MILLENNIUM POST, Delhi, 24.5.2025
Page No. 10, Size:(17.45)cms X (11.97)cms.

Hardeep Puri highlights India's progress in energy affordability, access, infra development

NEW DELHI: Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri, while chairing the Consultative Committee meeting of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas in Manesar, Haryana, highlighted India's remarkable progress in energy affordability, access, and infrastructure development.

Minister of State for Petroleum & Natural Gas, Suresh Gopi also attended the meeting, which witnessed robust participation from 27 Members of Parliament. Puri elaborated on how India was able to successfully navigate geopolitical adversities to ensure affordability and availability of energy for citizens without any shortage.

He noted, when the fuel prices were skyrocketing all over the world, India was the only country where the prices came down. Notably, the Government reduced excise duties twice—on 4 Nov 2021 and 22 May 2022—slashing petrol by Rs 13/litre and diesel by Rs 16/litre. A recent hike in April 2025 was absorbed by Oil Marketing Companies, protecting consumers from additional burden.

Union Minister for Petroleum & Natural Gas, Hardeep Singh Puri

Highlighting LPG reforms, the Minister detailed the transformational impact of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY). Since its inception, LPG coverage has soared from 55 per cent in 2014 to nearly universal access today. LPG consumption rose significantly, with daily deliveries exceeding 56 lakh cylinders. Over 25,000 LPG distributors now operate across the country, 86 per cent in rural areas, ensuring deep last-mile reach. Hardeep Singh Puri informed that LPG prices in India are among the lowest globally. Despite a steep 58 per cent increase in international LPG prices, PMUY consumers now pay only Rs 553 for a 14.2 kg cylinder.

Oil companies have incurred a loss of Rs 40,000 crore last year to keep LPG prices affordable. A cylinder costing approximately Rs 1,058 is being provided to PMUY beneficiaries at just Rs 553. For regular consumers, the price is Rs 853. As a result, the per-day cooking cost comes to around Rs 6.8 for PMUY households and Rs 14.7 for non-PMUY users.

Puri informed that LPG prices in India are among the lowest globally. Despite a steep 58 per cent increase in international LPG prices, PMUY consumers now pay Rs 553 for a 14.2 kg cylinder—39 per cent less than the Rs 903 they paid in July 2023. Oil companies have incurred Rs 40,000 crore loss last year in order to keep LPG prices low. Cylinder of approximately Rs 1058 cost is being sold at Rs 553 to Ujjwala consumers.

For regular consumers, the price is Rs 853. The per-day cooking cost is now around Rs 6.8 for PMUY households and Rs 14.7 for non-PMUY users.

Marketing infrastructure has seen robust growth: India now operates over 24,000 km of product pipelines, 314 oil terminals/depots, and nearly 96,000 retail outlets. MPOST

ECONOMIC TIMES, Delhi, 24.5.2025
Page No. 8, Size:(9.83)cms X (20.44)cms.

RISING NORTHEAST INVESTORS SUMMIT 2025

NE at Centre Stage of India's Growth Trajectory: Modi

ANI

Our Political Bureau

Guwahati: Prime minister Narendra Modi on Friday said that be it terrorism or Maoist elements spreading unrest in India, the government is following a policy of zero tolerance.

Inaugurating the 'Rising Northeast Investors Summit 2025' in Delhi, the PM said that "the northeast is the most diverse region of our diverse nation".

Emphasising the critical role of eastern India in achieving a Viksit Bharat, the Prime Minister underscored the northeast as its most vital component. "For us, EAST is not just a direction but a vision — Empower, Act, Strengthen, and Transform — which defines the policy framework for the region," he stated, highlighting that this approach has placed eastern India, particularly the northeast, at the centre stage of India's growth trajectory.

The PM underscored the over 700 visits made by Union ministers to the northeast, demonstrating their commitment to understanding the land, witnessing the aspirations in people's eyes, and translating that trust into development policies.

He acknowledged the region's past challenges but asserted that it is now emerging as a "land of opportunities". He said that thousands of crores have been invested in enhancing connectivity, citing projects such as the Sela Tunnel in Arunachal Pradesh and the Bhupen Hazarika Bridge in Assam. Modi also highlighted key advancements in the past decade, including the construction of 11,000 kilometers of highways, extensive new railway lines, doubling of airport numbers, the development of waterways on the Brahmaputra and Barak rivers, and the installation of hundreds of mobile towers. He further noted the establishment of a 1,600-kilometer-long Northeast Gas Grid, ensuring a reliable energy supply for industries.

EAST not just a direction but a vision – Empower, Act, Strengthen, & Transform: PM Modi

He underscored that highways, railways, waterways, and digital connectivity are strengthening northeast's infrastructure, creating a fertile ground for industries to seize the first-mover advantage.

DATANOMICS

ILLUSTRATION: BINAY SINHA

One in four listed CPSEs falls short of Sebi's MPS norm

Markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) requires all listed companies to comply with the minimum public shareholding (MPS) norm. The regulation mandates that at least 25 per cent of a company's equity shares be held by the public or non-promoters and it has to do so between three and five years of its listing, depending on its market capitalisation.

However, central public-sector enterprises (CPSEs) and financial institutions have been given a relaxed timeline for the same. They are now required to adhere to the minimum public holding norm by August 1, 2026. Life Insurance Corporation (LIC), which listed on May 4, 2022, has been allowed until May 16, 2027, to divest 10 per cent of its holding.

JAYANT PANKAJ

Compliance status

21 of the 79 listed CPSEs and public-sector financial institutions are currently below the 25% MPS threshold and nearly half of which belong to financial sector

MPS: Minimum public shareholding
*includes public-sector financial institutions

Sectors with less than 25% public shareholding by CPSEs	Number of CPSEs*
Finance	10
Fertilisers	2
Trading	2
Defence	1
Engineering	1
Gas & petroleum	1
Metals & mining	1
Power	1
Telecommunications	1
Tourism and hospitality	1

Financial sector firms fall behind

Financial sector firms, which make up for 47% of 21 CPSEs, have less shareholdings than others. Among the CPSEs and public-sector financial institutions with the lowest public shareholding are Kudremukh Iron Ore Company (0.97%), LIC (3.5%) and IDBI Bank (5.29%)

*includes public-sector financial institutions

Source: PRIME Database

MINT, Delhi, 24.5.2025
Page No. 14, Size:(18.80)cms X (21.27)cms.

PSU share of procurement from small cos falls in FY25

There is a push for procurement from MSMEs in a bid to support small businesses

Manas Pimpalkhare & Rituraj Baruah
NEW DELHI

The share of public procurement by central PSUs from micro and small enterprises (MSEs) fell in FY25, for the first time since the pandemic.

In FY25, central government-run firms procured about 35% of their total public procurement from micro and small businesses, the lowest since FY23's 37%.

Public procurement plays a key role in the economy as both central and state governments, and their entities form a significant part of the order-books of businesses.

In a bid to ensure transparency, the Centre has digitized the process of procurement for government departments and companies. Further, in a bid to support small businesses and entrepreneurs, there is a push for procurement from micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

According to data from the MSME ministry's Sambandh portal, procurement by central public sector enterprises rose in FY25 to ₹2.6 trillion, from ₹1.7 trillion in the previous fiscal.

But the share of public procurement from MSEs did not keep up with this massive growth. While the procurement from MSEs rose in total value to ₹91,343 crore in FY25 from ₹74,728 crore in FY24, its share in total public procurement fell.

According to the central government's public procurement policy, a quarter of the procurement must be from micro and small enterprises. The development assumes importance as public procurement is an integral part of the earnings of MSMEs. The dip in the share came after four years of growth since FY21, data from the portal showed. Due to a slowdown in the economy during the pandemic, the share of public procurement from MSEs fell to 28%. After this, the share saw a steady growth in the following fiscals—33% in FY22, 37% in FY23, and nearly 44% in FY24—before dropping to 35% in FY25. To be sure, the number of central PSUs procuring from MSEs also declined in FY25. According to the Sambandh portal, 141 central PSUs procured from MSEs, lower than 158 such firms in the previous fiscal.

Industry experts attributed the lower share of public procurement from MSEs to the fall in number of PSUs procuring from smaller firms. "One reason for the 35% share in public procurement (from MSEs) may be the number of PSUs which procured from such firms," said Anil Bhardwaj, secretary general, Federation of Indian Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises.

"Some large PSUs have a larger weight in procurement from MSEs, while other smaller PSUs will have a minuscule weight. A large PSU with a revenue of a few hundred crores of rupees could potentially stand for 10% of the total weightage, while a smaller PSU could account for only 0.1%," he said. Sameer Gogia, executive director, Deloitte, said the dip in public procurement from MSEs is likely to be on account of a delay in procurement due to the general elections in 2024.

During elections, the government is mandated to stop all public procurement.

"The dip also indicates that the government chose to procure from larger firms. Larger firms, which have achieved economies of scale, may often provide goods and services to the government at a more competitive price than micro and small enterprises," Gogia said.

While the central government's public procurement policy mandates 25% of the total procurement from micro and small enterprises, it excludes medium enterprises, disincentivisng growth, said a policy paper on the competitiveness of MSMEs by Niti Aayog earlier in May this year. The report also highlighted that not all state governments have taken sufficient steps to enhance the competitiveness of MSME products and services in local or international markets, making central government procurement more important.

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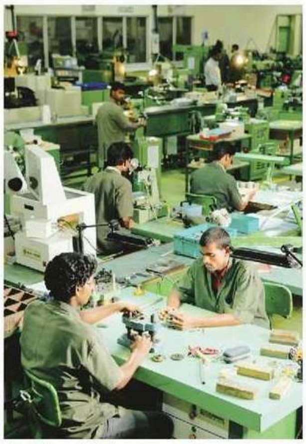
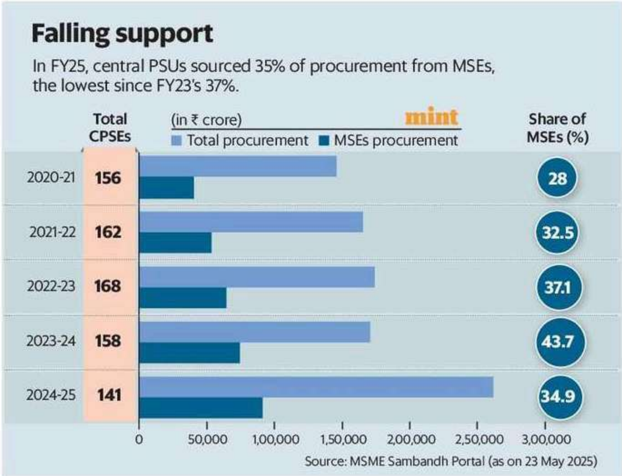


Govt has digitized procurement to ensure transparency. MINT



PROCUREMENT SLIDE

THE dip in the share came after four years of growth since FY21, according to the data

DUE to a slowdown in economy in covid, the share of public procurement from MSEs fell to 28%

FALL in number of PSUs procuring from small cos led to low public procurement share from MSEs

THE number of central PSUs procuring from MSEs also declined in FY25

ECONOMIC TIMES, Delhi, 24.5.2025
Page No. 10, Size:(5.11)cms X (16.54)cms.

BPCL AND HPCL LIKELY TO TRUMP INDIAN OIL

Crude Drop, Rise in Margins Bode Well for OMCs: Goldman Sachs

Our Bureau

Mumbai: Brokerage Goldman Sachs has said that Indian oil marketing companies (OMCs) are in a sweet spot due to the chances of oil prices declining further and refining margins going up.

It raised the price targets for Hindustan Petroleum and Bharat Petroleum. The brokerage sees a 16% upside in HPCL and 29% upside in BPCL, and a fall of 13% in Indian Oil over the next twelve months.

The firm says the macros are echoing the 2015-17 upcycle for refiners

"We believe the macro set-up is improving further and echoing 2015-17 upcycle for refiners and OMCs, driven by favourable crude oil dynamics (OPEC+ returning barrels, strong non-OPEC supply) and tightening global refining supply-demand (more supply-driven this time)," said Goldman's analysts in the note to clients.

They estimate higher refining and marketing margins for the OMCs due to lower oil prices. Brent crude prices have come off by almost 16% this year.

PUNJAB KESARI, Delhi, 24.5.2025
Page No. 5, Size:(23.02)cms X (14.84)cms.

जब पूरी दुनिया में ईंधन की कीमतें आसमान छू रही थीं तब भारत में स्थिर रहीं

ऊर्जा की सामर्थ्य और उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित करने में सक्षमः पुरी

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी) : जब पूरी दुनिया में ईंधन की कीमतें आसमान छू रही थीं, तब भारत एकमात्र ऐसा देश था, जहां कीमतें कम हुईं। प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के दूरदर्शी नेतृत्व में भारत भू-राजनीतिक प्रतिकूलताओं को सफलतापूर्वक पार करते हुए नागरिकों के लिए बिना किसी कमी के ऊर्जा की सामर्थ्य और उपलब्धता सुनिश्चित करने में सक्षम रहा। ये बातें केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने शुक्रवार को हरियाणा के मानेसर में पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय की परामर्शदात्री समिति की बैठक की अध्यक्षता करते हुए ऊर्जा सामर्थ्य, पहुंच और अवसंरचना विकास में भारत की उल्लेखनीय प्रगति के बारे में बताते हुए कहीं।

उन्होंने ईंधन की कीमतों को स्थिर करने, एलपीजी कवरेज का विस्तार करने और देश भर में रिफाइनिंग और वितरण क्षमता को बढ़ावा देने में सरकार के सक्रिय उपायों को रेखांकित किया। पुरी ने समावेशी और उपभोक्ता-केंद्रित ऊर्जा नीतियों के लिए मंत्रालय की प्रतिबद्धता की पुष्टि की। पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस राज्य मंत्री सुरेश गोपी भी बैठक में शामिल हुए, जिसमें 27 सांसदों की मजबूत भागीदारी देखी गई।


मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी

भारत में एलपीजी की कीमतें वैश्विक स्तर पर सबसे कम

पुरी ने बताया कि भारत में एलपीजी की कीमतें वैश्विक स्तर पर सबसे कम हैं। अंतरराष्ट्रीय एलपीजी कीमतों में 58% की भारी वृद्धि के बावजूद, पीएमयूवाई उपभोक्ता अब 14.2 किलोग्राम के सिलेंडर के लिए 553 रुपये का भुगतान करते हैं। जुलाई 2023 में उनके द्वारा भुगतान किए गए 903 रुपये से 39% कम। लगभग 1058 रुपये की लागत वाला सिलेंडर उज्ज्वला उपभोक्ताओं को 553 रुपये में बेचा जा रहा है। भाग लेने वाले सांसदों ने मंत्रालय की उपलब्धियों को स्वीकार किया, अपने विचार साझा किए और जमीनी स्तर पर पहुंच बढ़ाने और कार्यान्वयन में सुधार के लिए समर्थन व्यक्त किया।

DESHBANDHU, Delhi, 24.5.2025
Page No. 11, Size:(25.70)cms X (4.58)cms.

पेट्रोल और डीजल की कीमतें अपरिवर्तित

नई दिल्ली। अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर कच्चे तेल की कीमतों में तेजी जारी रहने के बावजूद घरेलू स्तर पर पेट्रोल और डीजल के दाम अपरिवर्तित रहे, जिससे दिल्ली में पेट्रोल 94.72 रुपए प्रति लीटर तथा डीजल 87.62 रुपए प्रति लीटर पर पड़े रहे। तेल विपणन करने वाली प्रमुख कंपनी हिन्दुस्तान पेट्रोलियम कार्पोरेशन की वेबसाइट पर जारी दरों के अनुसार, देश में आज पेट्रोल और डीजल की कीमतों में कोई बदलाव नहीं हुआ है। दिल्ली में इनकी कीमतों के यथावत रहने के साथ ही मुंबई में पेट्रोल 104.21 रुपए प्रति लीटर पर और डीजल 92.15 रुपए प्रति लीटर पर रहा।

VEER ARJUN, Delhi, 24.5.2025
Page No. 11, Size:(9.34)cms X (9.95)cms.

रिलायंस पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों में 75,000 करोड़ का निवेश करेगी : मुकेश अंबानी

नई दिल्ली, (भाषा)। रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड के चेयरमैन मुकेश अंबानी ने शुक्रवार को कहा कि उनका समूह पूर्वोत्तर राज्यों में 350 बायोगैस संयंत्र की स्थापना, अपनी दूरसंचार सेवाओं, खुदरा कारोबार एवं स्वच्छ ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं के विस्तार पर 75,000 करोड़ रुपए का निवेश करेगा। रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड के चेयरमैन एवं प्रबंध निदेशक ने यहां राइजिंग नॉर्थईस्ट इन्वेस्टर्स समिट में कहा कि उनका समूह क्षेत्र में उच्च गुणवत्ता वाले घरेलू उपभोग के उत्पादों के लिए कारखानों में निवेश करेगा और मणिपुर में 150 बिस्तर वाला कैंसर अस्पताल स्थापित करेगा। उन्होंने कहा, रिलायंस ने पिछले 40 वर्ष में इस क्षेत्र में करीब 30,000 करोड़ रुपए का निवेश किया है। हम 75,000 करोड़ रुपए के लक्ष्य के साथ अगले पांच वर्ष में निवेश को दोगुना कर देंगे। अद्योगपति ने कहा कि इससे 25 लाख से अधिक प्रत्यक्ष एवं अप्रत्यक्ष रोजगार के अवसर उत्पन्न होंगे। समूह पूर्वोत्तर की 4.5 करोड़ आबादी में से अधिकतर के जीवन को बेहतर बनाने की आकांक्षा रखता है। अंबानी ने कहा कि वह अरुणाचल प्रदेश, असम, मणिपुर, मेघालय, मिजोरम, नगालैंड, सिक्किम और त्रिपुरा के मुख्यमंत्रियों के साथ छह प्रतिबद्धताएं कर रहे हैं।

समूह की दूरसंचार इकाई जियो ने पहले ही 50 लाख से अधिक 5जी ग्राहकों के साथ 90 प्रतिशत आबादी को सेवाएं दी हैं। उन्होंने कहा, हम इस साल इस संख्या को दोगुना कर देंगे। जियो की प्राथमिकता कृत्रिम मेधा (एआई) की क्रांतिकारी शक्ति को सभी स्कूल, अस्पताल, उद्यम और घर तक पहुंचाना होगी। अंबानी ने कहा कि प्रतिभा के प्रौद्योगिकी और क्षमता के संपर्क से मिलने से हमारा पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र आगे बढ़ेगा। उद्योगपति ने साथ ही कहा कि रिलायंस खुदरा किसानों की आय बढ़ाने के लिए प्रमुख खाद्य पदार्थों, फलों और सब्जियों की खरीद में व्यापक वृद्धि करेगी।

नई दिल्ली में राइजिंग नॉर्थईस्ट इन्वेस्टर्स समिट को संबोधित करते हुए रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड के चेयरमैन मुकेश अंबानी। (छाया : एएनआई)