार्बन एक्सप्लोरेशन के नए दौर से गुजाना के आकार के कई बड़े तेल क्षेत्र, विशेष रूप से अंडमान सागर में खोजे जाएंगे।

केंद्रीय मंत्री पुरी ने कहा, "हम एक्सप्लोरर्स के लिए

उच्च-गुणवत्ता वाले डेटा की उपलब्धता, वित्तीय प्रोत्साहन, स्थिर नियामक ढाँचे, निवेशों को जोखिम-मुक्त बनाने और व्यापार करने में आसानी जैसे क्षेत्रों पर काम कर रहे हैं ताकि भारत को तेल और गैस अन्वेषण एवं उत्पादन के क्षेत्र में अगला वैश्विक अग्रणी बनाया जा सके।" 'ऊर्जा वार्ता 2025' का उद्देश्य भारत के ऊर्जा परिदृश्य के भविष्य को आकार देने और ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में स्थिरता और नवाचार के प्रति देश की प्रतिबद्धता को सुदृढ़ करने के लिए एक महत्वपूर्ण मंच बनना है।



बंगाल में गैस परियोजनाओं की रखेंगे आधारशिला

बंगाल दौरे पर पीएम मोदी बांकुरा, पुरुलिया, दुर्गापुर और बर्धमान जिलों समेत अन्य क्षेत्रों को भी तोहफा देंगे। प्रधानमंत्री पश्चिम बंगाल के बांकुरा और पुरुलिया जिले में लगभग 1,950 करोड़ रुपये की लागत वाली भारत पेट्रोलियम कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड (बीपीएलसी) सिटी गैस डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन (सीजीडी) परियोजना की आधारशिला रखेंगे। दुर्गापुर से कोलकाता तक (132 किमी) की नेचुरल गैस पाइपलाइन को राष्ट्र को समर्पित करेंगे, जो प्रधानमंत्री ऊर्जा गंगा (पीएमयूजी) परियोजना के तहत जगदीशपुर-हल्दिया और बोकारो-धामरा पाइपलाइन का हिस्सा है।

रूस से तेल खरीद पर भारत का नाटो प्रमुख को जवाब, दोहरे मानदंड न अपनाएं

नई दिल्ली, प्रेटर : रूस के साथ संबंधों को लेकर नाटो महासचिव मार्क रूट की प्रतिबंधों की धमकी पर प्रतिक्रिया व्यक्त करते हुए भारत ने गुरुवार को इस मामले में दोहरे मानदंड नहीं अपनाने के लिए आगाह किया। साथ ही कहा कि भारत का रूस से तेल खरीद राष्ट्रीय हितों और बाजार की गतिशीलता पर आधारित है। रूट ने भारत, चीन और ब्राजील को चेतावनी दी थी कि अगर वे रूस से व्यापार जारी रखेंगे तो उन पर प्रतिबंधों का जबर्दस्त असर पड़ सकता है।

विदेश मंत्रालय के प्रवक्ता रणधीर जायसवाल ने अपनी साप्ताहिक मीडिया ब्रीफिंग में कहा, 'हमने इस विषय पर रिपोर्टें देखी हैं और घटनाक्रम पर बारीकी से नजर रख रहे हैं। मैं दोहराना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे लोगों की ऊर्जा जरूरतों को पूरा करना हमारी सर्वोच्च प्राथमिकता है।'

उन्होंने कहा, 'इस प्रयास में हम बाजार में उपलब्ध चीजों और मौजूदा वैश्विक परिस्थितियों के अनुसार काम करते हैं। हम इस मामले में किसी भी दोहरे मानदंड के प्रति विशेष रूप से आगाह करेंगे। अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप द्वारा रूसी निर्यात पर 100 प्रतिशत टैरिफ और मास्को के साथ व्यापारिक संबंध रखने वाले किसी भी देश पर शुल्क लगाने की धमकी के बारे में पूछे जाने पर जायसवाल ने कहा, 'हम इस संबंध में हो रहे घटनाक्रमों और टिप्पणियों पर करीब से नजर रख रहे हैं।'

ओखला में गोबर से ऊर्जा उत्पादन की संभावना तलाश रही सरकार

पायनियर समाचार सेवा। नई दिल्ली

दिल्ली सरकार डेयरी से निकलने वाले गोबर से ऊर्जा उत्पादन की संभावना तलाश रही है। वह ओखला लैंडफिल साइट पर निर्माण एवं विध्वंस (सी एंड डी) अपशिष्ट पुनर्चक्रण संयंत्र स्थापित करने की दिशा में भी काम कर रही है।

एक अधिकारी ने बृहस्पतिवार को यह जानकारी दी। अधिकारी ने बताया कि मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता के साथ हाल ही में हुई बैठक में दिल्ली नगर निगम (एमसीडी) ने कचरे का स्थानीय स्तर पर और पर्यावरण अनुकूल तरीके से निपटान करने की अपनी योजना साझा की। उन्होंने बताया कि एक अहम पहल मदनपुर खादर में सक्रिय बायोगैस संयंत्र है, जहां डेयरी से निकलने वाले गोबर से ऊर्जा पैदा की



जाती है। अधिकारी के मुताबिक, इसके अलावा एमसीडी गोबर को नालियों में जाने से रोकने के लिए विशेष नालियां और निपटान टैंक बना रही है। उन्होंने बताया कि इस मॉडल को अन्य डेयरी कॉलोनियों में भी लागू करने के लिए लगभग 15 करोड़ रुपये की जरूरत है। एमसीडी के अधिकार क्षेत्र में आने वाली 11 अधिकृत डेयरी में से एक मदनपुर खादर में डेयरी मालिकों ने 10 टन प्रतिदिन (टीपीडी) क्षमता का बायोगैस संयंत्र स्थापित किया है। अधिकारी ने कहा, रनिगम नांगली डेयरी में एक प्रदूषण

नियंत्रण परियोजना भी क्रियान्वित कर रहा है, जिसमें गोबर को निकास नाले में जाने से रोकने के लिए एक अलग नाले और गोबर-निपटान कक्ष का निर्माण शामिल है। इस पायलट परियोजना की अनुमानित लागत 1.7 करोड़ रुपये है। अन्य डेयरी कॉलोनियों में भी इस मॉडल को लागू करने के लिए 15 करोड़ रुपये का प्रस्ताव पेश किया गया है। उन्होंने बताया कि एक अन्य प्रमुख परियोजना ओखला लैंडफिल साइट पर एक नया निर्माण एवं विध्वंस अपशिष्ट पुनर्चक्रण संयंत्र स्थापित करना है। इस सुविधा का मकसद रोजाना 1,000 टन निर्माण एवं विध्वंस अपशिष्ट का प्रसंस्करण करना है, जिससे दिल्ली में प्रतिदिन उत्पन्न होने वाले लगभग 5,500 से 6,000 टन निर्माण अपशिष्ट का निपटान हो सकेगा।

भारत रूसी तेल पर अमेरिकी प्रतिबंध की आशंका से चिंतित नहीं

भाषा। नई दिल्ली

❖ वैकल्पिक स्रोतों से खरीद बढ़ाएगा

भारत ने रूस से कच्चे तेल की आपूर्ति पर अमेरिकी प्रतिबंध लगने की आशंका को ज्यादा महत्व न देते हुए बृहस्पतिवार को कहा कि उसे अपने तेल आयात की जरूरतों को वैकल्पिक स्रोतों से पूरा करने का भरोसा है। पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा कि दुनिया का तीसरा सबसे बड़ा कच्चा तेल आयातक भारत, रूस से तेल की आपूर्ति में किसी भी तरह की बाधा से निपटने के लिए अन्य देशों से तेल खरीद सकता है। पुरी ने रूस पर संभावित अमेरिकी प्रतिबंधों के प्रभाव को लेकर पूछे गए सवाल पर कहा, 'मेरे दिमाग में इसे लेकर किसी तरह का दबाव नहीं है। भारत के तेल आपूर्ति के स्रोतों में अब विविधता आ

चुकी है। हम पहले 27 देशों से तेल खरीदते थे, अब यह संख्या बढ़कर लगभग 40 हो गई है।'

वह हाइड्रोकार्बन महानिदेशालय (डीजीएच) की तरफ से आयोजित वार्षिक सम्मेलन ऊर्जा वार्ता में शिरकत के लिए आए थे। भारत अपनी कच्चे तेल की जरूरत का 85 प्रतिशत से अधिक हिस्सा आयात से पूरी करता है। परंपरागत रूप से पश्चिम एशिया भारत का मुख्य तेल आपूर्तिकर्ता रहा है, लेकिन पिछले तीन वर्षों में रूस प्रमुख स्रोत के रूप में उभरकर सामने आया है। फरवरी, 2022 में यूक्रेन पर रूस के हमले के बाद पश्चिमी देशों ने रूसी तेल पर प्रतिबंध लगा दिया था। उस समय रूस



ने कच्चे तेल पर भारी छूट देनी शुरू कर दी थी जिससे भारत जैसे देशों को बहुत फायदा हुआ। आज के समय में भारत के कुल कच्चा तेल आयात में रूस की हिस्सेदारी लगभग 40 प्रतिशत है।

पुरी ने कहा कि रूस के अलावा ब्राजील, कनाडा और गुयाना जैसे देशों से भी कच्चे तेल की आपूर्ति को बढ़ाया जा सकता है। अमेरिका के राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने हाल ही में चेतावनी दी है कि यदि रूस 50 दिन के भीतर यूक्रेन के साथ शांति समझौते

तक नहीं पहुंचता है तो रूस से आयात करने वाले देशों पर प्रतिबंध या उच्च शुल्क लगाए जा सकते हैं। पुरी ने कहा कि भारत घरेलू तेल खोज और उत्पादन को भी तेजी से बढ़ा रहा है। उन्होंने स्पष्ट रूप से कहा, 'मैं बिलकुल भी चिंतित नहीं हूँ। अगर कुछ होता है तो हम उससे निपट लेंगे।'

इंडियन ऑयल कॉरपोरेशन के चेयरमैन ए एस साहनी ने कहा कि यदि रूस से तेल आपूर्ति बाधित होती है तो भारत यूक्रेन युद्ध से पहले लागू आपूर्ति व्यवस्था की ओर लौट सकता है। उस समय रूस से आयात दो प्रतिशत से भी कम था। पेट्रोलियम मंत्री ने बाद में एक संवाददाता सम्मेलन में कहा कि फिलहाल बाजार खासकर कीमतों के मामले में, किसी भू-राजनीतिक उठापटक पर प्रतिक्रिया नहीं देता है क्योंकि तेल की

अच्छी उपलब्धता है। पुरी ने कहा, 'वर्तमान में कच्चे तेल की कीमत लगभग 68.5 डॉलर प्रति बैरल है और आने वाले महीनों में भी इसके लगभग 65 डॉलर प्रति बैरल पर रहने की उम्मीद है।' उन्होंने बताया कि पेट्रोल में एथनॉल मिश्रण को 20 प्रतिशत के मौजूदा स्तर से बढ़ाने के लिए नीति आयोग के नेतृत्व में उद्योग के हितधारकों के साथ चर्चा और परामर्श जारी है। उन्होंने कहा कि सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की कंपनी ओएनजीसी और ब्रिटेन की कंपनी बीपी ने कुएं के डिजाइन, उसके स्थान और भूगर्भीय समझ को लेकर साझेदारी की है।' इस परियोजना में ओएनजीसी निवेश करेगी जबकि बीपी अपनी तकनीकी विशेषज्ञता देगी। दोनों कंपनियां मिलकर अंडमान, महानदी और सौराष्ट्र-कच्छ जैसे क्षेत्रों में काम करेंगी।

हर रसोई में पाइप से पहुंचेगी पीएनजी : नेगी

जागरण संवाददाता, पूर्वी दिल्ली

: विनोद नगर वार्ड में पीएनजी

पाइपलाइन डालने का काम शुरू हो

गया है। विधायक रविंद्र

सिंह नेगी ने यह कार्य

शुरू कराया। पाइपलाइन

डालने के बाद क्षेत्र में लोगों

की रसोई तक पाइप से

गैस पहुंचेगी। सिलिंडर

भरवाने की दिक्कत खत्म

हो जाएगी। विधायक रविंद्र

सिंह नेगी ने कहा कि पाइप से पीएनजी

लोगों के घरों तक पहुंचाना सुरक्षा,

सुविधा और सस्ती ऊर्जा की ओर एक

बड़ा कदम है। अभी तक अनधिकृत



रविंद्र सिंह नेगी

नियमित कालोनी में पीएनजी की

सुविधा नहीं थी, जिससे लोगों को गैस

बुक करने में परेशानी व घटौली की

समस्या का सामना करना

पड़ता था। समय पर डिलीवरी

नहीं होने से भी समस्या रहती

थी। प्रधानमंत्री के संकल्प

'सुविधा सबके द्वार' के तहत

पीएनजी पाइपलाइन डालवाने

का कार्य शुरू करा दिया गया

है। जल्द इस वार्ड में हर घर

की रसोई में पाइप से गैस पहुंचा

करेगी। इस अवसर पर हंसधारी

सिंह, विनोद भाटी, बबू शुक्ला, मुन्ना

सिंह रहे।

हिमाचल प्रदेश और प. बंगाल से प्रकाशित

सस्ता हो सकता है पेट्रोल-डीजल: हरदीप पुरी 14



सस्ते हो सकते हैं पेट्रोल-डीजल : हरदीप पुरी

पेट्रोलियम मंत्री ने कहा- कच्चा तेल 65 डालर के आसपास रहने पर कीमतों में आ सकती है कमी

जागरण ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली: पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा है कि अगर मौजूदा वैश्विक हालात ऐसे ही बने रहे और कच्चे तेल की कीमतें मौजूदा 65 डालर के आसपास बनी रहें तो तीन-चार महीनों में देश में पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की खुदरा कीमतों में कमी आ सकती है। देश में हाइड्रोकार्बन क्षेत्र पर आयोजित सबसे बड़े सेमिनार 'ऊर्जा वार्ता-2025' को संबोधित करते हुए पुरी ने कहा, 'सरकारी क्षेत्र की सभी तेल कंपनियों के पास 21 दिनों का भंडार है।' बुधवार को अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की कीमत 67 डालर प्रति बैरल रही। वैश्विक स्तर पर भारी अनिश्चितता के बावजूद भारत में कमोवेश पिछले साढ़े तीन वर्षों में पेट्रोल, डीजल की खुदरा कीमतें स्थिर रही हैं।

पेट्रोलियम मंत्री ने अमेरिका की तरफ से भारत पर रूस से तेल खरीदने के बढ़ते दबाव को

- पुरी ने अमेरिका के भारत पर रूस से तेल खरीदने के बढ़ते दबाव को दरकिनार किया
- कहा-वैश्विक बाजार में तेल की कोई कमी नहीं, फिलहाल कई नए विक्रेता बाजार में

रूस से तेल खरीदने पर अगर अमेरिका किसी तरह का भारी-भरकम शुल्क लगाता है तो हम उसी आपूर्ति ढांचे पर लौट जाएंगे जो यूक्रेन संकट से पहले अपनाया गया था। उस समय भारत को रूसी तेल की आपूर्ति दो प्रतिशत से भी कम थी। -एस साहनी, इंडियन आवल कारपोरेशन

दरकिनार किया है। उन्होंने कहा कि हम अपनी जरूरत के मुताबिक अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में जहां एनर्जी उपलब्ध होती है, वहां से खरीद रहे हैं और आगे भी ऐसा किया जाएगा। जहां तक किसी एक देश से तेल खरीदने की बात है तो अभी

21 दिनों का तेल भंडार सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की तेल कंपनियों के पास मौजूद



नई दिल्ली में गुरुवार को ऊर्जा वार्ता 2025 को संबोधित करते केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ● प्रे

अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में भी कच्चे तेल के पर्याप्त विक्रेता हैं और भारत के पास पर्याप्त तेल भंडार भी है। भारत अपनी जरूरत का 85 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा कच्चा तेल आयात करता है और इसे रिफाइनरियों में पेट्रोल और डीजल जैसे ईंधन में बदला

जाता है। परंपरागत तौर पर पश्चिम एशिया मुख्य स्रोत था, लेकिन रूस लगभग तीन सालों से मुख्य आपूर्तिकर्ता बना हुआ है। फरवरी, 2022 में मास्को द्वारा यूक्रेन पर आक्रमण के बाद पश्चिम के अधिकांश देशों ने रूसी कच्चे तेल

रूसी उत्पादन रोकना तो महंगा होगा कच्चा तेल

पुरी ने कहा कि आज रूस दुनिया के सबसे बड़े तेल उत्पादक देशों में है। वह 90 लाख बैरल प्रतिदिन तेल का उत्पादन कर रहा है। जबकि वैश्विक उत्पादन तकरीबन 9.7 करोड़ बैरल प्रतिदिन का है। ऐसे में रूसी उत्पादन को रोकना तो अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार में कूड़ की कीमत 130-200 डालर प्रति बैरल तक जा सकती है।

फिलहाल 40 देशों से खरीद रहे कच्चा तेल

पेट्रोलियम मंत्री ने कहा कि वैश्विक बाजार में तेल की कोई कमी नहीं है। कई नए तेल विक्रेता आ गए हैं। गुयाना, अर्जेंटीना, ब्राजील जैसे गैर-पारंपरिक देशों से भारत ज्यादा तेल की खरीद कर रहा है। अब हम करीब 40 देशों से तेल खरीद रहे हैं। पिछले छह महीने में वैश्विक स्तर पर काफी ज्यादा अस्थिरता होने के बावजूद कीमतों में बहुत ज्यादा बदलाव नहीं हुआ। मुझे लगता है कि आने वाले समय में कीमतें 65-70 डालर प्रति बैरल के बीच में ही रहेंगी।

से दूरी बना ली। रूस ने वैकल्पिक खरीदारों को आकर्षित करने के लिए भारी छूट की पेशकश शुरू कर दी। भारतीय रिफाइनिंग कंपनियों ने इस अवसर का फायदा उठाया और रूस भारत का सबसे बड़ा कच्चा तेल का आपूर्तिकर्ता बन गया।

आपत्ति: भारत बोला, तेल पर नाटो का दबाव नहीं चलेगा

नई दिल्ली, विशेष संवाददाता। भारत ने रूस से तेल खरीदने को लेकर नाटो प्रमुख मार्क रुटे की चेतावनी को खारिज किया है। भारत ने कहा कि इस मामले में दबाव और दोहरे मापदंड नहीं चल सकते। हम अपनी ऊर्जा जरूरतों की पूर्ति के लिए बाजार में उपलब्ध सभी विकल्पों पर विचार करेंगे।

नाटो प्रमुख ने कहा था कि यदि भारत रूस से तेल खरीदता है तो उसे 100 फीसदी अमेरिकी टैरिफ का सामना करना पड़ेगा। विदेश मंत्रालय के प्रवक्ता रंधीर जैसवाल ने कहा कि हमने इस विषय पर मीडिया रिपोर्ट देखी है तथा हम

- विदेश मंत्रालय ने कहा, दोहरे मापदंड स्वीकार नहीं
- तेल खरीद को लेकर सभी विकल्पों पर विचार करेंगे

घटनाक्रम पर बारीकी से नजर रख रहे हैं। दरअसल यूरोप के कई देश रूस से तेल और गैस खरीद रहे हैं लेकिन नाटो प्रमुख दोहरे मापदंड अपनाते हुए भारत और अन्य देशों को चेतावनी दे रहे हैं। पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने भी कहा कि भारत रूस से तेल की आपूर्ति में बाधा से निपटने के लिए अन्य देशों से तेल खरीद सकता है।

भारत रूसी तेल पर अमेरिकी प्रतिबंध की आशंका से चिंतित नहीं, वैकल्पिक स्रोतों से खरीद बढ़ाएगा

वैभव न्यूज़ ■ नई दिल्ली

भारत ने रूस से कच्चे तेल की आपूर्ति पर अमेरिकी प्रतिबंध लगाने की आशंका को ज्यादा महत्व न देते हुए बृहस्पतिवार को कहा कि उसे अपने तेल आयात की जरूरतों को वैकल्पिक स्रोतों से पूरा करने का भरोसा है। पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हर्दीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा कि दुनिया का तीसरा सबसे बड़ा कच्चा तेल आयातक भारत रूस से तेल की आपूर्ति में किसी भी तरह की बाधा से निपटने के लिए अन्य देशों से तेल खरीद सकता है। पुरी ने रूस पर संभावित अमेरिकी प्रतिबंधों के प्रभाव को लेकर पूछे गए सवाल पर कहा, मेरे दिमाग में इसे लेकर किसी तरह का दबाव नहीं है। भारत तेल आपूर्ति के स्रोतों में विविधता लाया है। हम पहले 27 देशों से तेल खरीदते थे, अब यह संख्या बढ़कर लगभग 40 हो गई है।



वह हाइड्रोकार्बन महानिदेशालय (डीजीएच) की तरफ से आयोजित वार्षिक सम्मेलन 'ऊर्जा वार्ता' में शिखर के लिए आए थे। भारत कच्चे तेल की जरूरत का 85 प्रतिशत से अधिक हिस्सा आयात से पूरी करता

है। परंपरागत रूप से पश्चिम एशिया भारत का मुख्य तेल आपूर्तिकर्ता रहा है, लेकिन पिछले तीन वर्षों में रूस प्रमुख स्रोत के रूप में उभरकर सामने आया है। फरवरी, 2022 में यूक्रेन पर रूस के हमले के बाद पश्चिमी देशों

ने रूसी तेल पर प्रतिबंध लगा दिया था। उस समय रूस ने कच्चे तेल पर भारी छूट देनी शुरू कर दी थी जिससे भारत जैसे देशों को बहुत फायदा हुआ। आज के समय में रूस, भारत के कुल कच्चे तेल आयात का

लगभग 40 प्रतिशत की आपूर्ति करता है। पुरी ने कहा कि रूस के अलावा ब्राजील, कनाडा और गुयाना जैसे देशों से भी कच्चे तेल की आपूर्ति को बढ़ाया जा सकता है। अमेरिका के राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने हाल ही में चेतावनी दी है कि यदि रूस 50 दिन के भीतर यूक्रेन के साथ शांति समझौते तक नहीं पहुंचता है तो रूस से आयात करने वाले देशों पर प्रतिबंध या उच्च शुल्क लगाए जा सकते हैं। पुरी ने कहा कि भारत घरेलू तेल खोज और उत्पादन को भी तेजी से बढ़ा रहा है। उन्होंने स्पष्ट रूप से कहा, मैं क्लिकुल भी चिंतित नहीं हूं। इंडियन ऑयल कॉर्पोरेशन के चेयरमैन ए एस साहनी ने कहा कि यदि रूस से तेल आपूर्ति बाधित होती है तो भारत उस आपूर्ति व्यवस्था की तरफ लौट सकता है जो यूक्रेन युद्ध से पहले लागू थी। उस समय रूस से आयात दो प्रतिशत से भी कम था।

देशहित में है रूस से कच्चे तेल की खरीदारी

■ यह खरीद बंद करने के लिए बनाए जा रहे अमेरिकी दबाव में न आए भारत : जीटीआरआई

नई दिल्ली (भाषा)।

शोध संस्थान ग्लोबल ट्रेड रिसर्च इनिशिएटिव (जीटीआरआई) ने बुधवार को कहा कि भारत को रूस से कच्चे तेल की खरीद बंद करने के अमेरिकी दबाव में नहीं आना चाहिए और उसका विरोध करना चाहिए।

रूस से तेल आयात से भारत को महंगाई को काबू में करने और अस्थिर वैश्विक

माहौल में आर्थिक स्थिरता बनाए रखने में मदद मिली है।

अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने रूसी तेल खरीदारों पर 100 प्रतिशत शुल्क लगाने की चेतावनी दी है।

जीटीआरआई के संस्थापक अजय श्रीवास्तव ने कहा, 'भारत को इस दबाव को खारिज करना चाहिए और

अपनी रूस रणनीति पर टिके रहना चाहिए। रियायती रूसी तेल



खरीदने से भारत को महंगाई को नियंत्रित करने और अस्थिर

वैश्विक माहौल में आर्थिक स्थिरता बनाए रखने में मदद मिली है।'

उन्होंने कहा कि इस नीति में बदलाव करने से अमेरिकी चेतावनी नहीं रुकेगी और यह बढ़ती रहेगी। यह कोई अलग मामला नहीं है। ट्रंप नियमित रूप से विभिन्न कारणों से शुल्क को लेकर चेतावनी देते रहे हैं।

श्रीवास्तव ने कहा, 'इस प्रवृत्ति को देखते हुए, भारत को रूसी तेल पर अमेरिकी दबाव के आगे झुकने में कोई फायदा नहीं है।

इससे भविष्य में अमेरिका की अप्रत्याशित मांगों का बड़ा मुद्दा हल नहीं होगा। अमेरिका के साथ एक व्यापार समझौता भी सुरक्षा की गारंटी नहीं देगा, क्योंकि ट्रंप अन्य मामलों में भी इस तरह का रुख अपना सकते हैं।'

रूसी तेल पर अमेरिकी रोक की भारत को कोई चिंता नहीं

■ रोक लगी तो वैकल्पिक स्रोतों से तेल की खरीद बढ़ाएगा भारत

नई दिल्ली (भाषा)।

भारत ने रूस से कच्चे तेल की आपूर्ति पर अमेरिकी प्रतिबंध लगाने की आशंका को ज्यादा महत्व न देते हुए बृहस्पतिवार को कहा कि उसे अपने तेल आयात की जरूरतों को वैकल्पिक स्रोतों से पूरा करने का भरोसा है।

पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा कि दुनिया का तीसरा सबसे बड़ा कच्चा तेल आयातक भारत रूस से तेल की आपूर्ति में किसी भी तरह की बाधा से निपटने के लिए अन्य देशों से तेल खरीद सकता है। पुरी ने रूस पर संभावित अमेरिकी प्रतिबंधों के प्रभाव को लेकर पूछे गए सवाल

पर कहा, 'मेरे दिमाग में इसे लेकर किसी तरह का दबाव नहीं है। भारत तेल आपूर्ति के स्रोतों में विविधता लाया है। हम पहले 27 देशों से तेल खरीदते थे, अब यह संख्या बढ़कर



लगभग 40 हो गई है।' वह हाइड्रोकार्बन महानिदेशालय (डीजीएच) की तरफ से आयोजित वार्षिक सम्मेलन 'ऊर्जा वार्ता' में

शिरकत के लिए आए थे।

भारत कच्चे तेल की जरूरत का 85 प्रतिशत से अधिक हिस्सा आयात से पूरी करता है। परंपरागत रूप से पश्चिम एशिया भारत का मुख्य तेल आपूर्तिकर्ता रहा है, लेकिन पिछले तीन वर्षों में रूस प्रमुख स्रोत के रूप में उभरकर सामने आया है। फरवरी, 2022 में यूक्रेन पर रूस के हमले के बाद पश्चिमी देशों ने रूसी तेल पर प्रतिबंध लगा दिया था। उस समय रूस ने कच्चे तेल पर भारी छूट देनी शुरू कर दी थी जिससे भारत जैसे देशों को बहुत फायदा हुआ। आज के समय में रूस, भारत के कुल कच्चे तेल आयात का लगभग 40 प्रतिशत की आपूर्ति करता है।

दिल्ली में डकैती डाल योगेश भदौड़ा के भांजे के घर छिपे थे बदमाश

मेरठ : दिल्ली के वसंत कुंज दक्षिण थाना क्षेत्र स्थित धिठोरनी में एसकेएन नेचुरल गैस (हरियाणा सिटी गैस डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन लि.) के सीईओ करण चौपड़ा के फार्म हाउस पर कर्मचारी ने ही 30 लाख की डकैती डलवाई थी। दिल्ली पुलिस ने जानी के पंचगांव से दो बदमाशों को गिरफ्तार कर लिया।

गत माह सीईओ करण चौपड़ा के फार्म हाउस पर हथियारबंद बदमाशों ने गेट पर तैनात सुरक्षा गार्ड को बंधक बनाकर फार्म हाउस में घुस गए थे। उस समय करण चौपड़ा फार्म हाउस पर अकेले थे। उनके माता-पिता कनाड़ा गए हुए थे। बदमाशों ने करण चौपड़ा को पिस्टल दिखाकर नकदी व जेवरात लूट कर ले गए, जिनकी कीमत करीब 30 लाख रुपये बताई गई थी। वारदात को 16 बदमाशों ने अंजाम दिया था।

- जून में गैस कंपनी के सीईओ के फार्म हाउस पर कर्मचारी ने ही डलवाई थी 30 लाख की डकैती
- दिल्ली पुलिस की टीम ने जानी के पंचगांव से दो बदमाश देवेंद्र और अरविंद को किया गिरफ्तार

बाद में पुलिस ने राजफाश किया कि करण चौपड़ा के कर्मचारी ने ही डकैती डलवाई थी। वारदात में बुलंदशहर के गुलावठी के विदेवेंद्र गांधी और माछरा निवासी अरविंद त्यागी भी थे। दिल्ली पुलिस को पता चला कि देवेंद्र और अरविंद को जेल में बंद योगेश भदौड़ा के भांजे अंकित ने पंचगांव ने शरण दी हुई है। स्थानीय एसटीएफ की मदद से दिल्ली पुलिस ने अरविंद और देवेंद्र को गिरफ्तार कर लिया और दिल्ली ले गई।

2-3 महीनों में घट सकते हैं तेल के दाम: हरदीप पुरी

■ NBT रिपोर्ट, नई दिल्ली : पेट्रोलियम एंड नेचुरल गैस मिनिस्टर हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने गुरुवार को कहा कि मौजूदा हालात को देखते हुए आने वाली तिमाही में कूड ऑयल का अंतरराष्ट्रीय भाव 65 डॉलर के आसपास रह सकता है। अगर यही स्थिति बनी रही तो पेट्रोल-डीजल के दाम घट सकते हैं।



हरदीप सिंह पुरी

डायरेक्टरेट ऑफ हाइड्रोकार्बस की ओर से आयोजित ऊर्जा वार्ता कार्यक्रम के दौरान पुरी ने कहा, 'आज कूड प्राइस 68.5 डॉलर प्रति बैरल है। कच्चे तेल के दाम आने

वाले समय में इसी रेंज में रहने की संभावना है। अगले 3 से 5 महीनों में यह 65 से 70 डॉलर के बीच रहेगा। अगर इसमें चेंज आता भी है तो 70 से ऊपर नहीं होगा, 65 से नीचे आएगा।'

पेट्रोल-डीजल की कीमतों के बारे में पूछे जाने पर उन्होंने कहा, 'हम चुनिंदा देशों में से हैं, जहां पिछले साढ़े 3 सालों में दाम घटे हैं। अगर कूड प्राइस इसी तरह बना रहा तो कंपनसेट किया जा सकता है। अगर यह 65 डॉलर के आसपास रहा, जिसकी संभावना है, तो आने वाली

ऑयल मिनिस्टर हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा, कूड ऑयल 65 डॉलर/बैरल के आसपास बना रहा तो बन सकता है चांस

तिमाही में दाम घटने का स्कोप हो सकता है। मुझे लगता है कि आने वाले 2 से 3 महीनों में इसका स्कोप है।'

पुरी ने रूस से कूड ऑयल खरीदने वाले देशों पर अमेरिका की ओर से प्रतिबंध लगाए जाने और उन पर टैरिफ बढ़ाए जा सकने की चेतावनी के बारे में कहा कि भारत इसको लेकर चिंतित नहीं है और अपनी जरूरत पूरी करने के लिए इसके पास दूसरे सोर्स भी हैं। पुरी ने कहा, 'मुझे कोई दबाव महसूस नहीं हो रहा। भारत अब कई जगहों से तेल खरीद रहा है। अगर कुछ होता भी है तो हम उससे निपट लेंगे। पहले जहां करीब 27 देशों से तेल खरीदा जा रहा था, वहीं अब 40 देशों से तेल ले रहे हैं।' रूस-यूक्रेन युद्ध शुरू होने के बाद पश्चिमी देशों ने यह प्रतिबंध लगाया था कि रूसी तेल 60 डॉलर प्रति बैरल से ज्यादा पर कोई भी देश नहीं लेगा और अगर वह इससे ज्यादा पर लेगा तो उसकी शिपिंग कंपनियों को बीमा कवर नहीं दिया जाएगा।