MILLENNIUM POST, Delhi, 26.8.2025
Page No. 12, Size:(24.26)cms X (17.63)cms.

Amazon launches 40 new 'Ashray' centres with Hindustan Petroleum

With the latest addition, Amazon now operates 65 Ashray centres across 13 cities, including 24 in Delhi-NCR

NEW DELHI: E-commerce major Amazon India on Monday announced expansion of 'Project Ashray', launching 40 more rest centres for all delivery partners across the country in collaboration with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL).

Ashray centres are dedicated rest stops for delivery associates, offering air-conditioned seating, clean drinking water, mobile charging points, washrooms, and first-aid kits.

With the latest addition, Amazon now operates 65 Ashray centres across 13 cities, including 24 in Delhi-NCR.

Amazon aims to set up 100 such centres by the end of 2025.

"These Ashray centres address the everyday challenges delivery partners face while navigating bustling traffic and extreme weather conditions," said Salim Memon, Director, Amazon Operations, India.

The Ashray (meaning shelter in Hindi) centres are not confined to Amazon's own network of delivery partners. Associates across the e-commerce and logistics ecosystem can avail these facilities.

Located at petrol pumps and commercial rental spaces, these centres are equipped with essential amenities. Ashray centres operate from 9 AM to 9 PM, seven days a week, all year round, offering free access to all visiting delivery associates for up to 30 minutes per visit. MPOST

Amazon collaborates with HPCL

NEW DELHI: Amazon India, in partnership with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), announced the expansion of Project Ashray with the launch of 40 new Ashray Centers across the country. The newest facility was inaugurated in Rohini, Delhi, by Shri Yogender Chandolia, MP from North West Delhi. Shri Yogender Chandolia, Member of Parliament from Delhi's North West Constituency, inaugurated the newest facility in the city's Rohini area. The inauguration was attended by Shri Muralikrishna V Vadrevu, Executive Director, Non-Fuel Business, HPCL; Salim Memon, Director, Amazon Operations, India; and Ashleigh de la Torre, VP of Amazon U.S. Transportation, Sustainability, and Kuiper Public Policy.

BPCL bullish on ATF demand, FY25 sales surpass pre-Covid levels

Rishi Ranjan Kala
New Delhi

Expanding aviation infrastructure and rising passenger traffic boosted jet fuel consumption aiding state-run Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL) to not just surpass pre-Covid sales in FY25, but also regain its lost market share in the April-June 2025 quarter.

The oil marketing company (OMC) is bullish on the growth in the aviation sector as more aspirational Indians take up air travel, both domestic and international.

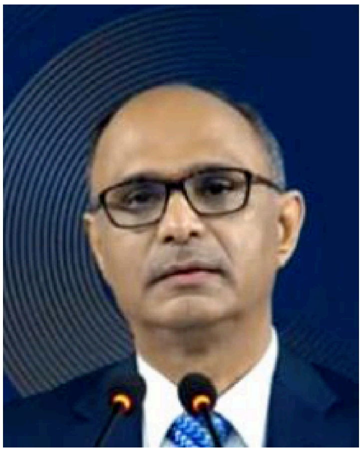
Besides, government's efforts to add more airports is also fuelling demand.

At the company's annual general meeting (AGM), BPCL CMD Sanjay Khanna said: "With India emerging as the third-largest domestic aviation market and aiming to be amongst the top globally, our aviation SBU (strategic business unit) has been right at the forefront."

RISING CONSUMPTION

Rising consumption of jet fuel aided the OMC in onboarding new clients.

For instance, Khanna said that BPCL served leading international and domestic airlines, added 16 new international airline contracts, and expanded its network with 10 new aviation fuelling stations, bringing the total to 77 (in FY25). "In 2024-25, we



Sanjay Khanna, CMD, BPCL

not only crossed pre-pandemic ATF sales levels but also strengthened our position in a rapidly growing market. We achieved ATF sales of 1,968 tt (thousand tonnes), and market share of 24.7 per cent with a growth of 3.6 per cent," he added.

BPCL also upped its performance in the aviation fuel vertical in Q1FY26.

Earlier this month, BPCL Director (Finance) VRK Gupta said in a results conference call, "In terms of aviation, our market share during this quarter (Q1FY26) is 26.51 per cent. Last quarter (Q4FY25), it was 21.78. But we have come back, and we have taken back our own volumes from other customers and we are back to 26.51 per cent."

Its jet fuel sales declined to 0.45 million tonnes (mt) in Q4FY25, which reflected a fall in market share to 21.78 per cent. However, it upped its performance in Q1FY26 with sales hitting around 0.54 mt (Q1FY25: 0.53 mt) building up its market share.

BPCL's optimism on the growth in aviation turbine fuel (ATF) in India also is backed by forecasts of stellar performance by not just ATF, but also transport fuels as the country's industrial and commercial base expands.

For instance, International Energy Agency (IEA) has projected India's oil demand to increase by 1 million barrels per day (mb/d) over 2024-2030, more than any other country, in the wake of stellar GDP expansion, at an average annual rate of 2.8 per cent.

TRANSPORT FUELS

The agency noted transport fuels will lead the gains, particularly jet/kerosene (in relative terms) will rise the fastest, at almost 6 per cent annually.

Oil Ministry's Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell (PPAC) expects jet fuel consumption to grow at almost 11 per cent annually in FY26 — the highest among all refined petroleum products — reflecting on the rising spending power in the world's fastest growing emerging economy.

OPEC expects transportation fuel requirements to remain healthy in 2026 (CY), supporting jet/kerosene demand to expand by 35,000 b/d on an annual basis.

MILLENNIUM POST, Delhi, 26.8.2025
Page No. 11, Size:(26.10)cms X (11.79)cms.

BPCL eyes greenfield refinery & petchem complex in Andhra

BPCL is currently assessing the feasibility of the project, which would mark a significant addition to its refining infrastructure in the country

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) is exploring the possibility of setting up a greenfield oil refinery and petrochemical complex near Ramayapatnam Port in Andhra Pradesh, as part of its strategy to expand capacity in response to growing energy demand across India.

The state-owned energy major is currently assessing the feasibility of the project, which would mark a significant addition to its refining infrastructure in the country.

India, the world's third-largest oil-importing and consuming nation, is projected to add 1 million barrels per day of incremental oil demand by 2030 - the highest in the world, said Sanjay Khanna, chairman and managing director of BPCL, at the company's annual shareholder meeting on Monday.

To put things in perspective, the global oil demand is expected to grow by 2.5 million barrels per day by 2030. India currently consumes 5.5 million barrels of oil per day.

"Recognising the strong growth potential of India, BPCL is evaluating setting up

'India, world's third-largest oil-importing and consuming nation, is projected to add 1 million barrels per day of incremental oil demand by 2030'

a greenfield refinery-cum-petrochemical complex near Ramayapatnam Port in Andhra Pradesh. Pre-project activities are underway," he said.

While he did not give financial details or capacity planned, the company management had previously stated that the 9 million tonnes a year unit is likely to cost around Rs 95,000 crore.

"This strategic investment will further expand BPCL's petrochemical portfolio, provide a natural hedge against petro-

Highlights

- The global oil demand is expected to grow by 2.5 million barrels per day by 2030. India currently consumes 5.5 mn barrels of oil/day
- 'This investment will further expand BPCL's petrochemical portfolio, provide a natural hedge against petroleum products in the long run'
- From 3.6 mn tonnes of product sales 50 years ago, BPCL delivers over 52.4 mn tonnes now

leum products in the long run, and align with India's vision of becoming a global refining and petrochemical hub," Khanna said. He said BPCL has taken up 'Project Aspire' to meet the future needs by strengthening its core in refining, marketing, and upstream with sharper execution, while boldly advancing into petrochemicals, renewables, green hydrogen, biofuels, and gas. "It is not just a project, but a philosophy to shape the next fifty years," he said.

From a single refinery processing 3.8 million tonnes of crude oil into fuels like petrol and diesel per annum, BPCL now has three refineries with a combined capacity of 40.5 million tonnes.

From 3.6 million tonnes of product sales 50 years ago, it delivers over 52.4 million tonnes of petroleum products now.

"Back then, our turnover was Rs 552 crore and profit was Rs 1.7 crore. Today, turnover has crossed Rs 5 lakh crore and profit stands at Rs 13,275 crore," he said. "From modest beginnings to a leading national energy company - this is not just growth in numbers. This is the story of scale, of discipline and of nation-building."

Giving details of projects being pursued, he said BPCL's Mumbai Refinery is being upgraded with the replacement of the existing catalytic cracking unit (CCU) and fluidised catalytic cracking unit (FCCU) with a state-of-the-art Petro Resid Fluidized Catalytic Cracking Unit (PRFCC) and its associated facilities at a cost of Rs 14,200 crore.

"Looking ahead, the refining sector in India is set for a transformative phase, with growth increasingly driven by petrochemical integration. Our two major petrochemical projects at Bina (in Madhya Pradesh) and Kochi (in Kerala), with a combined capital investment of Rs 54,000 crore, are progressing well on schedule, both in execution and financing," he said.

BPCL, he said, has committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2040. "By 2035, we aspire to build a renewable energy portfolio of 10 GW."

The firm has a renewable energy portfolio comprising around 155 MW from solar and wind energy projects, alongside high-potential projects under development, including a 71 MW solar plant at Prayagraj and two 50 MW wind farms in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

"To further scale these efforts, we formed a joint venture company with Sembcorp Green Hydrogen India Private Limited (SGHIPL), a subsidiary of Sembcorp Industries, to jointly pursue large-scale opportunities in renewable energy and green hydrogen projects across India," he said. On the green hydrogen front, a 5 MW electrolyser unit was commissioned at Bina Refinery.

ECONOMIC TIMES, Delhi, 26.8.2025
Page No. 4, Size:(9.17)cms X (12.87)cms.

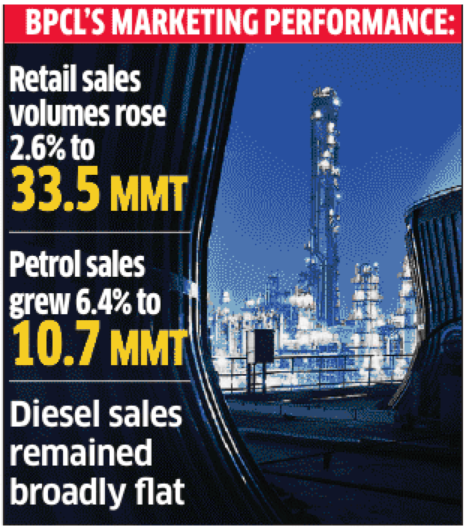
BPCL Plans to Invest up to ₹95kcr for Refinery in AP

Our Bureau

Mumbai: Bharat Petroleum Corp (BPCL) is looking to invest as much as ₹95,000 crore to build its next greenfield oil refinery and petrochemical complex near the Ramayapatnam Port in Andhra Pradesh, seeking to slake India's burgeoning energy thirst.

"Recognising the strong growth potential of India, BPCL is evaluating setting up a greenfield refinery-cum-petrochemical complex near Ramayapatnam Port in Andhra Pradesh. Pre-project activities are underway," said BPCL chairman and managing director Sanjay Khanna said Monday at the state-owned firm's AGM.

The proposed facility will have an annual capacity to refine 9 million tonnes of crude oil, besides housing a petchem complex. "This strategic investment will further expand BPCL's petrochemical portfolio, provide a natural hedge against petroleum products in the long run, and align with India's vision of becoming a global refining and petrochemical hub," Khanna said.



BPCL has taken up 'Project Aspire' to meet the future needs by strengthening its core in refining, marketing, and upstream with sharper execution, while boldly advancing into petrochemicals, renewables, green hydrogen, biofuels, and gas, he said.

During the year, BPCL's marketing performance remained strong, with retail sales volumes rising 2.6% to 33.5 MMT. Petrol sales grew 6.4% to 10.7 MMT, while diesel sales remained broadly flat.

ASIAN AGE, Delhi, 26.8.2025
Page No. 7, Size:(2.98)cms X (4.33)cms.

BPCL to explore new oil refinery near AP port

Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) is exploring the possibility of setting up a greenfield oil refinery and petrochemical complex near Ramayapatnam Port in Andhra Pradesh, as part of its strategy to expand capacity in response to growing energy demand across India. BPCL is currently assessing the feasibility of the project, which would mark a significant addition to its refining infrastructure in India.

MINT, Delhi, 26.8.2025
Page No. 9, Size:(5.74)cms X (8.29)cms.

BPCL to market Mozambique LNG

Bharat Petroleum Corp. Ltd (BPCL) has secured rights to market liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Mozambique's long-stalled project, where it holds a 10% stake, with full development now set to resume.

Addressing the state-owned company's annual general meeting, chairman and managing director Sanjay Khanna said the project, jointly owned by three Indian public sector undertakings with a combined 30% stake, will enhance BPCL's upstream presence.

"While security concerns had delayed the project, conditions have improved now, and full-scale development is expected to resume soon," Khanna said. "Once operational, the two-train LNG project will boost our upstream presence and support the energy transition. We have already secured LNG marketing rights in line with our 10% participating interest."

RITURAJ BARUAH

MINT, Delhi, 26.8.2025
Page No. 11, Size:(15.03)cms X (6.07)cms.

Hedge funds favour green energy over oil

Bloomberg
feedback@livemint.com

Hedge funds are betting against oil stocks, and winding back shorts on solar in a reversal of positions that dominated energy strategies over the past four years.

Since beginning of October and through the second quarter, equity-focused hedge funds—on an average—have been mostly short oil stocks, according to a *Bloomberg Green* analysis of positions on companies in global indexes for sectors spanning oil, wind, solar and electric vehicles.

That's a reversal of bets that had dominated since 2021, according to the data, which are based on fund disclosures to Hazeltree, an alternative-investment data specialist.

Over the same period, funds unwound short bets against solar stocks. The analysis, based on a universe of some 700 hedge funds representing about $700 billion in gross assets also shows that portfolio managers have stayed net long wind in the period.

There has been "a bottoming out with some of these clean energy plays," said Todd Warren, portfolio manager at Tribeca Investment Partners Pty. That trend has "really occurred at the same time as we've seen — in the oil patch — some concerns with regards to supply and demand balance," Warren added.

The analysis shows that more hedge funds were, on average, net short stocks in the S&P Global Oil Index than net long for seven of the nine months starting October 2024. By contrast, net longs exceeded net shorts in all but eight of the 45 months from January 2021 through September 2024.

ECONOMIC TIMES, Delhi, 26.8.2025
Page No. 9, Size:(6.65)cms X (17.17)cms.

FUTURES AT $68/BARREL

Oil Up After Fed Signals Possible Rate Cuts

Bloomberg

Oil advanced, solidifying gains from the previous week, as a move above key technical levels helped extend a rally sparked by signs that the Federal Reserve will resume cutting interest rates.

West Texas Intermediate climbed as much as 1.7% to the highest in almost three weeks, while Brent surpassed $68 a barrel. Fed Chair Jerome Powell on Friday signaled in a speech that the central bank could cut interest rates as soon as its September policy meeting. The comments boosted crude futures on expectations that a rate cut would boost the US economy and raise oil demand.

WTI's jump above its 100-day moving average of about $64.45 also spurred some buying from algorithmic-based traders.

Elsewhere, Ukraine struck Russia's Baltic port of Ust-Luga overnight, the latest in a series of attacks on energy infrastructure. Ukraine has attacked eight Russian refineries so far this month, raising concerns of exacerbated fuel market tightness.

Longer-term sentiment remains subdued.

FINANCIAL EXPRESS, Delhi, 26.8.2025
Page No. 2, Size:(8.20)cms X (11.35)cms.

ONGC begins gas production from Rajasthan field

STATE-RUN ONGC on Monday started natural gas sales from the Discovered Small Field (DSF-II) Block RJ/ ONDSF/ Chinnewala/2018, marking the successful monetisation of Chinnewala Tibba gas in the Rajasthan Kutch Onland Exploratory Asset (RKOEA).

Outlook slippery for oil retailers

Ashish Agrawal
feedback@livemint.com

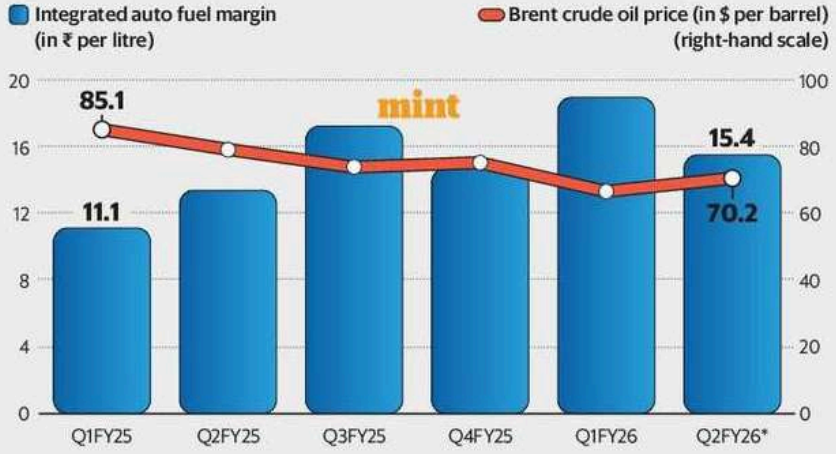
Shares of state-run oil marketing companies (OMCs) have been down 6-9% since 30 July in the backdrop of the US imposing additional tariffs on India due to the import of discounted Russian crude.

However, as Emkay Global Financial Services points out, the impact on overall gross refining margins should not be significant sequentially in the September quarter (Q2FY26), as the discount on the Russian crude, according to managements, was just about $1.5 per barrel.

Plus, stocks of OMCs—Indian Oil Corp. Ltd (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corp. Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corp. Ltd (HPCL)—could find support amid the government's decision to reimburse ₹30,000 crore of under-recoveries on the sale of domestic LPG, and solid Q1FY26 results. The combined FY25 under-recovery was ₹41,300 crore. The OMCs supply LPG cylinders at regulated prices to consumers, with the government paying the difference.

Cooling down

Oil marketing companies may maintain their strong show in Q2FY26 given the continued softness in crude price.



Auto fuel margin is the weighted average integrated gross marketing margin for diesel & petrol

*Till date

Source: Company, JM Financial

SATISH KUMAR/MINT

While the LPG loss compensation timeline is uncertain and the payment is staggered, some expect marketing gains aided by the drop in crude oil prices to bring comfort.

OMCs earned ₹25,000-30,000 crore extra on automotive fuel margin in FY25, as per J.M. Financial Institutional Securities. The margin rose further in Q1, but risks linger.

"We believe OMCs' integrated refining cum marketing margin will normalise around historical levels as the government may retain the benefit of any sustained fall in crude price via excise duty hike and/or fuel price cut," said J.M. Financial. Brent was $67 a barrel in Q1 versus $85 a year earlier and $75 a quarter prior.

For now, the OMCs are enjoying the bonanza from unchanged retail prices. Their aggregate Q1 standalone Ebitda rose 82% on-year. While gross refining margin fell to $3.4 a barrel from $6.4 a year ago, this was offset by 110% and 70% rise in marketing margin on petrol and diesel to ₹12.7 per litre and ₹7.3.

IOC's Ebitda rose 46% on-year to ₹12,600 crore, but it was below estimates as falling oil prices led to inventory losses of ₹6,500 crore. BPCL's Ebitda rose 71% to ₹9,700 crore, while HPCL reported the highest Ebitda growth of 260% to ₹7,600 crore, with 16% growth in throughput, lower base and efficiency gains.

OMCs are undertaking capital expenditure (capex) for refining and petrochemicals capacity expansion. IOC is expected to commission three projects, raising its capacity by 18 million metric tonne per annum (mmtpa), about 25% of its existing capacity, in the next 12 months.

HPCL's 9 mmtpa Barmer refinery was 88% complete by Q1-end. BPCL's expansion projects are expected to come onstream FY28 onwards. It will spend ₹1.5 trillion on capex over the next five years.

Despite potentially better margins and a higher share of petrochemical products, capex needs monitoring. "OMC capex is expected to be elevated given its long-gestation projects, pressuring return ratios in the near term," says Nuvama Institutional Equities. BPCL has projected its debt-to-equity ratio at 1.0x by FY28, up from 0.4x now.

OMCs' shares have gained 27-36% from 52-week lows seen on 3 March. IOC trades at 0.97x its FY26 estimated book value, while BPCL and HPCL trade at 1.4x each, as per *Bloomberg*. Investors should watch out for any government intervention denting margins, besides the crude price movement.

FUEL FALLOUT

SHARES of OMCs are down 6-9% since 30 July in the backdrop of additional US tariffs

OMCs are undertaking huge capex for refining and petrochemicals capacity expansion

MILLENNIUM POST, Delhi, 26.8.2025
Page No. 4, Size:(24.67)cms X (13.71)cms.

DEMAND ITS REVOCATION

Pol parties, fishermen object to hydrocarbon projects in TN

OUR CORRESPONDENT

CHENNAI: Political parties and fishermen from the coastal districts of Ramanathapuram and Kanyakumari have staunchly opposed the hydrocarbon exploration project in Ramanathapuram district and demanded the Centre to revoke the project.

Following widespread protests, the Tamil Nadu government has directed the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority to withdraw the clearance granted to the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) Ltd for hydrocarbon exploration.

The TNSEIAA had granted clearance to the ONGC to carry out onshore hydrocarbon exploration drilling at 20 wells in Ramanathapuram district.

According to environmentalist and president of Neithal Makkal Katchi Ku Bharathi, the Union Petroleum Ministry had identified hydrocarbon reserves in 30,000 square kilometers of shallow sea areas and 95,000 square km of deep-sea areas adjacent to it in the landmasses of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, following the auction of the blocks in February this year.

"The project would affect the livelihood of the people in 608 fishing villages in 14 coastal districts," he said.

"Already, faced with the crisis of depleting fisheries resources, the fishers were left with no option but to take deep-sea fishing. This hydrocarbon project should be abrogated in the interest of the fisheries sector and the coastal environment," Bharathi told news agency.

Fishermen from the coastal districts have been protesting against the project and have demanded Centre to cancel it.

Opposing the project, ruling DMK's ally, MDMK has sought the state government to revoke the environmental clearance given for the project. "It's a threat to fishermen's livelihood and the environment," MDMK chief Vaiko said.

"The Union government should review and withdraw the environmental clearance granted by the Tamil Nadu government to the ONGC hydrocarbon gas extraction project," Vaiko said in a statement here.

While the AIADMK had opposed the project at the initial stage of permitting the ONGC to take up drilling and demanded the project be scrapped, PMK has expressed concerns that the drilling could cause seawater to contaminate the groundwater.

Claiming that the ONGC had applied for the clearance in October 2023, PMK leader Dr Anbumani Ramadoss alleged that the wells were dug up to 3,000 feet below the ground. "The technology used for hydrocarbon extraction would cause earthquakes and other disasters. Moreover, the entire district would transform into a desert," Anbumani said in a statement.

ECONOMIC TIMES, Delhi, 26.8.2025
Page No. 2, Size:(10.17)cms X (26.76)cms.

SAFEGUARDING INDIAN ENERGY SECURITY

Wherever Deal is Best, India Will Buy Oil: Envoy to Russia

India's energy policy is driven by mkt dynamics and needs of its 1.4 b citizens: Vinay Kumar

Dipanjan Roy Chaudhury

New Delhi: India will continue to buy oil from wherever it gets the best deal to safeguard its energy security, India's envoy to Russia Vinay Kumar has said, hinting at New Delhi's continued energy purchases from Moscow.

India's energy policy is driven by market dynamics and the needs of its 1.4 billion citizens, Kumar said, adding, "Indian companies will continue buying from wherever they get the best deal. That's what the current situation is." Kumar was interviewed by Russian state-run news agency TASS

Kumar underlined that India's energy cooperation with Russia, among other global partners, contributes to global oil market stability. "Our cooperation with Russia, like with several other countries, has played a role in ensuring that."

'Russian cos in machinery & electronics are showing growing interest in hiring Indian professionals'

Describing Washington's decision as "unfair, unreasonable and unjustified", Kumar said the Indian government "will continue taking measures which will protect the national interest of the country".

Referring to India-Russia bilateral ties, the envoy said Russian companies in machinery and electronics are showing growing interest in hiring Indian professionals.

"At a broader level, there is a manpower requirement in Russia and India has skilled manpower. So at present, within the Russian regulations, framework of Russian regulations, laws and quotas, the companies are hiring Indians," Kumar said.

He noted that "most of the people who have come are in the construction and textile sectors" but added that demand in machinery and electronics industries is rising.

The issue of mobility of Indian workers in Russia figured prominently during external affairs minister S Jaishankar's recent Moscow trip.

THROUGH EMBASSY

India Alerts Pak About Tawi Flood Situation

NEW DELHI: India has alerted Islamabad about the flood situation in the Tawi river. The information was forwarded via the Indian High Commission in Islamabad as **the usual Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) channel remains in abeyance after the Pahalgam terror attack**. There has been no official confirmation regarding the development by either India or Pakistan. Ideally, such inputs are shared through the Indus water commissioners under IWT. Pakistani authorities have issued warnings based on the information provided by India. The monsoon season has continued to wreak havoc across Pakistan. – OPB

▶ Meanwhile, **US veep JD Vance** claimed President Donald Trump's punitive 50% tariffs on imports from India were meant to get an **"aggressive economic leverage"** for forcing Russia to stop bombing Ukraine.

Will buy oil wherever best deal available: Indian envoy to Russia

DIVYAA
NEW DELHI, AUGUST 25

WITH THE Trump administration's additional 25 per cent tariff penalty on India over its purchase of Russian oil due to take effect August 27, Vinay Kumar, Delhi's ambassador to Moscow, has said "Indian companies will continue buying (oil) from wherever they get the best deal".

"We have clearly stated that our objective is the energy security of 1.4 billion people of India and India's cooperation with Russia, as of several other countries, has helped to bring about stability in the oil market, global oil market," Kumar said in an interview to Russian news agency TASS. His remarks follow that of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar who, while in Moscow last week, said he was "very perplexed" by the additional 25 per cent US tariff on India because "it was the Americans" who said, "we should do everything to stabilise the world's energy markets, including buying oil from Russia".

Echoing Jaishankar, Kumar reiterated that "the US decision is unfair, unreasonable and unjustified", adding that the Indian government will continue taking measures which will protect the national interest of the country.

"Trade takes place on a commercial basis. So if the basis of commercial transaction trade imports are right, Indian companies will continue buying from wherever they get the best deal. So that's what the current situation is," he was quoted saying by the TASS.

Ambassador Vinay Kumar

On Sunday, US Vice President J D Vance said President Donald Trump applied "aggressive economic leverage", including "secondary tariffs on India" to force Russia to stop bombing Ukraine.

On being asked how the US was putting pressure on Russia to get to the table on the Ukraine war, Vance told NBC News, "Trump has applied aggressive economic leverage, for example, secondary tariffs on India, to try to make it harder for the Russians to get rich from their oil economy."

Ambassador Kumar also clarified that Delhi and Moscow were not facing any issue with regard to payment for oil imports, which could be settled in national currencies.

"India and Russia are not experiencing any problems in payment for oil imports," he said. "India and Russia have a working system of trade settlement in national currencies. There is no problem now in payment for oil imports."

Trade between India and Russia, he said, is a bilateral relationship based on mutual interests. He said India is going to expand supplies of electronics, cars and building materials to Russia.

"Some of the important areas that we think we need to focus on and improve our exports are textiles and fashion products, construction materials, auto and automobile spare parts and components, also electronics and the entire set of electronics and IT related products. Also phones. Many of the top manufacturers are also manufacturing in India. We look forward to an increase in those areas also," he said.

According to Kumar, trade between the two countries is growing. "India's export to Russia has also grown. But it is still far below what it can be," he said.

The US claims that India's purchase of Russian crude oil is funding Moscow's war in Ukraine, a charge Delhi rejects. Last Saturday, Jaishankar said, "It's funny to have people who work for a pro-business American administration accusing other people of doing business... If you have a problem buying oil or refined products from India, don't buy it. Nobody forces you to buy it. But Europe buys, America buys, so you don't like it, don't buy it."

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has also called the imposition of the secondary tariffs as "unfair, unjustified and unreasonable" and declared that India will take "all actions necessary to protect its national interests".

Last month, Trump had also warned BRICS against what he called its "anti-Western agenda". In his interview to TASS, Kumar said India will pay attention in the first instance to supporting the interests of the Global South countries during its presidency of BRICS in 2026. Notably, Brazil is the other BRICS country hit by the US penalty over Russian oil. Brazil's President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva has spoken to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on enhancing cooperation in trade.

"India, as the BRICS chair in 2026, will seek to leverage BRICS as a platform to reform global financial institutions, promote trade and investment, and advocate for the interests of the Global South," Kumar said.

During Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi's visit to India last week, the two sides agreed that the Chinese side will support India in hosting the 2026 BRICS Summit and the Indian side will support China in hosting the 2027 BRICS Summit.

PUNJAB KESARI, Delhi, 26.8.2025
Page No. 10, Size:(27.40)cms X (16.27)cms.

अमेरिकी टैरिफ पर रूस में भारत के राजदूत का कड़ा जवाब

जहां सस्ता मिलेगा वहीं से तेल खरीदेंगे

मॉस्को, (एजेंसी) : अमेरिका से जारी टैरिफ तनाव के बीच रूस में भारत के राजदूत विनय कुमार ने कहा है कि भारतीय तेल कंपनियों को जहां से भी बेहतर डील मिलेगी, वह वहां से तेल खरीदेंगे। उन्होंने रूसी तेल खरीद को लेकर अमेरिका द्वारा लगाए गए 25 फीसदी टैरिफ को गलत बताया। रूसी समाचार एजेंसी ताश को दिए इंटरव्यू में विनय ने कहा कि भारत अपने 1.4 अरब लोगों के हितों का पूरी तरह से ध्यान रखेगा। उन्होंने भारतीय सरकार का स्टैंड साफ करते हुए बताया कि ट्रंप प्रशासन द्वारा लगाए गए 50 फीसदी टैरिफ के बाद भी सरकार भारतीयों के हितों को साधने में पीछे नहीं हटेगी और राष्ट्रीय हित को हमेशा ही प्राथमिकता देगी।

कुमार ने कहा कि विश्व का कोई भी व्यापार बेहतर डील और आर्थिक हालात को देखते हुए होता है। इसलिए यदि बेहतर डील और आयात के आधार पर जो सही है, वह किया जा रहा है। भारतीय तेल कंपनियों को जहां से भी बेहतर सौदा मिल रहा है, वह वहां से खरीदारी करना जारी रखेंगी। वर्तमान स्थिति यही है। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत और रूस के बीच में व्यापार आपसी समझ और दोनों तरफ के लोगों की आम भावनाओं को आधार पर है। यह दोनों देशों की भलाई के लिए है और यह पूरी तरह से बाजार के ऊपर भी है। इससे कुछ दिन पहले विदेश मंत्री जयशंकर ने भी भारत के स्टैंड को साफ करते हुए कहा था कि हम हमारी व्यापार नीति, किसानों के हितों और संप्रभुता को लेकर कोई समझौता स्वीकार नहीं करेंगे। इन हितों को साधने के लिए सरकार को जो करना पड़ेगा सरकार करेगी।

हालांकि, भारत का रूस को निर्यात अब भी कम है। विनय कुमार ने कहा कि भारत इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स, ऑटोमोबाइल, टेक्सटाइल और निर्माण सामग्री जैसे क्षेत्रों में रूस को निर्यात बढ़ाने की कोशिश कर रहा है। नई दिल्ली में रूसी दूतावास के अधिकारी रोमन बाबुश्किन ने 20 अगस्त को एक प्रेस कॉन्फ्रेंस में कहा कि अगर भारत को अपनी चीजें अमेरिकी मार्केट में बेचने में दिक्कत हो रही है, तो रूसी मार्केट में उसका स्वागत है। वह रूस को अपने सामान का निर्यात कर सकता है।

- ट्रंप के टैरिफ को बताया बेबुनियाद

रूसी तेल खरीद पर 5 प्रतिशत छूट मिल रही

रोमन बाबुश्किन ने 20 अगस्त को ही बताया था कि भारत को रूस के कच्चे तेल पर करीब 5प्रतिशत की छूट मिल रही है। भारत, चीन के बाद रूसी तेल का सबसे बड़ा खरीदार है। यूक्रेन युद्ध से पहले भारत रूस से सिर्फ 0.2% (68 हजार बैरल प्रतिदिन) तेल इम्पोर्ट करता था। मई 2023 तक यह बढ़कर 45% (20 लाख बैरल प्रतिदिन) हो गया, जबकि 2025 में जनवरी से जुलाई तक भारत हर दिन रूस से 17.8 लाख बैरल तेल खरीद रहा है। पिछले दो साल से भारत हर साल 130 अरब डॉलर (11.33 लाख करोड़ रुपए) से ज्यादा का रूसी तेल खरीद रहा है।

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पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय का दफ्तर अब कर्त्तव्य भवन में शिफ्ट

सवेरा न्यूज/आकाश द्विवेदी

नई दिल्ली, 25 अगस्त : पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय ने अपना दफ्तर शास्त्री भवन से नई जगह कर्तव्य भवन-03, जनपथ, नई दिल्ली में स्थानांतरित कर दिया है। मंत्रालय ने जानकारी दी है कि अब से सभी आधिकारिक कार्यवाही और बैठकें इसी नए पते से संचालित होंगी। कर्तव्य भवन में स्थानांतरण के साथ ही मंत्रालय का पूरा प्रशासनिक और परिचालनिक ढांचा आधुनिक सुविधाओं से युक्त भवन में स्थानांतरित हो गया है। मंत्रालय ने कहा कि यह कदम कार्यकुशलता बढ़ाने और कर्मचारियों के लिए बेहतर कार्य वातावरण उपलब्ध कराने की दिशा में अहम साबित होगा। इसके साथ ही मंत्रालय ने यह भी सूचित किया है कि कार्यालय से संबंधित सभी अद्यतन संपर्क विवरण, जिनमें टेलीफोन नंबर और अन्य आवश्यक जानकारी शामिल है, अब मंत्रालय की आधिकारिक वेबसाइट पर उपलब्ध हैं। नागरिक और हितधारक होम, अबाउट अस, फोन डायरेक्टरी सेक्शन में जाकर इन विवरणों को प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। नए परिसर में शिफ्ट होने से मंत्रालय को बेहतर समन्वय, आधुनिक संचार सुविधाएं और प्रशासनिक कार्यों को और अधिक पारदर्शी तरीके से संचालित करने का अवसर मिलेगा। यह कदम मंत्रालय की कार्यप्रणाली को और अधिक सशक्त व सुगम बनाने की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण पहल माना जा रहा है।

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पेट्रोलियम मंत्रालय के विज्ञापन में महात्मा गांधी का कद छोटा दिखाने पर सपाइयों का प्रदर्शन

आगरा (एसएनबी)। विगत 15 अगस्त को स्वतंत्रता दिवस के अवसर पर पेट्रोलियम मंत्रालय भारत सरकार द्वारा जो विज्ञापन प्रकाशित किया गया था उसमें वीर सावरकर का चित्र सबसे ऊपर तथा महात्मा गांधी का कद छोटा एवं भगत सिंह और नेता जी सुभाष चंद्र बोस का कद अति छोटा प्रदर्शित किया गया है, जो महात्मा गांधी को अपना आदर्श मानते हैं उनके लिए यह अत्यधिक पीड़ा का विषय है। गांधी विचारों के समर्थक लोगों द्वारा सोमवार को गांधी स्मारक, यमुना ब्रिज पर विरोध प्रदर्शन किया गया और यह संदेश दिया कि इस प्रकार का घृणित कार्य न सिर्फ अत्यधिक निंदनीय है बल्कि घोर आपत्तिजनक भी है। यह बात सपा के राज्यसभा सांसद रामजीलाल सुमन ने कही है।

सांसद रामजी लाल सुमन ने कहा कि महात्मा गांधी दुनिया के महानतम महापुरुषों में से एक हैं उनके निधन के अवसर पर सोवियत रूस को छोड़ कर दुनिया का कोई ऐसा झंडा नहीं था जो उनके सम्मान में झुका न हो। सपा के राज्यसभा सांसद ने कहा विज्ञापन में महात्मा गांधी, सुभाष चंद्र बोस और भगत सिंह के कद को छोटा करके दिखाने की जो सोची समझी शरारत की गई है, इसकी जांच होनी चाहिए। अन्यथा यह माना जाएगा कि पेट्रोलियम मंत्रालय ने अपने आकाओं को खुश करने के लिए यह घृणित कुकृत्य किया है। प्रधानमंत्री देश की जनता से माफी मांगें और यदि प्रधानमंत्री माफी नहीं मांगते हैं तो इसका सीधा अर्थ यह है कि यह खुराफात प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय के इशारे पर ही हुई है। विरोध प्रदर्शन में शामिल सपा के राज्यसभा सांसद रामजीलाल सुमन के अतिरिक्त प्रमुख गांधीवादी शशि शिरोमणि, साहित्यकार एवं लेखक अशोक रावत, डॉ. मधुरिमा शर्मा, रमाकान्त सारस्वत, डॉ. राजीव लोचन भारद्वाज, डॉ. हेमन्त कुमार शाह, रविभूषण शिरोमणि, चंद्रमोहन पाराशर, सर्वसेवा संघ के प्रदेश अध्यक्ष रामधीरज भाई के नाम उल्लेखनीय हैं।

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भारत की दो टूक: जहां से सस्ता मिलेगा, वहां से ऑयल खरीदेंगे

मॉस्को| रूस में भारत के राजदूत विनय कुमार ने कहा है, जहां से सस्ता मिलेगा, हम वहां से ऑयल खरीदेंगे। भारत ऐसे कदम उठाता रहेगा जो 'राष्ट्रीय हित' की रक्षा करें। प्राथमिकता देश की 140 करोड़ की आबादी के लिए ऊर्जा सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करना है। उन्होंने कहा, भारत और रूस के बीच तेल आयात के भुगतान में भी कोई समस्या नहीं है। भारत-रूस के पास अपनी-अपनी मुद्रा में भुगतान करने की व्यवस्था भी है।

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हाइड्रोकार्बन अन्वेषण की मंजूरी निरस्त होगी

चेन्नई। तमिलनाडु सरकार ने राज्य पर्यावरण प्रभाव आकलन प्राधिकरण को हाइड्रोकार्बन अन्वेषण के लिए ओएनजीसी को दी गई मंजूरी वापस लेने का निर्देश दिया है। एसईआईएए ने रामनाथपुरम जिले में 20 कुओं में हाइड्रोकार्बन अन्वेषण ड्रिलिंग करने की मंजूरी दी है।