

# Has drop in Russian oil import hit Deendayal's crude volume?

**SLIPPERY GROUND.** Import low due to upkeep work at Indian Oil's Vadinar refinery

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The after-effects of the secondary sanctions on Russian oil movement are being felt at Deendayal Port in Kandla, among others.

The first half of this fiscal year witnessed a 6 per cent decline in the handling of crude products and LPG/LNG versus the same period last year, according to the Indian Ports Association data. One of the major reasons attributed to this is the decline in the handling of Russian oil by the port.

During April to September 2025, Deendayal Port handled 30.07 lakh tonnes of crude products and LPG/LNG against 32.5 lakh tonnes in the same period last year. The port handles most of the Russian oil among all 13 major ports in India. Though there is no direct sanction on Russian oil purchase, there is an impact on its movement due to restrictions imposed by Washington and the European Union on countries that buy



**MAJOR SHARE.** Among all 13 major ports in India, Deendayal Port handles most of the Russian oil REUTERS

crude oil from Moscow.

When asked if crude imports were down due to geopolitical tensions, Sushil Kumar Singh, Chairman, Deendayal Port Authority (DPA), told *businessline*: "In September, we saw a four per cent decline in the amount of crude that is imported through our port. This is about 1.2 million tonnes."

## DEALS IMPACTED

Crude imported through the port is transported through pipelines to five oil refineries, including Nayara, co-owned by PJSC NK Rosneft (Russian State-owned oil

company) and Kesani Enterprises Company Ltd, an investment consortium formed by the Mareterra Group (through its subsidiary Hara Capital Sarl) and Russian investment group UCP, and a couple of refineries belonging to the Indian Oil Corporation.

Besides, Nayara had signed a deal to import crude oil from Russia's Rosneft for 10 years.

A larger impact seems to be on the export of petroleum, oil and lubricants (POL). To partly tide over the crisis, the port authority, along with the DG Shipping

and Nayara, are trying to use the coastal cargo route to domestically consume a portion of the POL products that were meant to be exported, said Singh.

"Till now, the refinery is operating at a healthy run rate with steady crude throughput. This also ensures that Nayara can maintain continuity of production supplies across its 6,700-plus fuel stations and oil marketing company commitments," said those associated with the refinery.

## MOUNTING PRESSURE

However, with mounting American pressure on India to cut down its dependence on Russian oil, Nayara is toying with the idea of using crude from various geographies efficiently.

Moreover, the overall crude imports were low because of maintenance works at Indian Oil's Vadinar refinery, said Sumit Ritolia, Lead Research Analyst, Refining & Modeling, Kpler.

India is likely to continue importing 1.6-1.8 mb/d of Russian crude, with symbolic reductions possible if Washington intensifies pressure.

# No change in Russian oil buying strategy for India

MADHUSUDAN SAHOO  
NEW DELHI, OCT. 19

The Indian team led by chief negotiator Rajesh Agrawal on Sunday returned home as the discussions with American officials concluded. Top officials in both India and the US discussed the existing tariff issues to protect their country's interest and 'no major differences' emerged between them, said a commerce ministry source.

India discussed issues related to the tariff and its impact on India's agriculture sector, small businesses and farmers among others. On oil purchase, India is committed to buy Russian oil and will continue it in future as well," the source said.

"Though we have stuck to our decision to buy Russian oil, oil import from the US is not ruled out. We are trying to balance it in some way or the other. Our concerned officials are regularly in touch with both the countries," the source added.

On overall trade, the US is India's biggest partner and it is trying to bring down the hefty US tariff of

| KEY ISSUES                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| <p><b>INDIA COMMITTED</b> to buy Russian oil and will continue it in future.</p> <p><b>OIL IMPORT</b> from the US not ruled out.</p> <p><b>US IS INDIA'S</b> biggest partner.</p> | <p><b>INDIA CAN IMPORT</b> more crude oil and natural gas worth \$12 bn from the US without altering configuration of refineries.</p>  <p><b>DISCUSSIONS</b> between India and US on the proposed bilateral trade agreement progressing in a cordial atmosphere.</p> |
| <p><b>INDIA'S EXPORTS</b> to the US grew 13.3 per cent this year</p>                                                                                                              | <p><b>INDIA DISCUSSED ISSUES</b> RELATED TO THE TARIFF AND ITS IMPACT ON INDIA'S AGRICULTURE SECTOR, SMALL BUSINESSES AND FARMERS.</p>                                                                                                                            |

50 per cent imposed on India by November this year. "Discussions between India and the US on the proposed bilateral trade agreement are progressing in a cordial atmosphere, stressing that New Delhi will safeguard the interests of farmers, fishermen and the MSME sector," commerce minister Piyush Goyal had said last week.

"India's exports to the US grew 13.3 per cent this year," the commerce ministry recently noted.

"India would like to diversify its energy import portfolio, subject to availability at the right price. India can import more crude oil and natural gas worth \$12 bn from the US without altering configuration of refineries," the ministry said.

**TRUMP SAYS UKRAINE MAY HAVE TO TRADE LAND FOR PEACE**

# Kyiv hits major Russian gas plant

**KYIV:** Ukrainian drones struck a major gas processing plant in southern Russia, sparking a fire and forcing it to suspend its intake of gas from Kazakhstan, Russian and Kazakh authorities said Sunday.

US President Donald Trump meanwhile suggested that Kyiv may have to give up territory in exchange for an end to Moscow's more than 3 1/2-year invasion, in the latest of apparent reversals on how to pursue peace.

The Orenburg plant, run by state-owned gas giant Gazprom and located in a region of the same name near the Kazakh border, is part of a production and processing complex that is one of the world's largest facilities of its kind, with an annual capacity of 45 billion cubic meters. It handles gas condensate from Kazakhstan's Karachaganak field, alongside Orenburg's own oil and gas fields. According to regional Governor Yevgeny Solntsev, the drone strikes set fire to a workshop at the plant and damaged part of it. The Kazakh Energy Ministry on Sunday said, citing a notification from Gazprom, that the plant was temporarily unable to process gas originating in Kazakhstan, "due to an



**Ukrainian drones struck a Gazprom Plant**

GAZPROM

emergency situation following a drone attack."

Ukraine's General Staff said in a statement Sunday that a "large-scale fire" erupted at the Orenburg plant, and that one of its gas processing and purification units was damaged.

Kyiv has ramped up attacks in recent months on Russian energy facilities it says both fund and directly fuel Moscow's war effort.

Meanwhile, Ukrainian prosecutors claim that Moscow is modifying its deadly aerial-guided bombs to strike civilians deeper in Ukraine.

Local authorities in Kharkiv said Russia struck a residential neighborhood using a new rocket-powered aerial bomb for the first time.

Russia continued to strike other parts of Ukraine closer to the front line. In the Dnipropetrovsk region, at least 11 people were injured after Russian drones hit the Shakhtarske area. At least 14 five-story buildings and a store were damaged, said acting regional Gov. Vladyslav Haivanenko.

Ukraine's General Staff also claimed a separate drone strike hit Russia's Novokuibyshevsk

## In Short

» Ukraine's General Staff said that a "large-scale fire" erupted at the Orenburg plant, and that one of its gas processing and purification units was damaged

» Kyiv has ramped up attacks in recent months on Russian energy facilities

oil refinery, in the Samara region near Orenburg, sparking a blaze and damaging its main refining units.

The Novokuibyshevsk facility, operated by Russian gas major Rosneft, has an annual capacity of 4.9 million tons, and turns out over 20 kinds of oil-based products. Russian authorities did not immediately acknowledge the Ukrainian claim or discuss any damage. Russia's Defence Ministry said in a statement early Sunday that its air defense forces had shot down 45 Ukrainian drones during the night, including 12 over the Samara region.

AGENCIES

# India's diesel exports to Europe in September highest since 2017

**Rishi Ranjan Kala**  
New Delhi

India's diesel exports to Europe surged to the highest level on record since 2017 as heavy refinery maintenance across the Atlantic Basin tightened supply, widening the East-West arbitrage and creating demand for ultra-low sulphur diesel.

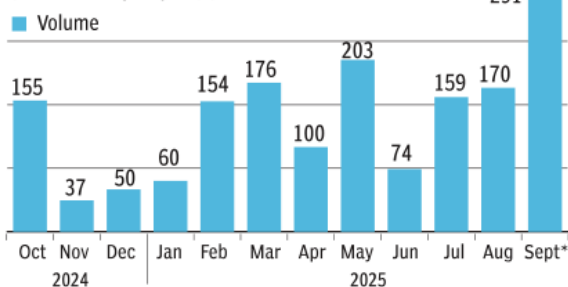
Strong refinery runs, coupled with limited domestic turnarounds in September, left refiners with ample exportable diesel cargoes to export higher volumes to Latin America as well.

OPEC, in its October 2025 monthly oil market report, quoting ship-tracking data, stated: "Surge in Indian diesel exports was supported by widening East-to-West diesel crack spread differentials and emerged on back of reduced Russian product exports due to unplanned disruptions and a decline in product output in the Atlantic Basin due to heavy refinery maintenance."

Global real-time data and analytics provider Kpler said exports surged to around 2,91,000 barrels per day (b/d) in September, nearly double the August volumes (around 1,69,800 b/d) and almost 4x

## Smooth and slick

(Thousand barrels per day -- kb/d)



Source: Kpler \* Provisional

June levels (74,500 b/d), making it the highest monthly flow to Europe since December 2023 (314,000 b/d).

### STRONG ARBITRAGE

India's diesel exports to Europe rose by more than 70 per cent month-on-month (m-o-m) and 8 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y) in September 2025, Kpler data show.

Cargoes to the Americas, which include Latin America, rose over three-fold on a monthly basis to around 1,30,000 b/d. On an annual basis, cargoes surged over 10 fold.

Sumit Ritolia, Kpler's Lead Research Analyst for Refining & Modeling, said tightened supply from the Atlantic basin and widening East-West arbitrage pushed up demand for Indian diesel, par-

ticularly the winter grade from Reliance Industries.

"Reduced refinery output in Europe and the US during peak maintenance increased Europe's dependence on long-haul imports, improving netbacks for Indian barrels," he told *businessline*. (Netback calculates the revenue generated from oil and gas sales against costs incurred).

Besides, strong refinery runs and limited domestic turnarounds in September left refiners with ample exportable diesel, he noted.

"There has been a noticeable increase in flows to Latin America (Brazil), Turkey and African markets, as Indian products find alternative homes amid tightening European regulations and changing trade alignments," said Ritolia.

# Govt has opened 99 per cent offshore area for oil and gas: Puri

**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**

*New Delhi, 19 October*

The Union Minister for Petroleum, Hardeep Singh Puri, said the government has widened the import basket of crude to over 40 countries from 27 earlier. Further, the country has opened up 99 per cent of India's offshore area for oil & gas exploration.

The move, the minister said, is a part of a four-pronged approach that is shaping "a future where energy is secure, affordable & sustainable".

He said that India's energy journey stands on four strong pillars. These included diversification of crude imports, innovation, increase in domestic exploration of oil & gas, and a clean transition reflected in the Green Hydrogen Mission and



10.60 crore Ujjwala families who have benefited under the PM's scheme for subsidised LPG as clean cooking fuel for the poor to replace firewood and dung cakes.

Taking to social media platform X, Mr Puri said: "Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, Bharat is building a cleaner, stronger and self-sufficient energy future."

Earlier also, Mr Puri pointed out that India has diversified its sources for buying oil in the

global market. "India's oil purchases from Moscow had played an important role in stabilising prices in the global market," he said.

The minister highlighted that crude oil prices could have skyrocketed to \$130 per barrel in the absence of the 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' requirement from Moscow standing close to 40 per cent.

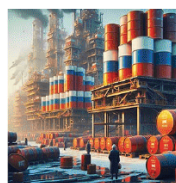
Earlier this week, Petroleum Minister had held discussions with Geraldo Alckmin, Vice President and Minister of Development, Industry, Trade and Services of Brazil, on strengthening the expanding energy partnership between India and Brazil.

# If Not Russian Oil, Mr T, You Got a Plan?

Threatening tariffs will help even less

Trump's insistence on lumping India's purchases of Russian crude oil with negotiations to lower trade barriers has provided New Delhi with a strong lever to swing a favourable tariff deal with Washington. If India stops buying Russian oil, where does it buy the stuff from without raising global prices? The US will have to come up with an answer. But it does not control enough of the global energy market to be able to offer a solution. Trump will have to lean on US allies in West Asia to ramp up production, which will upset production agreements reached by Opec and Russia. Alternative supplies can't compensate for Russian oil production, especially if the US wants China to join the embargo.

India's negotiating strategy will favour sacrificing Russian oil imports — provided alternative supply is available at the right price — over allowing increased market



access to US farm produce. Food security is a far more politically-sensitive and knottier issue for New Delhi. Over Russian oil, Washington will have to do the heavy lifting, coming up with a formula acceptable to multiple economies. India has displayed its resolve against punitive tariffs. The onus is now

on the US to come up with a workable non-coercive plan. Western sanctions against Russian energy exports have their sceptics, including in the US. Enlarging the effort to trade barriers effectively shifts the embargo to the world's largest energy-consuming economies. Since China and India didn't join the blockade in the first place, they'll need even more convincing arguments now. Threatened US tariffs are obviously not among them.

The Trump regime must disentangle its strategic and economic objectives when dealing with India over trade. That will create an easier workaround to bilateral trade expansion without compromising on India's long-held position on protecting its agriculture. Services provide an adjustment mechanism to balance trade between the two. The US has tested the limits of its influence over India's food and energy security. The ball is now in its court.

# India building cleaner, stronger, and self-reliant energy future: Puri

NEW DELHI, OCT 19

**P**ETROLEUM Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Sunday that the government has opened up 99 per cent of India's offshore area for oil & gas exploration and widened the import basket of crude to over 40 countries from 27 earlier, as part of a four-pronged approach that is shaping "a future where energy is secure, affordable & sustainable".

India's energy journey stands on "four strong pillars" which include diversification of crude imports, innovation, increase in domestic exploration of oil & gas, and a clean transition reflected in the Green Hydrogen Mission and 10.60 crore Ujjwala families who have benefited under the PM's scheme for subsidised LPG as clean



cooking fuel for the poor to replace firewood and dung cakes.

"Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, Bharat is building a cleaner, stronger and self-sufficient energy future," the minister said in a post on X.

The Government had said on Thursday that its import policy for oil and gas is guided entirely by the interests of the Indian consumer amid a

volatile global energy market.

The statement was issued hours after US President Donald Trump said in Washington that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has "assured him that India will reduce purchases of Russian crude oil".

"India is a significant importer of oil and gas. It has been our consistent priority to safeguard the interests of the Indian consumer in a volatile energy scenario. Our import policies are guided entirely by this objective. Ensuring stable energy prices and secured supplies have been the twin goals of our energy policy. This includes broad-basing our energy sourcing and diversifying as appropriate to meet market conditions," Ministry of External Affairs spokesman Randhir Jaiswal said.

"Where the US is concerned, we have

for many years sought to expand our energy procurement. This has steadily progressed in the last decade. The current administration has shown interest in deepening energy cooperation with India. Discussions are ongoing," he added. Puri had earlier pointed out that India has diversified its sources for buying oil in the global market.

India's oil purchases from Moscow had played an important role in stabilising prices in the global market, he said.

He said crude oil prices could have skyrocketed to \$130 per barrel in the absence of the 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' requirement from Moscow. This, today, stands close to 40 per cent.-IANS

तेल और गैस  
की खोज की  
जा रही: पुरी

## देश स्वच्छ, मजबूत व आत्मनिर्भर ऊर्जा भविष्य का निर्माण कर रहा

एजेंसी ► नई दिल्ली

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा कि भारत एक स्वच्छ, मजबूत और आत्मनिर्भर ऊर्जा भविष्य की ओर बढ़ रहा है। उन्होंने बताया कि सरकार ने देश के 99 प्रतिशत अपतटीय क्षेत्र को तेल और गैस की खोज के लिए खोल दिया है और कच्चे तेल के आयात को पहले के 27 देशों से बढ़ाकर 40 से अधिक देशों तक कर दिया है।



भारत की ऊर्जा नीति एक चार-आयामी दृष्टिकोण पर आधारित है।

इसमें-कच्चे तेल के आयात में विविधता, तेल और गैस की घरेलू खोज में वृद्धि, क्लीन एनर्जी ट्रांजिशन और प्रधानमंत्री उज्ज्वला योजना शामिल हैं। उज्ज्वला के तहत 10.60 करोड़ गरीब परिवारों को ईंधन के रूप में सब्सिडी वाले एलपीजी सिलेंडर दिए जा चुके हैं। हरदीप पुरी ने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के नेतृत्व में, भारत एक ऐसा भविष्य बना रहा है जहां ऊर्जा सुरक्षित, सस्ती और टिकाऊ होगी।

# દિવાળીના તહેવારોમાં આ માર્ગ પર વાહન વ્યવહારનું પ્રમાણ ત્રણ ગણુ થઈ જાય છે ભાવનગર-અમદાવાદ હાઈવે પર કેરીયાના ઢાળથી કરદેજ વચ્ચે CNG પંપ આવશ્યક વરતેજ રેલ્વે ફાટક પાસે સી.એન.જી.પંપ પછી 60 કિ.મી. સુધી હાઈવે પર સુવિધા નથી


**ભાવનગર**
**ભાસ્કર ન્યૂઝ | ભાવનગર**

સતત ધમધમતા રહેતા ભાવનગર-અમદાવાદ હાઈવે પરથી ચોવીસ કલાક દરમિયાન અસંખ્ય વાહનો પસાર થતા હોય છે. હાલમાં ડીઝલ અને પેટ્રોલના વાહનોને બદલે સી.એન.જી. આધારીત વાહનોની ડીમાન્ડ વધુ રહે છે અને ભાવનગરના વરતેજ રેલ્વે ફાટક પછી આવતા સી.એન.જી.પંપ પછી અને કેરીયાના ઢાળ સુધીના આશરે

60 કિ.મી. સુધીના હાઈવે ઉપર આ સુવિધા ઉપલબ્ધ નથી.

અજાણ્યા ગેસ વાહન ચાલકોને આગળ પંપ હશે તેવી ધારણા સાથે આગળ જતાં હોય છે પરંતુ 60 કિ.મી.સુધી એકપણ પંપને ઘણી અધ વચ્ચે વાહન અટકી જતું હોય છે અથવા તો વલભીપુરથી ચાર કિ.મી.દુર અમરેલી હાઈવે પર આવેલ ઓફ લાઈન પંપ સુધી લાંબા થવું પડે છે. દિવાળીના તહેવારોને લઈ વાહનોની અવર જવર મોટા પ્રમાણમાં રહેતી હોય છે અંતરીયાળ ગામડાઓમાંથી વલભીપુર-અમરેલી

**વાહનોની સંખ્યા પ્રમાણે જિલ્લામાં પંપો અપુરતા**

ભાવનગર શહેર અને 9 તાલુકામાં ગુજરાત ગેસ કંપનીનાં 30 જેટલા સી.એન.જી.પંપ આવેલા છે. જે હાલમાં વાહનોની સંખ્યા પ્રમાણે પંપોની સંખ્યા ઘણી ઓછી કહી શકાય વધુમાં વલભીપુર તાલુકાના પૂર્વ દિશાના ગામડાઓમાંથી સી.એન.જી.ગેસની લાઈન પણ પસાર થાય છે અને મોટીધરાઈ, રતનપર ગામે જંકશન પોઈન્ટ મુકાયા હોવાથી ઓનલાઈન પંપની સુવિધા મળી શકે તેમ છે.

હાઈવે પર રામપર ગામ નજીક આવેલ સી.એન.જી.પંપ સુધી જવું પડે અથવા પાણવી, પાટણા ગામની આસપાસના ગામડાઓમાં આવતા લોકોને બરવાળા સુધી ગેસ ભરાવવા માટે જવું ફરજિયાત થઈ પડે છે. અને

પંપની સંખ્યા મર્યાદીત હોવાથી સી.એન.જી. પંપ ઉપર વાહનોની કતાર જામે છે. કેરીયાના ઢાળથી ભાવનગર સુધી 60 કી.મી. હાઈવે પર ઓછામાં ઓછા બે અથવા ત્રણ સી.એન.જી. પંપ હોવા જરૂરી છે.

**CNG pump required between Keriya slope and Kardej on Bhavnagar-Ahmedabad highway**

**There is no facility on the highway for 60 km after the CNG pump near Vartej Railway Gate.**