

‘Special’ system for oil sale to India: Russia

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NEW DELHI

Russia's oil supplies to India will continue at the pre-US tariff hike levels under a "very special mechanism" for crude trade despite the US's pressure, officials at the country's embassy said in a media address on Wednesday, terming Washington's moves as "unjustified".

Russian supply comprises near 40% of India's oil imports.

"Despite the political situation, we can predict the same level of oil import (by India)," said Roman Babushkin, the charge d'affaires at the Russian embassy in India.

Russia's deputy trade representative, Evgeniy Griva, said: "There is some mechanism on how to supply crude oil (to India). Now we can't discuss it... there's a very special mechanism," Griva said, adding that Russia typically offers about 5% discount to India.

Tuesday, US treasury secretary Scott Bessent, in an interview, accused India of 'profiteering' from cheap Russian oil buys amid the war in Ukraine.

The US has levied a 25% tariff on Indian shipments and announced another 25% from 27 August due to the country's Russian oil imports.

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DIP IN PRODUCTION OF COAL, OIL & GAS

Core sector growth slows to 2% in July

FE BUREAU

New Delhi, August 20

INDIA'S CORE SECTOR output growth slowed to 2% in July 2025 from 6.3% in the year-ago month and a revised number of 2.2% in June 2025 as the energy sector constituents of the relevant index of eight core industries witnessed a contraction.

The output of the coal sector fell 12.3% on year while natural gas saw a decline of 3.2%. The refinery products that have the highest weight of 28.04% in the index were down 1.0% and crude oil fell 1.3%.

The support to the core sector index came from steel, cement, electricity and fertilisers. The steel sector output was up 12.8% while the cement sector grew 11.7%. The fertiliser sector was up 2% and electricity 0.5%.

"The core sector data for July is once again dualistic with the infra based industries doing very well while the energy segments registered low to negative growth rates. We still need to see a major pick-up in private investment in the infra space as it is the government which has been dominating the

ENERGY DRAG



■ The support to the core sector index came from steel, cement, electricity and fertilisers

■ The negative growth for crude oil, gas and refinery products was due to lower demand and stable global crude oil prices

■ Overall, given the trends in core output, ICRA expects the IIP growth to print at 1.5-2.5% in July 2025, chief economist at ICRA Aditi Nayar said

push," chief economist at Bank of Baroda Madan Sabnavis said.

"The high light has been double digit growth in steel at 12.8% (7% last year) and cement at 11.7% (5.1% last year). Clearly, there has been good traction in infra activity driven largely by the government with the capex being on target. This has enabled demand for both these products. Higher cement growth has also been driven by the housing sec-

tor that has been supported also by declining interest rates," he added.

The negative growth for crude oil, gas and refinery products was due to lower demand and stable global crude oil prices. Electricity growth of 0.5% is due to a combination of high base effect as well as lower demand for power. This also got reflected in -12.3% growth (fall) in coal production. Here

too the base effect was there.

The eight core industries comprise 40.27% of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP).

Overall, given the trends in core output, ICRA expects the IIP growth to print at 1.5-2.5% in July 2025, chief economist at ICRA Aditi Nayar said. The core sector growth for June was revised upward to 2.2% from 1.7% reported earlier.

Core sector growth slows to 2% in July as fossil fuels contract

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Growth in industrial activity in India's eight core industries slowed to 2% in July 2025, dragged down by contractions in the fossil fuel categories, according to data released on Wednesday. Steel and cement sectors, however, witnessed double-digit growth.

The Index of Eight Core Industries, released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, shows that activity in July 2025 is relatively significantly slower than the 6.3% growth seen in July last year. The Index grew by 2.2% in June 2025.

Within the Index, the coal sector saw the largest contraction, of 12.3%, in July 2025. This is the second



The coal sector saw the largest contraction, of 12.3%, in July 2025. GETTY IMAGES

consecutive month of contraction for the sector, and its worst performance in at least five years.

The natural gas sector contracted 3.2% in July 2025, its thirteenth consecutive month of contraction. Similarly, the crude oil sector also contracted, by 1.3%, for the fourteenth month out of the last 15.

Gasification Tech a Mismatch for India's High Ash Content Coal: Niti

Govt think tank calls for tech fitment as India sets 100 mt target by 2030 with ₹4 lakh crore investment

Yogima Seth

New Delhi: The Niti Aayog has flagged the issue of incompatible gasification technology for the high ash content coal available in India, saying the on-ground progress on coal gasification has been limited despite issuance of letters of award.

The government's think tank will soon hold discussions with stakeholder ministries as well as domestic and international experts to select the technology best suited for gasification of Indian coal to support commercial scale and viable deployment.

NITI Aayog member VK Saraswat has written to coal secretary Vikram Dev Dutt, highlighting the challenges being faced by the public and the private sector in coal gasification and seeking the views of the coal ministry to firm up the roadmap. ET has seen a copy of the letter.

The government has set a target to gasify 100 mt coal by 2030 with a proposed investment of about ₹4 lakh crore. In 2024, it launched the ₹8,500 crore viability gap funding scheme to support coal and lignite gasification projects. Following this, it issued letters of award to companies including Bharat Coal Gasification and Chemicals, Coal India, Jindal Steel and Power, New Era Cleantech Solutions and Greta Energy.



"Not much progress has taken place so far in terms of actual on-ground deployment of the project majorly due to selection for right coal gasification technologies and robust business models around it," the letter said.

The Aayog is of the view that it is essential to match gasification technology design to feedstock properties for stable operations, energy efficiency and economic viability.

Indian coal has high ash content, ranging from 30-45% and a high alumina-silica composition owing to which many global technologies available are unsuitable for gasification of Indian coal without adaptation.

Coal gasification is expected to help India achieve energy security and self-reliance, reducing dependence on imports of natural gas, methanol, ammonium nitrate and other products.

Coal gasification technology enables conversion of coal into synthetic gas, which can be used to produce downstream products such as methanol, ammonium nitrate, synthetic natural gas and fertilizers.

13th Round of Coal Block Auction Kicks Off Today

New Delhi: The government will launch the 13th round of commercial mines auction on Thursday.

The development assumes significance as the government seeks to ramp up coal production and ensure a sufficient supply of the dry fuel to meet the growing energy demand of the country.

"The ministry of coal is set to launch the 13th round of commercial coal mine auctions on August 21, 2025, in New Delhi," the coal ministry said in a statement. The upcoming round will continue to offer mines with the most liberal terms, promoting ease of doing business and attracting investments from a diverse set of stakeholders.

The Union Minister of Coal and Mines G Kishan Reddy will be the Chief Guest of the launch event.

"This event will mark another significant step towards enhancing transparency, competition, and self-reliance in India's coal sector. The commercial coal mine auction process, which has witnessed robust participation from both established and new industry players in every round, aims to accelerate coal production and ensure adequate supply for the nation's growing energy demand," it said. — PTI

Govt eyes isobutanol blending with diesel for cleaner fuel

Subhash Narayan
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NEW DELHI

In a first, the Centre is considering a plan to introduce new-generation vehicles with flex-fuel engines that run on various combinations of diesel and isobutanol, a biofuel derived from ethanol, two people aware of the matter said.

The new diesel engines would operate on the same principle as flex-fuel engines that use varying blends of petrol and ethanol and may even be able to run entirely on isobutanol.

Several automakers are expected to launch two-wheelers, three-wheelers and small commercial vehicles based on these flex-fuel engines, which can use one or more fuel types and are said to reduce consumption of fossil fuels and cut carbon emissions.

The ministry of road transport and highways has asked the Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) to study whether vehicles can run on diesel blended with isobutanol.

The study will initially test the feasibility of 10% isobutanol-blended diesel, the first person said. Subsequently, ARAI will assess the development of diesel-based flex-fuel engines that can use as much as 100% isobutanol as fuel.

The government's plan to use isobutanol comes amid a row over the higher blending of ethanol (20%) in petrol (E20) impacting fuel mileage and long-term engine wear, indi-



The new diesel engines would work like flex-fuel engines and could even run fully on isobutanol.

MINT

The ministry has asked ARAI to study 10% blended fuel use in various diesel vehicles

rectly contributing to higher-than-stated levels of pollution. However, the Centre has defended the sale of E20 petrol, saying it cuts emissions and lowers oil imports. The idea now is to extend the concept of blending to help reduce emissions from a larger number of vehicles in the country that use diesel. Any effort to reduce diesel consumption would also

help cut substantially the country's multi-billion-dollar fuel import bill.

Consumption of diesel in India stood at over 91 million tonnes (mt) in FY25, while that of petrol was about 40

mt, according to data from the ministry of petroleum and natural gas. India paid \$137 billion to import 234 mt of crude oil to meet more than 80% of its oil needs.

Isobutanol is a biofuel derived from ethanol by fermentation. It has a higher energy density and is less corrosive than ethanol, making it suitable for blending with die-

sel.

"However, isobutanol's availability is less and cost of production is somewhat higher than ethanol, therefore there has been slow progress in its adoption. If there is a policy roadmap to support isobutanol production, it will pick up significantly," Sanjukta Subudhi, associate director and senior fellow, microbial biofuels and bio-chemicals, TERI Centre of Excellence on Bio-chemicals, said.

The ministry has asked ARAI to study the use of 10% blended fuel in different categories of vehicles that run on diesel. Successful completion of these tests will help the use of isobutanol-blended diesel in existing vehicles. In the second stage, isobutanol will be tested on specially designed diesel engines or flex-fuel engines to see whether various combinations of the ethanol derivative, including 100% isobutanol, can help run vehicles and make India among the first few countries to achieve this feat, the second person said.

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India can match oil-producing nations with cheap hydrogen, says Nitin Gadkari

MPOST BUREAU

NEW DELHI: Road Transport and Highways minister Nitin Gadkari on Wednesday said India can transform from being an energy importer to a global exporter if it can cut the cost of hydrogen production to one dollar per kilogramme.

Delivering the 24th Darbari Seth Memorial Lecture at The Energy and Resources Institute, the minister said that at present, hydrogen costs about USD 5-6 per kg, making it expensive compared to conventional fuels.

"If we succeed in bringing it down to USD 1 per kg, India will be in a position similar to today's oil-producing countries," Gadkari said while stressing that hydrogen would play a decisive role in shaping the energy future.

The minister said the biggest hurdle lies in setting up hydrogen filling stations and



Union Road Transport and Highways minister Nitin Gadkari addresses the '24th Darbari Seth Memorial Lecture' event, in New Delhi, on Wednesday

developing systems to transport the fuel.

"These areas need urgent and extensive work," he said.

Explaining the potential of using waste for energy, Gadkari said municipal solid waste could be a game-changer.

"If we segregate waste, extract organic matter and feed it into biodigesters, it produces methane. Instead of converting methane into CNG, if we use it to produce green hydrogen, the country's municipal

waste alone could generate very cheap hydrogen," he said.

He predicted that in the years ahead, disputes may even arise over waste as it will become a valuable resource.

"If technology works in our favour, this transformation will happen. Hydrogen is the fuel of the future," he said.

Gadkari said the key to large-scale investment lies in economic viability.

"If the internal rate of return is strong, investment will never

be a problem. What we need is proven technology, raw material availability and a market for the final product. Without cost-effectiveness, new technology won't be useful," he said.

Gadkari said hydrogen will replace fossil fuels.

"It would not only be critical for transport but also find applications in pharmaceuticals, chemicals and steel. Trains will run on it, airplanes will fly on it and dependence on fossil fuels will end," he said.

Highlighting India's rise in the global automobile market, the minister said the country recently moved up from the seventh to the third position, overtaking Japan. "The American automobile industry is worth Rs 78 lakh crore, China's Rs 49 lakh crore and India's Rs 22 lakh crore. A few days ago, the global chairman of Mercedes told me they will manufacture electric Mercedes cars in India," he added.

‘India must domestically produce 50% of oil and gas’

NEW DELHI: Vedanta Chairman Anil Agarwal has emphasized the need for India to harness all available energy sources—renewables, coal, and oil & gas—to meet the country’s rapidly growing energy demand. He said that while India has achieved significant milestones in renewables and coal production, there remains untapped potential in oil & gas, which must be harnessed to ensure long-term energy security.

Sharing his views on social media, Agarwal stressed: “For India’s energy security, at least 50% of oil & gas must be produced within the country,” noting that self-reliance in energy is crucial as global consumption continues to rise.

Encouraging young entrepreneurs to play a leading role in this transformation, he added, “This is the work of our youth. They should be encour-

While India has achieved significant milestones in renewables and coal production, there remains untapped potential in oil & gas, says Vedanta Chairman Anil Agarwal

aged with easier compliance and genuine ease of doing business. If we empower them, India will not just achieve energy independence but will emerge as a global superpower.”

Agarwal’s remarks highlight India’s strategy of balancing sustainability with energy security, ensuring growth while reducing dependence on imports.

MPPOST

India's Traditional Suppliers Hold Ground Despite Greater Mix of Discounted Crude

Imports from Iraq and Saudi are down just 5% since 2021, while UAE supplies up 3%

Sanjeev Choudhary

New Delhi: Russia's surge in India's oil market has redrawn trade patterns but left the country's biggest suppliers — Iraq, Saudi Arabia and the UAE — largely unscathed, while squeezing out smaller players, trade data shows.

Supplies from Iraq and Saudi are down barely 5% since 2021, the year before the Ukraine war began, while those from the UAE are up 3%, according to energy cargo tracker Vortexa.

In contrast, imports from smaller or distant suppliers have been

hit. Supplies from the US are down by a third, while those from Nigeria and Kuwait have halved. Shipments from Oman and Mexico have fallen more than 80%.

In 2021, Russia supplied just about 100,000 barrels a day (b/d) of India's four million b/d imports, far behind Iraq, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, the US, Nigeria, Kuwait and others, Vortexa data show.

As the war disrupted global trade routes, Russian crude began flooding into India. By 2022, it had become India's third-largest supplier behind Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

A year later, Russia overtook both, supplying 1.76 million b/d — more than the combined shipments from Saudi and Iraq. In 2025, Russia continues to top the chart, averaging about 1.7 million b/d.

Even so, India's traditional Middle East suppliers have been



resilient. In 2025, Iraq's supplies have averaged 898,000 b/d, Saudi Arabia's 640,000 b/d, and the UAE's 448,000 b/d. Compared with 2021, volumes from Iraq and Saudi are down barely 5%, while those from the UAE are up 3%.

Russian oil, bought mostly on the spot market at a discount, mainly displaced costlier or more distant cargoes from Africa and the Americas.

In 2025, US supplies have avera-

ged 271,000 b/d, Nigeria 151,000 b/d, Kuwait 131,000 b/d, Oman 20,000 b/d and Mexico 24,000 b/d. Flows from Colombia, Ecuador, Gabon and Congo have also declined.

Executives say Indian refiners consider term contracts with major Middle East producers vital for energy security. These contracts were largely retained, with refiners trimming only optional cargoes.

Some suppliers, particularly Iraq, offered competitive terms to defend market share as Russian oil surged, they said.

Now, as India looks to partly scale back Russian purchases under mounting US pressure, those sidelined suppliers may regain relevance, executives said.

With the global market oversupplied and prices under strain, refiners are likely to again pick up barrels that offer the most competitive terms, reshaping India's crude basket once more.

IOC, BPCL resume buying Russian oil for Sept



New Delhi: Indian Oil and Bharat Petroleum have bought Russian oil for September and October delivery, resuming purchases after discounts widened, two company officials said. They had halted purchases in July due to narrower discounts and after India was criticised by US for its purchases of Russian oil. REUTERS

. AFFAIRS MINISTER IN MOSCOW

Jaishankar, Russian Dy PM Push LNG, Trade Links

Foreign ministers to discuss geopolitics, transport, logistics, and banking today

Dipanjan Roy Chaudhury

New Delhi: External affairs minister S Jaishankar and Russia's first deputy prime minister Denis Manturov on Wednesday co-chaired the 26th session of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC) with the aim of boosting trade, investment, and energy partnership including LNG exports by Russia and the rupee-rouble mechanism.

The issue of US tariffs and its fallout on India, and global trade dynamics are also understood to have been discussed. **Talks are ongoing for expansion of the Rupee-Ruble mechanism.**

Russia sees potential to export liquefied natural gas (LNG) to India, news agency RIA quoted Manturov as saying. He also said, according to RIA, that Moscow was counting on expanding nuclear energy cooperation with New Delhi. Rosatom so far remains the only foreign partner to build a nuclear power plant in India, and it is currently engaged in setting up small modular reactors.

On Thursday, Jaishankar will meet his Russian counterpart Sergey Lavrov. Ahead of the meeting, Russia's foreign ministry said the meeting's agenda will focus on facilitat-



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar welcomed by Russia's First Deputy PM Denis Manturov in Moscow on Wednesday—PTI

India and Russia also decide for early conclusion of 'India, Eurasian Economic Union' FTA

ting the emergence of transport, logistics, banking and financial links and chains "that would be immune to any adverse pressures from unfriendly countries, while also increasing the use of national currencies in their mutual settlements".

Expanding cooperation in transport, energy, agriculture, science and technology will also be on the meeting's agenda, according to the Russian foreign ministry.

The two foreign ministers will also coordinate their positions on the latest international developments, paying special attention to

interactions within the United Nations, BRICS, the SCO, and the Group of Twenty. This will be Jaishankar's third meeting with Lavrov since June.

Looking to expand bilateral industrial cooperation, the two sides are also exploring joint projects in strategic sectors, including civil aircraft manufacturing, metallurgy, and the chemical industry.

India and Russia are also exploring collaboration for a modernised wind tunnel facility, production of small aircraft piston engines, and joint development in carbon fibre technology, additive manufacturing, and 3D printing, rare earth and critical minerals extraction, underground coal gasification, and creation of modern industrial infrastructure.



Key infra sectors' growth slumps to 2%

NEW DELHI, AUGUST 20

Eight infrastructure sectors' growth fell to a two-month low of 2 per cent in July due to a dip in the production of coal, crude oil, natural gas and refinery products.

According to official data released on Wednesday, the output of these sectors had risen by 6.3 per cent in July last year. The production growth was 2.2 per cent in June.

Commenting on the data, an ICRA official, said, "Given the trends in core output, the IIP (index of industrial production) growth is expected to print at 1.5-2.5 per cent in July." — PTI

Nayara Energy Turns to Dark Fleet, Russian Oil for Survival

EU blacklist drives Indian refiner deeper into shadowy zone to keep fuel flowing

Bloomberg

One month after being hit by European Union sanctions, India's Nayara Energy Ltd. is relying on a growing pool of dark-fleet tankers to transport its products, and a narrowing menu of crude imports to keep its operations running.

The oil refiner's struggle for survival has come to the attention of India's government, which is concerned about disruptions to oil flows that could jeopardise national energy security, according to people familiar with the matter. New Delhi has approved at least one coastal tanker in recent days to help the company move cargoes domestically, they said.

The refiner, part-owned by Russian oil major Rosneft PJSC, is an important pillar of the Indian market. Its 400,000 barrels-a-day processing plant accounts for 8% of the country's refining, and the company operates 7% of its fuel stations. It's been forced to reduce run rates after being spurned by trade partners following the EU's measures targeting Moscow's oil revenues.

Some of the tankers already greenlit by the government to supply Nayara with oil, and transport its refined products, include sanctioned vessels. One such dark-fleet ship, the Leruo, has made at least three domestic runs for Nayara after getting the go-ahead from New Delhi, according to a shipowner, who declined to be named discussing sensitive information, and ship-tracking data.

The medium-range tanker was blacklisted by the EU on July 18, part of a broad sanctions packa-



ge targeting Russian oil exports that also penalized Nayara. Leruo's owner is listed as Key Marvel Ltd. on S&P Global Inc.'s maritime database, although no contact details were included.

Long-range tanker Next, another EU-sanctioned vessel that's also blacklisted by the UK, is due to arrive at Nayara's Vadinar terminal on Wednesday to pick up a cargo of diesel, according to a port agent's report and ship-tracking data. The database lists Istanbul-based Next Maritime & Trading Ltd. as its owner, again with no email or phone number.

Such vessels are filling the gap left by local shipowners that have stopped doing business with Nayara. They've been forced to cut ties to protect their dealings with European ports and insurers. Ships that are covered by Russian or Iranian insurance — and which have been approved by New Delhi — are eligible to service Nayara.

Nayara has more than 1.2 million barrels of refined products on four sanctioned vessels idling off Vadinar, according to ship-

ping data.

The company didn't immediately respond to a request for comment. In a statement last week, it said it remains committed to transporting its products via coastal, rail and road networks in order to efficiently serve its Indian customers.

Tempest Dream, a tanker that recently made a ship-to-ship transfer of gasoline produced by Nayara, has returned to Vadinar to receive more product, according to ship-tracking data. The vessel that took the cargo, Wu Tai, has yet to discharge the shipment, the data show.

Nayara has only taken Urals oil from Russia as feedstock since late July. The refiner is expected to receive

two cargoes of Urals this week, totaling about 1.4 million barrels, on two Aframax tankers, the Mars 6 and Tiger 6, according to a shipowner, who declined to be named, port agent reports and ship-tracking data.

Another Greek-owned supertanker, Evgenia I, which was supposed to deliver Middle Eastern crude to Nayara last week, is still ballasting in the Persian Gulf.

Keeping up Russian crude supplies to Nayara isn't a problem, Evgeny Griva, Moscow's deputy trade representative in India, said at a briefing in New Delhi on Wednesday. More broadly, the country's imports of Russian oil are expected to continue at current levels, despite the geopolitical situation, given the lack of alternatives, he said.

"There are special mechanisms to get around sanctions and tariffs," Griva said.

Nayara turning to dark fleet and Russian oil for survival

Bloomberg

One month after being hit by European Union (EU) sanctions, India's Nayara Energy is relying on a growing pool of dark-fleet tankers to transport its products, and a narrowing menu of crude imports to keep its operations running.

The oil refiner's struggle for survival has come to the attention of India's government, which is concerned about disruptions to oil flows that could jeopardise national energy security, according to sources.

New Delhi has approved at least one coastal tanker in recent days to help the company move cargoes domestically, they said.

IMPORTANT PILLAR

The refiner, part-owned by Russian oil major Rosneft, is an important pillar of the Indian market.

Its 4,00,000 barrels-a-day processing plant accounts for 8 per cent of the country's refining, and the company operates 7 per cent of its fuel stations. It's been forced to reduce run rates after being spurned by trade partners following the EU's measures targeting Moscow's oil revenues. Some of the tankers already green-lit by the government to supply Nayara with oil and transport its refined products, in-



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TANKER BLACKLISTED

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VESSELS SANCTIONED

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Nayara turns to dark fleet, Russian oil

WEILUN SOON, RAKESH SHARMA
& MIHIR MISHRA
August 20

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Provide financial support to oil firms for storage: House panel

ARUNIMA BHARADWAJ
New Delhi, August 20

THE STANDING COMMITTEE on petroleum and natural gas has urged the oil ministry to provide funds to state-run oil companies for creation of storage caverns near their refineries and also to look at various options to increase the strategic storage capacity in line with the rising domestic demand.

Currently, the country has 5.33 MT of crude oil storage capacity at three different locations — Vishakhapatnam (1.33

India has 5.33 MT of crude oil storage capacity at three different locations

MT), Mangalore (1.5 MT) and Padur (2.5 MT) — built under phase I of strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) program.

“The committee are of the view that the existing refinery projects and the recently commissioned refineries may be asked to set up strategic storage capacity with a smaller capacity like 2 to 3 days at 5 to 6 locations

which can bring up 15 to 20 days additional capacity in a definite time frame,” it said.

Presently, the SPR and the commercial oil stocks held by refiners cumulatively account for 72-74 days of crude inventory, as per analysts, lower than the International Energy Agency recommended 90 days inventory.

While standalone strategic storage caverns at different locations also helps, capacities near the existing refinery may encourage the oil PSUs to establish and maintain them.

JAISHANKAR IN RUSSIA

Russia assures continued oil and LNG supplies to India

MPOST BUREAU

MOSCOW/NEW DELHI:

Moscow on Wednesday reaffirmed its commitment to supplying energy resources to India, with officials underlining crude oil, coal and future LNG exports as core areas of cooperation.

“We continue to ship fuel, including crude oil and oil products, thermal and coking coal. We see potential for exporting Russian LNG,” said Russia’s First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov. He



made the remarks while co-chairing the 26th session of the India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific-Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC) with India’s External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.

Jaishankar, who arrived in Russia on Tuesday for a three-day visit, said the deliberations covered a wide spectrum of issues. “We had detailed discussions on our cooperation in a wide-ranging arena **Continued on P4**

Russia assures

including trade & economic sector, agriculture, energy, industries, skilling, mobility, education and culture," he posted on social media. He added that the outcomes would feed into preparations for the Annual Leaders Summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Vladimir Putin later this year.

Manturov highlighted that the majority of bilateral trade payments have already moved away from the dollar. "We have managed to transfer more than 90 per cent of payments between Russia and India to national currencies," he said, adding that further steps would be taken to boost cooperation in banking and insurance sectors. Energy remained a focal point of discussions. Manturov said Moscow was keen to expand cooperation in the peaceful nuclear sector, drawing from "the successful experience of the Kudankulam NPP construction project."

Following the session, both sides signed a protocol of the meeting, with details expected to be released jointly by New Delhi and Moscow. Amid pressure from Washington, Russia assured India that energy flows would remain uninterrupted. Deputy Trade Representative of Russia to India, Evgeniy Griva, said in New Delhi that oil shipments would continue with a negotiable discount. "There will be a 5 per cent discount,

subject to negotiation, on Russian crude oil purchases to India," he noted, stressing that pricing remained a matter of "business-to-business dialogue."

Russian Deputy Chief of Mission Roman Babushkin echoed the view, saying, "It is a challenging situation for India, but we have trust in our ties. We are confident that India-Russia energy cooperation will continue notwithstanding the external pressure."

During his Moscow visit, Jaisankar paid homage at the Tomb of Unknown Soldier at the Kremlin Wall and held interactions with Russian policy experts. On Thursday, he is scheduled to meet Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov to discuss current global issues and set the agenda for the upcoming Modi-Putin meeting at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit in China later this month.

Russia expects India to keep buying its oil

Russia expects to continue supplying oil to India despite warnings from the United States, Russian embassy officials in New Delhi said on Wednesday, adding that Moscow hopes trilateral talks will soon take place with India and China.

“I want to highlight that despite the political situation, we can predict that the same level of oil import (by India),” Roman Babushkin, the charge d’affaires at the Russian embassy in India, told a press briefing.

He predicted India and Russia would find ways to overcome Trump's latest tariffs in their “national interests”.

Putin to visit India this year

Russia President Vladimir Putin will meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi by the end of this year, according to an official of the Russian embassy in India on Wednesday.

Roman Babushkin, said that PM Modi and Putin will also hold a bilateral meeting on sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit in Tianjin scheduled at the end of this month.

REUTERS

DISCOUNTED RUSSIAN CRUDE DISPLACES COSTLIER AFRICAN AND AMERICAN BARRELS

Russia Redraws India's Oil Map, But Middle East Holds Ground

Iraq, Saudi and UAE stay resilient with term contracts and competitive pricing

Sanjeev Choudhary

New Delhi: Russia's surge in India's oil market has redrawn trade patterns but left the country's biggest suppliers — Iraq, Saudi Arabia and the UAE — largely unscathed, while squeezing out smaller players, trade data shows.

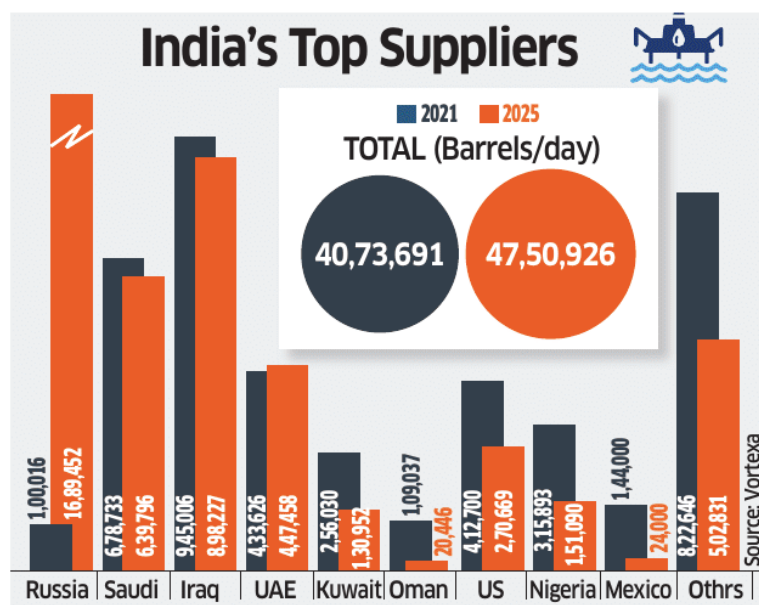
Supplies from Iraq and Saudi are down barely 5% since 2021, the year before the Ukraine war began, while those from the UAE are up 3%, according to energy cargo tracker Vortexa.

In contrast, imports from smaller or distant suppliers have been hit. Supplies from the US are down by a third, while those from Nigeria and Kuwait have halved. Shipments from Oman and Mexico have fallen more than 80%.

In 2021, Russia supplied just about 100,000 barrels a day (b/d) of India's four million b/d imports, far behind Iraq, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, the US, Nigeria, Kuwait and others, Vortexa data show.

As the war disrupted global trade routes, Russian crude began flooding into India. By 2022, it had become India's third-largest supplier behind Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

A year later, Russia overtook both, supplying 1.76 million b/d — more than the combined shipments from Saudi



and Iraq. In 2025, Russia continues to top the chart, averaging about 1.7 million b/d.

Even so, India's traditional Middle East suppliers have been resilient. In 2025, Iraq's supplies have averaged 898,000 b/d, Saudi Arabia's 640,000 b/d, and the UAE's 448,000 b/d. Compared with 2021, volumes from Iraq and Saudi are down barely 5%, while those from the UAE are up 3%.

Russian oil, bought mostly on the spot market at a discount, mainly displaced costlier or more distant cargoes from Africa and the Americas.

In 2025, US supplies have averaged 271,000 b/d, Nigeria 151,000 b/d, Kuwait 131,000 b/d,

Oman 20,000 b/d and Mexico 24,000 b/d. Flows from Colombia, Ecuador, Gabon and Congo have also declined.

Executives say Indian refiners consider term contracts with major Middle East producers vital for energy security. These contracts were largely retained, with refiners trimming only optional cargoes.

Some suppliers, particularly Iraq, offered competitive terms to defend market share as Russian oil surged, they said.

Now, as India looks to partly scale back Russian purchases under mounting US pressure, those sidelined suppliers may regain relevance, executives said.

Russia states oil trade with India won't be hit

Rezaul H Laskar

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NEW DELHI: Russia on Wednesday dismissed concerns about sanctions and tariffs imposed by the US and European Union (EU) hitting oil supplies to India, with senior Russian officials saying Moscow has a "very special mechanism" to get around punitive measures imposed by the Donald Trump administration to curb energy trade.

Russia also remains a "partner of choice" for India in defence, and hostilities between India and Pakistan in May served as a "very successful battle test" for Russian weaponry such as the S-400 air defence system, chargé d'affaires Roman Babushkin told a media briefing. He confirmed that President Vladimir Putin will travel to India later this year for an annual summit though dates are yet to be finalised.

continued on →15

What Russian officials said

ON TARIFFS' EFFECT ON CRUDE OIL IMPORTS

We can predict the level of crude oil imports would be approximately the same.



ON MECHANISM TO SUPPLY OIL

Definitely, there are some mechanisms to supply crude oil. We can't discuss it...it's really a very special mechanism.

—Evgeny Griva, Russia's deputy trade commissioner

ON DEFENCE ENGAGEMENT

We have expanded the programme...for co-production of sophisticated weapons...Op Sindoor was a very successful battle test for the Russian systems and S-400 was one of them.



ON INDIA-RUSSIA TRADE RELATIONS

This is not the first time our trade and economic relations [have been] threatened...our cooperation will continue.

—Roman Babushkin, Chargé d'affaires

RUSSIA ON OIL TRADE

India is the second largest buyer of Russian oil after China, and Moscow accounts for almost 40% of the country's energy supplies.

Purchases were significantly ramped up after the West slapped sanctions on Russia over the invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

The US is set to impose a 25% punitive tariff on Indian exports from August 28 over Russian oil purchases, which will be in addition to a 25% reciprocal tariff.

Babushkin and deputy trade commissioner Evgeny Griva, however, were confident that Russia would be able to circumvent pressure from the US and its Western allies over energy trade with India.

"Despite the political situation, we can predict that the level of crude oil imports would be approximately the same," Griva said. "Definitely, there are some mechanisms to supply crude oil. We can't discuss it because it's really a very special mechanism."

Babushkin added: "This is not the first time our trade and economic relations [have been] threatened by external factors. But each and every time, we have managed to succeed in finding ways to cooperate further based on our mutual national interests. We are quite certain that our cooperation will continue."

The officials said oil supplies to Vadinar refinery in Gujarat, jointly owned by Russian energy giant Rosneft and an investment consortium, hadn't been impacted after it was targeted under a EU sanctions package in July.

The Vadinar facility, in which Rosneft has a 49.13% stake, is India's second largest single-site refinery with an annual capacity of 20 million metric tonnes (MMT).

Russia has a mechanism to tackle shipping and insurance-related issues due to EU sanctions and crude is supplied directly to the refinery as it is a subsidiary of Rosneft, Griva said.

"The recent package of sanctions against Russia from the EU would not have much impact on Russian oil trade because we have been able to significantly reduce our dependence on services the EU

provides in recent years," Babushkin added.

The officials, however, acknowledged that a 5% swing is possible in oil import prices amid the Western tariffs and sanctions, though this will be subject to negotiation.

They also said that India and Russia were on track to achieve the target of driving bilateral trade to \$100 billion by the year 2030, thanks to a stable growth of about 10% annually.

Bilateral trade touched a record high of \$68.7 billion in 2024-25, though India's exports were worth only \$4.88 billion, and Babushkin said Russia is working to address the trade imbalance.

"We need to reduce the trade imbalance, which is currently about \$60 billion. We will remove barriers to trade, facilitate interaction within business circles and give a new push to alternative logistics corridors. And we will further develop our payments and transactions mechanisms," Babushkin said.

Against the backdrop of strident criticism of India's purchases of Russian weaponry and military hardware by US President Donald Trump and senior American officials, Babushkin said Russia remains the "partner of choice for India" in defence and pointed to the joint development of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile since 1998.

"We have dramatically expanded the programme of our joint engagements for co-production of various sophisticated weapons," he said.

"A Russian weapon is a natural choice for the Indian Army general. Operation Sindoor was a very successful battle test for the Russian systems and S-400 was one of them."

India used both the BrahMos missile and the S-400 air defence system during Operation Sindoor, launched on May 7 to target terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan in retaliation for the Pahalgam terror attack, and the subsequent four days of hostilities between the two countries. The Russian-origin Su-30 combat jet was also used during the hostilities to fire the

BrahMos missile, and a Pakistan surveillance aircraft was shot down at a distance of about 300 km by the S-400.

Babushkin said Russia is expected to be part of India's plans to create a new long-range air defence shield called Sudarshan Chakra, which was unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his Independence Day speech. The system, integrated with offensive weapons, is expected to be operational by 2035 to guard cities and vital infrastructure.

Babushkin noted that the S-400 is already part of India's air defence system and said: "We proceed from the understanding that when it comes to the advancement of these systems, Russian equipment will be part of it."

The Russian officials were speaking hours after external affairs minister (EAM) S Jaishankar arrived in Moscow on Tuesday for talks with his counterpart Sergey Lavrov and to co-chair a meeting of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC) with deputy prime minister Denis Manturov.

Babushkin said these engagements are part of preparations for Putin's planned visit later in the year for a summit with Modi.

Putin also dialled Modi twice in the past fortnight to brief him on developments in Ukraine and his summit with Trump in Alaska.

The two sides are working on a comprehensive agenda for the annual summit that will include trade, investments, energy cooperation, infrastructure and nuclear power, including small and modular reactors, he said.

Russia: Oil supply to go on, 'spl system' to deal with sanctions

'India's Imports Likely To Stay At Current Level'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: As external affairs minister S Jaishankar visited Moscow Wednesday for bilateral talks on trade and economic issues, Russian diplomats here defended energy ties with India and expressed confidence that both countries would handle chal-

► **Talks with Russia-led trade bloc for FTA, P 20**

lenges arising out of the US sanctions against India that they described as unjustified and extremely unfortunate.

Deputy chief of mission Roman Babushkin said India was likely to continue its oil import at the current level from Russia despite the political situation. He also underlined the significance of defen-

ce cooperation between the two countries, another bone of contention between India and the US, saying Russia has been a "partner of choice" for India's military imports.

"It is a challenging situation for India. We enjoy trust in our partnership with India and are committed to addressing challenges in our energy

ties," said Babushkin, adding Russia has a "special mechanism" to deal with any challenge on the sanction issue.

Bloomberg quoted the Russian deputy trade representative here as saying Russia sells oil to India at about a 5% discount.

► **'Sanctions hitting...', P 22**

Sanctions are hitting those who are imposing them: Babushkin

► **Continued from P 1**

The Russian embassy later said "regarding oil import prices amid tariffs, a 5% swing is possible subject to negotiation".

The Trump administration has imposed an additional 25% tariff on India to penalise it for oil purchase from Russia. The tariff comes into effect on Aug 27 and despite hopes of a peace agreement emerging from the Putin-Trump Alaska summit, India continues to be targeted by US officials for "profiteering" from Russian oil.

"Russia is the biggest supplier to India of crude oil and India's demands are growing. Certainly, this is a



"We are confident that India-Russia energy cooperation will continue notwithstanding the external pressure"

ROMAN BABUSHKIN
Deputy chief of Russian mission

perfect case of mutual accommodation and complementarity of our economies," said Babushkin.

Last week, US treasury secretary Scott Bessent warned that the Trump administration may increase secondary tariffs on India if it continues to procure Russian crude oil. This week, he accused Indian companies of profiteering from Rus-

sian oil trade.

"The sanctions are hitting those who are imposing them. We are confident that India-Russia energy cooperation will continue notwithstanding the external pressure," Babushkin said, accusing the West of behaving like neo-colonial powers.

"If hypothetically speaking, India refuses to procure Russian oil, it will not lead to

mutually beneficial cooperation with the West," the Russian diplomat said, adding bilateral trade is likely to reach \$100 billion by 2030.

Asked about American tariffs on Indian goods, he said the Russian market will welcome Indian exports. He also said the role of Brics as a stabilising force will increase amid the ongoing global turbulence. In terms of GDP, the size of the economy of Brics is about USD 77 trillion while it is USD 57 trillion for Group of Seven (G7) nations, he said, arguing that the Brics is emerging as a major economic power.

Jaishankar said an India-Russia summit would take place by the end of this year.

‘Unlawful’: Russia over US pressure on India over oil

‘Goods unable to enter US welcome in Russian market’

SRIDHAR KUMARASWAMI
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 20

Russian deputy chief of mission (DCM) and currently Charge d'affaires (CdA) in New Delhi Roman Babushkin has expressed confidence that India would not stop importing oil from Russia. "I don't expect that to happen," he told reporters at the Russian embassy in the capital on Wednesday. Terming Western sanctions as a "tool of unlawful competition" and as "double standards," the Russian CdA said Indian goods unable to enter American markets due to tariffs are "welcome in the Russian market".

He also mentioned the "successful" visit of Chinese foreign minister Wang Yi on Tuesday to New Delhi and felt the trilateral Russia-India-



Roman Babushkin

China (RIC) consultation mechanism could resume "earlier than later". The senior

Russian diplomat's comments have sparked speculation on whether Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Prime Minister Narendra Modi could hold a RIC meeting at the Chinese port city of Tianjin on the sidelines of the forthcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit there in the face of increased economic pressure and tariff threats by the Trump Administration in Washington.

At the briefing, Russian deputy trade commission-

er in New Delhi Evgeny Griva felt that there "is no alternative to Russian oil" for India as the Russian oil is very competitively priced and added that his country provides about 40 percent of the total oil imported by India. Mr Griva said that on an average, a five percent discount on Russian oil is offered to India and that this is very profitable for New Delhi.

The Russian Embassy later said that "regarding oil import prices amid (Western) tariffs, a five percent swing (discount) is possible subject to negotiation". "The sanctions are hitting those who are imposing them. We are confident that India-Russia energy cooperation will continue notwithstanding the external pressure," Mr Babushkin said.

US says Indian Refiners have Profiteered from Russia Oil

New Delhi: The US is targeting India over Russian oil because its refiners—including some owned by the country's richest families—ramped up purchases far faster than China after the war and booked \$16 billion in excess profits by buying discounted crude, processing it, and reselling it, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent has said.

“China importing is at sub-optimal. If you go back to pre-2022, pre-invasion (of Ukraine), 13% of China's oil was already coming from Russia. Now it's 16%... India had less than 1% of their oil coming from Russia. And now I believe it's 42%. India is just profiteering,” Bessent said in a TV interview—in what is likely the first US explanation of why China is being treated differently. “The system is allowing India to profiteer by buying cheap Russian oil, reselling it, and pocketing \$16B in excess profits. This...is unacceptable,” Bessent said on X.

He did not explain how the \$16 billion excess profit was calculated, but his reference to “some of the richest families in India” was seen as pointing to Mukesh Ambani-owned Reliance Industries, the country's biggest fuel exporter and a large importer of Russian crude.

Industry executives, however, said attributing refiners' profits in the past three years solely to Russian oil discounts would be misleading. On average, Russian crude has accounted for about a third of the total processed since the war began. Discounts that were as high as \$15 a barrel in the early months narrowed to \$7-8 in 2023 and about \$1.5 now. — **Our Bureau**

Vedanta Demerger Deadline at Risk as NCLT Defers Hearing

Proceedings pushed to Sept 17 after the petroleum ministry presents objections

Our Bureau

Mumbai: The Mumbai bench of National Company Law Tribunal has deferred the hearing for Vedanta to September 17, which could effectively see the company missing its deadline of September 30 for its proposed demerger. The hearing, which was underway on Wednesday, was deferred after the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas presented its objections in court.

In the hearing in July, the counsel for the Government of India, Ministry of Oil and Natural Gas had asked to make submission on the next occasion. Their objections included a potential impact on their ability to recover dues under existing production and revenue-sharing contracts associated with Vedanta's oil and gas operations.

"Vedanta has filed a detailed response to the Centre's representation," a spokesperson for the company said. "The Company has informed the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal that the Company will issue a corporate guarantee in favour of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas once the Scheme becomes effective," the person said.

This is in case Malco Energy is unable to meet or satisfy potential contractual liability, if any, towards the Ministry arising under the Production Sharing Contracts and Revenue Sharing



Contracts, the company said.

Vedanta, led by billionaire Anil Agarwal, had proposed splitting its operations into independent listed companies focusing on aluminium, base metals, iron and steel, oil and gas, and power generation.

Objections cited included a potential impact on the ministry's ability to recover dues from co's existing oil and gas contracts

The company believes that this move will unlock shareholder value.

Additionally, the demerger is also expected to allow each independent company to attract specialized investors, strategic partners, and lenders, fostering deeper collaborations and expansion without affecting the broader organization.

The board of Vedanta had approved the demerger in September 2023. The company has also received approvals from its secured and unsecured creditors and equity shareholders.

Will welcome Indian products if they can't enter US, says Russian diplomat

TRADE ASSURANCE. Moscow will continue oil supplies to India through special mechanism: Babushkin

Amiti Sen
New Delhi

Russia will welcome Indian exports if products face difficulties entering the US market, Roman Babushkin, Chargé d'Affaires of the Russian Embassy in India, said. Russian oil supplies to India are to continue despite the threat of sanctions, he added.

"If Indian goods face difficulty in entering the US market, Russia will welcome Indian imports to the most extent possible. Don't worry about that," Babushkin said at a media briefing on Wednesday.

Although bilateral trade between India and Russia rose to \$68.7 billion in FY25, the surge was driven mainly by increased purchases of oil from Russia. India's exports to Russia in FY25 stood at \$4.88 billion and the trade deficit was a staggering \$59 billion. India has thus been urging Russia to import more from the country and Babushkin's assurance on



"If Indian goods face difficulty in entering the US market, Russia will welcome Indian imports to the most extent possible."

ROMAN BABUSHKIN,
Chargé d'Affaires of the Russian Embassy in India



that front is a welcome move for the Indian industry.

He also said that the US sanctions on India were "unjustified and unilateral" reflecting a lack of trust and disrespect for national sovereignty. "Friends do not behave like this," he said.

TIMELY VISIT OF EAM

On Foreign Minister S Jaishankar's ongoing Moscow visit, the Chargé d'Affaires said it was very "timely".

"IRIGC (India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission) is the main mechanism of the Russian-Indian

practical co-operation. And to prepare the contacts of our leaders, which, as you may be aware, there is some information that by the end of the year, leaders will be meeting here in Delhi. No dates have been announced as yet," Babushkin said, referring to a possible meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Prime Minister Narendra Modi later this year.

NO HALT TO OIL IMPORT

Responding to questions on whether India will stop buying oil from Russia, Babushkin said that he did

not expect that to happen. India's oil imports from Russia are likely to stay at the same level, he said.

"Russia is the largest producer of oil and India the largest consumer. Any kind of unilateral action leads to disruptions in supply chain, imbalance in pricing policies and destabilisation of global markets, endangering the energy security of developing countries. Hypothetically, if India refuses Russian oil, it will not lead to equal co-operation with the West in general because it is not in the West's nature, which was clearly demonstrated in recent years. They behave like neo-colonial powers that think of their own benefit. This pressure is unjustified and unilateral," he said.

Moscow has a special mechanism to continue exporting oil to India, the Russian diplomat added. "There will be a 5 per cent discount, subject to negotiations, on India's Russian crude purchases," Russian Deputy Trade Representative to India, Evgeniy Griva, said.

Griva added, "As for discounts, it's a commercial secret. I think, because it's usually just a dialogue between businessmen and approximately usually 5 per cent. It's fluctuating, but usually it's plus-minus 5 per cent."

BILATERAL TRADE

Russia has been dealing with sanctions over the past years, despite which bilateral trade with India has grown several times, Babushkin said.

"We have seen this problem of sanctions for many years now, but our trade is growing. In recent years, our trade has grown by seven times," he added.

Even if there are some challenges, the two countries are committed to removing them. "We are able to sit together and remove the problem and minimise the impact. We are capable of finding any solution for mutual satisfaction. The deepening of our partnership will help us grow together," he said.

कच्चा तेल खरीदने को लेकर रूस के राजदूत रोमन बाबुशकिन ने कहा

अमेरिका का भारत पर दबाव डालना अनुचित

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो
नई दिल्ली, 20 अगस्त।

रूस के प्रभारी राजदूत रोमन बाबुशकिन ने बुधवार को कहा कि रूसी कच्चे तेल की खरीद के लिए भारत के खिलाफ अमेरिका की दंडात्मक कार्रवाई से उत्पन्न होने वाली किसी भी चुनौती का सामना करने के लिए रूस के पास एक विशेष तंत्र है। भारतीय वस्तुओं पर शुल्क को दोगुना करके 50 फीसद करने के अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप के फैसले के बाद भारत और अमेरिका के संबंध तनावपूर्ण हुए हैं।

बाबुशकिन ने संवाददाता सम्मेलन में कई महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों में नई दिल्ली के साथ अपने देश के संबंधों में तेजी से सुधार होने की उम्मीद जताई और कहा कि विभिन्न सैन्य साजोसामान व उपकरण की आवश्यकता के लिए रूस भारत का पसंदीदा साझेदार रहा है। उन्होंने रूसी तेल की खरीद बंद करने को लेकर भारत पर अमेरिका की ओर से निरंतर दबाव बनाए जाने को अनुचित बताया और कहा कि इस तरह का

बाबुशकिन ने संवाददाता सम्मेलन में कई महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों में नई दिल्ली के साथ अपने देश के संबंधों में तेजी से सुधार होने की उम्मीद जताई और कहा कि विभिन्न सैन्य साजोसामान व उपकरण की आवश्यकता के लिए रूस भारत का पसंदीदा साझेदार रहा है।



रूस ने कहा कि हम दोनों देशों के बीच ऊर्जा संबंधों में आने वाली चुनौतियों का समाधान करने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध हैं। उन्होंने विश्वास जताया कि भारत-रूस ऊर्जा सहयोग बढ़ता रहेगा। भारत यह कहता रहा है कि उसकी ऊर्जा खरीद राष्ट्रीय हित और बाजार की गतिशीलता से प्रेरित है।

दृष्टिकोण और प्रतिबंध वैश्विक आर्थिक स्थिरता व ऊर्जा सुरक्षा के लिए हानिकारक है।

बाबुशकिन ने कहा कि भारत के लिए यह एक चुनौतीपूर्ण स्थिति है। हमें भारत के साथ अपनी साझेदारी पर भरोसा है। हम दोनों देशों के बीच ऊर्जा संबंधों में आने वाली चुनौतियों का समाधान करने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध हैं। उन्होंने विश्वास जताया कि भारत-रूस ऊर्जा सहयोग बढ़ता रहेगा। पिछले हफ्ते, अमेरिकी वित्त मंत्री स्कॉट बेसेंट ने चेतावनी दी थी कि अगर

भारत रूसी कच्चे तेल की खरीद जारी रखता है, तो ट्रंप प्रशासन भारत पर शुल्क बढ़ा सकता है। अमेरिका ने रूस के साथ ऊर्जा संबंधों के कारण भारत पर 25 फीसद अतिरिक्त शुल्क लगाया है, लेकिन उसने रूसी कच्चे तेल के सबसे बड़े खरीदार चीन के खिलाफ ऐसी कोई कार्रवाई नहीं की है।

भारत रूसी कच्चे तेल की अपनी खरीद का बचाव करते हुए यह कहता रहा है कि उसकी ऊर्जा खरीद राष्ट्रीय हित और बाजार की गतिशीलता से प्रेरित है।

बाबुशकिन ने कहा कि प्रतिबंध का असर उन्हें लगाने वालों पर ही पड़ रहा है। हमें विश्वास है कि बाहरी दबाव के बावजूद भारत-रूस ऊर्जा सहयोग जारी रहेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि रूस भारत को कच्चे तेल का सबसे बड़ा आपूर्तिकर्ता है और भारत की मांग बढ़ रही है। निस्संदेह, यह हमारी अर्थव्यवस्थाओं के बीच आपसी सामंजस्य और पूरकता का एक आदर्श उदाहरण है।

बाबुशकिन ने कहा कि दोनों पक्ष 2030 तक द्विपक्षीय व्यापार को 100 अरब अमेरिकी डालर तक ले जाने के लिए प्रतिबद्ध हैं। भारतीय वस्तुओं पर अमेरिकी शुल्क के बारे में पूछे गए एक सवाल के जवाब में उन्होंने कहा कि रूसी बाजार भारतीय निर्यात का स्वागत करेगा। रूसी राजदूत ने कहा कि इस साल के अंत में राष्ट्रपति व्लादिमीर पुतिन की भारत यात्रा की तारीखें अभी तय नहीं हुई हैं। एक सवाल के जवाब में उन्होंने कहा कि मौजूदा वैश्विक उथल-पुथल के बीच एक स्थिर शक्ति के रूप में ब्रिक्स की भूमिका बढ़ेगी।



ऊर्जा आयातक से निर्यातक बन सकता है देश



नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय सड़क परिवहन एवं राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने बुधवार को कहा कि यदि देश में हाइड्रोजन बनाने की लागत को एक डॉलर प्रति किलोग्राम तक लाया जा सका, तो वह ऊर्जा आयातक से वैश्विक निर्यातक बन सकता है। केंद्रीय मंत्री ने कहा कि वर्तमान में हाइड्रोजन की लागत लगभग पांच से छह डॉलर प्रति किलोग्राम है, जो पारंपरिक ईंधनों की तुलना में काफी महंगी है।

कोर सेक्टर 2% बढ़ा, कूड उत्पादन 7वें माह गिरा

नई दिल्ली | देश के आठ प्रमुख उद्योगों (कोर सेक्टर) ने जुलाई 2025 में 2% की ग्रोथ दर्ज की। स्टील उत्पादन 12.8% बढ़कर शीर्ष पर रहा। सीमेंट उत्पादन 11.7% बढ़ा। वहीं कूड ऑयल उत्पादन 1.3% कम होकर सातवें महीने गिरा। कोयला उत्पादन में 12.3%, प्राकृतिक गैस में 3.2% और पेट्रोलियम रिफाइनरी प्रोडक्ट्स में 1% की कमी आई। उर्वरक में 2% और बिजली उत्पादन में 0.5% की बढ़त रही।

देश सस्ता हाइड्रोजन बनाकर तेल उत्पादक देशों की बराबरी कर सकता है: गडकरी

एजेंसी ■ नई दिल्ली

केंद्रीय सड़क परिवहन एवं राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने बुधवार को कहा कि यदि देश में हाइड्रोजन बनाने की लागत को एक डॉलर प्रति किलोग्राम तक लाया जा सका, तो वह ऊर्जा आयातक से वैश्विक निर्यातक बन सकता है। द एनर्जी एंड रिसोर्सेस इंस्टिट्यूट में आयोजित 24वें दूरवारी सेठ स्मृति व्याख्यान में केंद्रीय मंत्री ने कहा कि वर्तमान में हाइड्रोजन की लागत लगभग पांच से छह डॉलर प्रति किलोग्राम है, जो पारंपरिक ईंधनों की तुलना में काफी महंगी है। गडकरी ने कहा, यदि हम इसे एक डॉलर प्रति किलोग्राम तक लाने में सफल हो जाते हैं, तो भारत मौजूदा तेल उत्पादक देशों के समान स्थिति में पहुंच जाएगा। उन्होंने कहा कि हाइड्रोजन, ऊर्जा के भविष्य को आकार देने में निर्णायक भूमिका निभाएगा। मंत्री ने कहा कि सबसे बड़ी बाधा हाइड्रोजन फिलिंग स्टेशन स्थापित करने और ईंधन के परिवहन के लिए प्रणालियां विकसित करने में है। उन्होंने कहा, इन क्षेत्रों में तत्काल और व्यापक स्तर पर काम करने की आवश्यकता है। ऊर्जा के लिए कचरे के उपयोग की संभावना



के बारे में गडकरी ने कहा कि नगर निगम का ठोस कचरा ही काफी फायदेमंद साबित हो सकता है। उन्होंने कहा, यदि हम कचरे को अलग करें, उसमें से जैविक पदार्थ निकालकर उसे बायोडाइजेस्टर्स में डालें तो उससे मीथेन गैस बनती है। मीथेन को सीएनजी में बदलने के बजाय यदि हम इसका उपयोग ग्रीन हाइड्रोजन बनाने में करें तो केवल देश के नगर निगम के कचरे से ही बेहद सस्ती हाइड्रोजन उत्पन्न हो सकती है। गडकरी ने कहा कि हाइड्रोजन, जीवाश्म ईंधन का स्थान ले लेगा। उन्होंने कहा, यह न केवल परिवहन के लिए महत्वपूर्ण होगा, बल्कि दवा, रसायन और इस्पात के क्षेत्र में भी इसका उपयोग होगा। इससे ट्रेनें चलेंगी, हवाई जहाज उड़ेंगे और जीवाश्म ईंधन पर निर्भरता समाप्त हो जाएगी।

बायोगैस संयंत्रों की स्थापना पर मिलेगी 40 प्रतिशत सब्सिडी

चंडीगढ़। हरियाणा अक्षय ऊर्जा विकास अभिकरण के सहयोग से प्रदेश में बायोगैस उपयोग कार्यक्रम को ग्रामीण एवं शहरी क्षेत्रों में तेजी से प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए सब्सिडी प्रदान की जा रही है। बायोगैस एक स्वच्छ, प्रदूषण रहित, धुआं रहित और किफायती ईंधन है, जो 55 से 70 प्रतिशत मीथेन गैस से भरपूर होता है। इसे गोबर गैस संयंत्र के माध्यम से पशुओं के गोबर और जैविक पदार्थों से उत्पन्न किया जाता है। एक सरकारी प्रवक्ता ने इस बारे में जानकारी देते हुए बताया कि हरियाणा में लगभग 7.6 मिलियन पशुधन है, जिससे प्रतिदिन लगभग 3.8 मिलियन घन मीटर बायोगैस उत्पन्न करने की क्षमता है, जो लगभग 300 मेगावाट विद्युत उत्पादन में सहायक हो सकती है। इस गैस को शुद्ध कर बायो-गैस के रूप में भी प्रयोग में लाया जा सकता है। उन्होंने बताया कि संस्थागत बायोगैस कार्यक्रम गौशालाओं, डेयरियों और संस्थागत इकाइयों में बायोगैस संयंत्रों की स्थापना को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए राज्य सरकार 40 प्रतिशत तक की आर्थिक सहायता दे रही है। अब तक राज्य में 114 संयंत्र लगाए जा चुके हैं। इस योजना के अंतर्गत 25 से 85 घन मीटर क्षमता वाले संयंत्रों के लिए 1 लाख 27 हजार से लेकर 3 लाख 95 हजार रूपए तक की सब्सिडी दी जा रही है। इसी प्रकार बायोगैस पावर (ऑफ ग्रिड) उत्पादन कार्यक्रम के तहत पशु अपशिष्ट से उत्पादित बायोगैस का उपयोग करके 3 किलोवाट से लेकर 250 किलोवाट तक की विद्युत उत्पादन क्षमता वाले संयंत्रों पर केंद्र सरकार द्वारा 15 हजार से 40 हजार रूपए प्रति किलोवाट तक की सब्सिडी दी जाती है। उन्होंने बताया कि इच्छुक संस्था एवं व्यक्ति को संबंधित जिला के अतिरिक्त उपायुक्त कार्यालय में निर्धारित प्रपत्र के साथ आवेदन करना होगा। संयंत्र की स्थापना केवीआईसी ड्राइंग के अनुसार लाभार्थी द्वारा की जाएगी। परियोजना को छह माह के भीतर पूर्ण करना अनिवार्य है। आवेदन ह्यपहले आओ, पहले पाओहू के आधार पर स्वीकार किए जाएंगे, परंतु गौशालाओं व धार्मिक संस्थानों को प्राथमिकता दी जाएगी।

घरेलू रिफाइनरियों के खरीद बढ़ाने से चीन के लिए आपूर्ति में आ सकती है गिरावट भारतीय कंपनियों ने छूट बढ़ने के बाद फिर शुरू की रूस से तेल की खरीदारी

नई दिल्ली। घरेलू सरकारी कंपनियों ने छूट बढ़ने के कारण रूस से फिर कच्चे तेल की खरीद शुरू कर दी है। भारत पेट्रोलियम व इंडियन ऑयल ने सितंबर और अक्टूबर डिलीवरी के लिए खरीद शुरू की है। पिछले कुछ समय से रूसी तेल पर छूट काफी कम हो गई थी, जिससे खरीद को रोक दिया गया था।

सरकारी तेल रिफाइनरी कंपनियों की ओर से रूसी तेल आयात फिर से शुरू करने से शीर्ष खरीदार चीन के लिए आपूर्ति कम हो सकती है। जब घरेलू कंपनियों ने खरीद रोक दी थी, तब चीन ने अपनी खरीद को बढ़ा लिया था। घरेलू रिफाइनरियों ने जुलाई में कम छूट और अमेरिका की ओर से आलोचना के बाद रूसी तेल की खरीद रोक दी थी। अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप ने रूसी तेल खरीद के एवज में 27 अगस्त से भारतीय वस्तुओं पर अतिरिक्त 25 फीसदी शुल्क लगाने की भी धमकी दी थी।

अधिकारियों ने बताया, यूरोप्स कूड पर छूट बढ़कर तीन डॉलर प्रति बैरल हो गई है। इससे यह तेल रिफाइनरियों के लिए आकर्षक हो गया है। यूरोप्स के अलावा इंडियन ऑयल ने वरंडे और साइबेरियन लाइट सहित अन्य रूसी कच्चे तेल ग्रेड भी खरीदे हैं। एजेंसी



15 लाख बैरल प्रतिदिन कूड खरीदे घरेलू रिफाइनरियों ने

34% हिस्सा है रूस का भारत के आयात में

लैटिन अमेरिका से 14 वर्ष में पहली बार आयात नहीं भारत के कुल आयात में पेट्रोलियम निर्यातक देशों के संगठन यानी ओपेक देशों का हिस्सा जुलाई में बढ़कर पांच माह के शीर्ष पर पहुंच गया। जनवरी-जुलाई में रूसी तेल आयात 3.6 फीसदी घटकर 17.3 लाख बैरल प्रतिदिन रह गया। भारत ने जुलाई में 2011 के बाद पहली बार लैटिन अमेरिका से तेल का आयात नहीं किया।

इराक व सऊदी अरब से भी हो रहा अच्छा आयात

रूस भारत का सबसे बड़ा तेल आपूर्तिकर्ता बना रहा। उसके बाद इराक और सऊदी अरब का स्थान है। भारत के रूसी तेल आयात में आंशिक रूप से गिरावट इसलिए भी आई, क्योंकि रिलायंस ने जुलाई में खरीदारी जून की तुलना में लगभग 19 फीसदी कम कर दी। सरकारी रिफाइनरी कंपनियों ने अगस्त और सितंबर में रूसी तेल की जगह मध्य पूर्व और अमेरिका से वैकल्पिक आपूर्ति शुरू कर दी है।

■ इंडियन ऑयल ने बताया, वह आर्थिक स्थिति के आधार पर रूसी तेल खरीदना जारी रखेगा। चीनी रिफाइनरियों ने अक्टूबर और नवंबर डिलीवरी के लिए रूसी तेल के 15 कार्गो खरीदे हैं।

छूट घटने से जुलाई में कम हो गई थी तेल की खरीदी

आंकड़ों के अनुसार, जुलाई में भारत का रूसी तेल आयात कम हो गया था, क्योंकि कुछ रिफाइनरियों ने कम छूट के कारण खरीदारी धीमी कर दी थी। इसके अलावा, वारिश में भारतीय ईंधन की मांग भी आमतौर पर कम हो जाती है। हालांकि, रूसी तेल आयात अगस्त में और कम होने की संभावना है, क्योंकि भारतीय सरकारी रिफाइनरियों ने छूट कम होने के कारण यूरोल कूड की खरीदारी रोक दी थी।

■ भारत ने जुलाई में प्रतिदिन 15 लाख बैरल रूसी कच्चे तेल का आयात किया जो जून की तुलना में 24.5 फीसदी कम है। जुलाई में भारत के कुल आयात (44.4 लाख बैरल प्रतिदिन) में रूस का योगदान 34 फीसदी था। इस दौरान भारत का तेल आयात सितंबर, 2023 के बाद से सबसे कम रहा।

दोस्ती जिंदाबाद • रूस का ट्रम्प को दो टूक जवाब, कहा- भारत सबसे प्यारा

रूस बोला- 5% ज्यादा सस्ता तेल देंगे, भारत से कारोबार भी बढ़ाएंगे

भास्कर न्यूज़ | नई दिल्ली/न्यूयॉर्क

अमेरिका से चलते टैरिफ वॉर के बीच रूस ने भारत के पक्ष में बड़ा ऐलान किया है। नई दिल्ली में प्रेस कॉन्फ्रेंस के दौरान रूसी दूतावास में प्रभारी रोमन बाबुरिकन ने कहा कि रूस भारतीय तेल खरीदारों को 5% की छूट देता है।



रोमन बाबुरिकन

अमेरिकी टैरिफ के बावजूद भारत ने रूस से तेल खरीदी समान रखी है, क्योंकि रूस ने तेल आपूर्ति देने के लिए एक विशेष तंत्र बनाया है। हम तेल खरीद पर भारत को 5% की छूट दे सकते हैं। वशतः इस पर बातचीत हो। भारत अभी अपनी जरूरत का 40% कच्चा तेल रूस से ले रहा है। उन्होंने कहा कि यदि अमेरिकी बाजार में भारत की एंट्री में दिक्कत हो रही है तो रूस के बाजार में उसका स्वागत है। वह रूस को अपना सामान निर्यात कर सकता है।

■ **रूस-यूक्रेन युद्ध को रोकने के लिए भारत पर प्रतिबंध लगाए: वाइट हाउस**
इस बीच, वाइट हाउस की प्रेस सचिव कैरोलाइन लेविट ने कहा कि राष्ट्रपति ट्रम्प ने रूस-यूक्रेन युद्ध को खत्म करने के लिए भारत पर प्रतिबंध लगाए हैं। उन्होंने भारत पर जबरदस्त सार्वजनिक दबाव डाला है।

वो सबकुछ जो आपके लिए जानना जरूरी है

रूस से हमारा निर्यात हर साल 8.4% बढ़ रहा

■ **भारत-रूस** के बीच अभी 6.87 लाख करोड़ रु. का द्विपक्षीय व्यापार है। यह सालाना 10% की दर से बढ़ रहा है। 2030 तक 8 लाख करोड़ रु. के पार हो जाएगा।

■ **भारत अभी** रूस को महज 44 हजार करोड़ रु. के उत्पाद निर्यात करता है, जबकि 6.25 लाख करोड़ से ज्यादा का सामान आयात करता है। निर्यात सालाना 8.4% की दर से बढ़ रहा।

हम क्या-क्या निर्यात कर रहे?

भारत करीब 122 उत्पाद रूस को बेच रहा है। 2014 की तुलना में अभी रूस को मोबाइल फोन 78 गुना, फार्मास्युटिकल 2 गुना, इंजीनियरिंग उपकरण 78% और कृषि उत्पादों का निर्यात 2 गुना बढ़ चुका है। टॉप-5 निर्यात उत्पाद...

उत्पाद	क़ीमत
मशीनें, परमाणु रिपेक्टर, बॉयलर्स	9,657
इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स	3,654
फार्मास्युटिकल्स	3,567
ऑर्गेनिक केमिकल्स	3,132
अन्य केमिकल्स	1,392

स्रोत: यूएन कॉमट्रेड डेटाबेस। आंकड़े करोड़ रु. में)

■ **2022 में शुरू** हुए यूक्रेन युद्ध के बाद से रूस को भारत 2021 के मुकाबले 3 गुना ज्यादा 3.4 मिलियन टन खाद्यान्न दे चुका है। इनमें दाल, अनाज का हिस्सा 10 गुना ज्यादा यानी 8.98 लाख टन है।

भास्कर एक्सपर्ट

राकेश मोहन जोशी, वाइस चांसलर, इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ फॉरिन ट्रेड



रूसी रूट से यूरोप में ज्यादा माल भेज सकता है भारत

भारत को मार्केट डायवर्सिफिकेशन का बड़ा मौका मिला है। रूस के जरिए हमारी यूरोप में मददगार ट्रेड एंट्री हो सकती है। यूके के साथ फ्री ट्रेड एग्रीमेंट हो चुका है। ईयू के साथ भी ट्रेड बढ़ेगा। रूस के रास्ते से माल की आवाजाही बिना तनाव के होगी। रूस से ट्रेड का सबसे बड़ा फायदा ये है कि हम रुपए-रुबल में एक्सचेंज कर सकते हैं। दूसरी तरफ, ट्रम्प की धमकियां भारत पर असर नहीं कर रहीं। इसलिए रूस मौका भुना रहा है। उसने तेल खरीद पर डिस्काउंट बढ़ा दिया है।

रूस से कच्चा तेल खरीदने को लेकर अमेरिका की ओर से भारत पर दबाव बनाया जाना अनुचित: रूस

वैभव न्यूज ■ नई दिल्ली

रूस के एक वरिष्ठ राजनयिक ने बुधवार को कहा कि रूसी कच्चे तेल की खरीद को लेकर अमेरिका की ओर से भारत पर दबाव बनाया जाना अनुचित है। रूसी मिशन के उपप्रमुख रोमन बाबुशकिन ने कहा कि उन्हें विश्वास है कि बाहरी दबाव के बावजूद भारत-रूस ऊर्जा सहयोग जारी रहेगा। उन्होंने यहां आयोजित संवाददाता सम्मेलन में कहा कि यह भारत के लिए एक चुनौतीपूर्ण स्थिति

है और रूस को नई दिल्ली के साथ अपने संबंधों पर भरोसा है।

रूस के खिलाफ पश्चिमी देशों के दंडात्मक उपायों के संदर्भ में, बाबुशकिन ने कहा कि प्रतिबंध उन लोगों पर प्रहार कर रहे हैं जो इन्हें लगा रहे हैं।

उन्होंने एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में कहा कि मौजूदा वैश्विक उथल-पुथल के बीच एक स्थिर शक्ति के रूप में ब्रिक्स की भूमिका बढ़ेगी।

रूसी राजनयिक की यह प्रतिक्रिया भारतीय वस्तुओं पर शुल्क को दोगुना

करके 50 प्रतिशत करने के अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति डोनाल्ड ट्रंप के फैसले के बाद भारत और अमेरिका के संबंधों में उपजे तनाव की पृष्ठभूमि में आई है। इस 50 प्रतिशत शुल्क में रूस से कच्चा तेल खरीदने पर 25 प्रतिशत का अतिरिक्त जुर्माना भी शामिल है। अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति ट्रंप ने इस महीने एक शासकीय आदेश जारी करके नई दिल्ली द्वारा रूसी तेल की निरंतर खरीद के लिए जुर्माने के रूप में भारतीय वस्तुओं पर 25 प्रतिशत का अतिरिक्त शुल्क लगाया था।

वेदांत के विभाजन में फिर विलंब

देव चटर्जी

मुंबई, 20 अगस्त

अरबपति अनिल अग्रवाल के स्वामित्व वाली वेदांत लिमिटेड को छह सूचीबद्ध कंपनियों में विभाजित करने की महत्वाकांक्षी योजना में और देरी हो गई है। राष्ट्रीय कंपनी कानून पंचाट (एनसीएलटी) ने आज अपनी सुनवाई अगले महीने तक स्थगित कर दी है जबकि बाजार नियामक ने अनुपालन में चूक के संबंध में कंपनी को अलग से चेतावनी दी है।

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय ने इस पुनर्गठन पर आपत्ति जताई। इसके बाद मुंबई में एनसीएलटी ने बुधवार को मामले की सुनवाई 17 सितंबर तक स्थगित कर दी। मंत्रालय ने तर्क दिया कि प्रस्तावित विभाजन से वेदांत के तेल और गैस कारोबार से जुड़े उत्पादन और राजस्व-साझा करने वाले अनुबंधों के तहत बकाया राशि वसूलने की उसकी क्षमता को प्रभावित हो सकती है।

वेदांत के वकील ने इसका जवाब



पेश किया लेकिन बहस पूरी नहीं कर पाए। लिहाजा, सुनवाई स्थगित कर दी गई। कंपनी ने इस योजना के लागू होने पर पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के पक्ष में कॉर्पोरेट गारंटी की पेशकश करते हुए पंचाट को आश्वस्त करने की कोशिश की। वेदांत ने कहा कि यह गारंटी माल्को एनर्जी लिमिटेड (एमईएल) की संभावित अनुबंध देनदारियों को कवर करेगी। यह वह इकाई है जो विभाजन के बाद उसके तेल एवं गैस परिचालन का संचालन करेगी।

कंपनी के प्रवक्ता ने कहा, 'ऐसा उस स्थिति में होगा जब एमईएल उत्पादन साझेदारी अनुबंधों और राजस्व साझेदारी के अनुबंधों के तहत पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस

मंत्रालय के प्रति संभावित करार देनदारी, अगर कोई हो, को पूरा करने या संतुष्ट करने में असमर्थ रहती है।' वेदांत ने दोहराया कि वह शेयरधारकों और हितधारकों को 'दीर्घकालिक मूल्य प्रदान करने' के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है।

नियामकीय जांच ने निवेशकों के मनोबल को प्रभावित किया है। बुधवार को वेदांत का शेयर एक प्रतिशत गिरकर 445 पर बंद हुआ और इसने बाजार के मुकाबले कमतर प्रदर्शन किया। कंपनी पर दबाव तब और बढ़ गया जब भारतीय प्रतिभूति और विनियम बोर्ड (सेबी) ने 13 अगस्त को लिखे पत्र में वेदांत को प्रशासनिक चेतावनी जारी की।

नियामक ने कहा कि कंपनी ने शेयर बाजारों से अनापत्ति प्रमाण पत्र (एनओसी) प्राप्त करने के बाद सेबी की स्पष्ट लिखित सहमति लिए बिना, जो उसके मास्टर सर्कुलर में अनिवार्य है, अपनी व्यवस्था की योजना में बदलाव किया। इस उल्लंघन को एक 'गंभीर' चूक बताया गया और इसकी सबसे पहले बंबई स्टॉक एक्सचेंज ने शिकायत की थी।

हरियाणा सरकार बायोगैस संयंत्रों की स्थापना पर देगी 40 प्रतिशत सब्सिडी

पशु अपशिष्ट संयंत्रों पर केंद्र देगी 15 से 40 हजार प्रति किलोवाट सब्सिडी

सवेरा ब्यूरो

चंडीगढ़, 20 अगस्त : हरियाणा अक्षय ऊर्जा विकास अभिकरण के सहयोग से प्रदेश में बायोगैस उपयोग कार्यक्रम को ग्रामीण एवं शहरी क्षेत्रों में तेजी से प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए सब्सिडी प्रदान की जा रही है। बायोगैस एक स्वच्छ, प्रदूषण रहित, धुआं रहित और किफायती ईंधन है, जो 55 से 70 प्रतिशत मीथेन गैस से भरपूर होता है। इसे गोबर गैस संयंत्र के माध्यम से पशुओं के गोबर और जैविक पदार्थों से उत्पन्न किया जाता है। प्रवक्ता ने बताया कि हरियाणा में लगभग 7.6 मिलियन पशुधन है। जिससे प्रतिदिन लगभग 3.8 मिलियन घन मीटर बायोगैस उत्पन्न करने की क्षमता है, जो लगभग 300 मेगावाट विद्युत उत्पादन में सहायक हो सकती है। इस गैस को शुद्ध कर बायोगैस के रूप में भी प्रयोग में लाया जा सकता है। संस्थागत बायोगैस कार्यक्रम गौशालाओं, डेयरियों और संस्थागत इकाइयों में बायोगैस संयंत्रों की स्थापना

को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए राज्य सरकार 40 प्रतिशत तक की आर्थिक सहायता दे रही है। अब तक राज्य में 114 संयंत्र लगाए जा चुके हैं। इस योजना के तहत 25 से 85 घन मीटर क्षमता वाले संयंत्रों के लिए 1.27 लाख से लेकर 3.95 लाख रुपये तक की सब्सिडी दी जा रही है। इसी प्रकार बायोगैस पावर (ऑफ ग्रीड) उत्पादन कार्यक्रम के तहत पशु अपशिष्ट से उत्पादित बायोगैस का उपयोग करके 03 किलोवाट से लेकर 250 किलोवाट तक की विद्युत उत्पादन क्षमता वाले संयंत्रों पर केंद्र सरकार द्वारा 15 हजार से 40 हजार रुपये प्रति किलोवाट तक की सब्सिडी दी जाती है। इच्छुक संस्था एवं व्यक्ति को संबंधित जिला के अतिरिक्त उपायुक्त कार्यालय में निर्धारित प्रपत्र के साथ आवेदन करना होगा। संयंत्र की स्थापना केवीआईसी ड्राइंग के अनुसार लाभार्थी द्वारा की जाएगी। परियोजना को छह माह के भीतर पूर्ण करना अनिवार्य है। आवेदन पहले आओ, पहले पाओ के आधार पर स्वीकार किए जाएंगे, परंतु गौशालाओं व धार्मिक संस्थानों को प्राथमिकता दी जाएगी।