

## LPG up ₹60; India looks beyond Gulf



**OIL MARKETING COMPANIES** raised the price of domestic cooking gas by ₹60 per cylinder effective immediately, as per data available on the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) website, reports **Saurav Anand**. Following the revision, a 14.2-kg non-subsidised LPG cylinder will now cost ₹913 in Delhi, a price paid by most households.

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# LPG prices up by ₹60

**PRICES IN OTHER** metros now stand at ₹939 in Kolkata, ₹912.50 in Mumbai and ₹928.50 in Chennai.

The price increase comes as global energy markets remain volatile following the escalation of tensions in West Asia, which has disrupted energy shipments and raised concerns over fuel availability across major importing countries. At the same time, the government has begun exploring new supply options to ensure uninterrupted availability of cooking gas in the country. "The Indian government is actively scouting for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cargoes from alternative, non-Gulf sources including the US, Canada and Africa to ensure uninterrupted supply," a senior official aware of the development said.

Meanwhile, government

officials have also taken steps to strengthen domestic supply. Facing potential disruptions in imports from West Asia, the petroleum ministry on Wednesday directed both state-run and private refineries to maximise production of cooking gas by diverting feedstock away from non-essential products such as petrochemicals.

"All oil refining companies operating in India shall maximise and ensure that propane and butane streams produced, recovered, fractionated or otherwise available with them are utilised for production of LPG and make it available to the three public-sector OMCs—IOCL, HPCL and BPCL—only," said the government order dated March 5. The move assumes significance as the country currently has about 25 days

of LPG inventory, while imports meet 75–80% of total demand. "Further steps will be taken if required, but as of now the situation in terms of LPG supplies to households is comfortable. We are looking to source LPG from anywhere across the world," the official said.

LPG remains the dominant cooking fuel in India, with demand expanding rapidly over the past decade following the rollout of the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, which has pushed LPG coverage close to universal levels.

India now has over 33 crore active domestic LPG customers, up sharply from 14.5 crore in 2014, while total LPG consumption has risen from 17.6 million tonnes in 2014-15 to about 32 million tonnes in FY25.

NO IMMEDIATE PLANS TO RAISE PETROL AND DIESEL PRICES, SAY GOVERNMENT SOURCES

# 'LPG price hiked to balance oil cos' finances, consumer interest'

## Indian refiners are ramping up crude purchases from non-Hormuz sources, including Russia

Sukalp Sharma  
New Delhi, March 7

THE HIKE in liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), or cooking gas, for domestic consumers by Rs 60 per cylinder was done in view of the West Asia conflict-induced surge in international prices, which are weighing on public sector oil marketing companies (OMC) that have been retailing the fuel to households at a loss on a sustained basis, according to top government sources.

They also said currently there isn't any expectation of a hike in retail prices of petrol and diesel despite a jump in global prices as the OMCs — Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL), and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) — are financially well-positioned in respect of these fuels. They also assured that sufficient fuel stocks are available in the country and the consumers need not panic about supply.

Domestic LPG price was hiked by Rs 60 per 14.2-kg cylinder on Saturday to Rs 913 in Delhi, with corresponding changes in other parts of the country; for poor households covered under the Ujjwala scheme, the effective price will be Rs 613 after accounting for the Rs 300 cash subsidy. India has over 33 crore domestic LPG consumers; this is the second hike in domestic LPG prices in 11

months. In addition to domestic LPG prices, commercial LPG prices were hiked by Rs 114.5 per 19-kg cylinder to Rs 1,883 in Delhi, with corresponding changes in other parts of India. Commercial LPG is mostly used by restaurants and hotels.

According to a senior government official, despite the price increase, LPG for households continues to be sold below market-linked price levels in India, and is significantly cheaper than neighbouring countries like Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Nepal. The pricing calculations indicated that the required increase would have been around Rs 134 per cylinder, as per government sources. They also said that price increase effectively translates to a hike of just around 20 paise per person per day for a family of four based on current household LPG consumption levels in the country.

According to industry sources, even before the West Asian conflict, the three OMCs had accumulated losses worth roughly Rs 20,000 crore in the first three quarters of the current financial year. In 2024-25, they had initially absorbed Rs 40,000 crore worth of losses on sale of LPG to households below market prices; the government later approved Rs 30,000 crore as compensation support. Prior to that, in 2022-23, the Centre provided the OMCs with Rs 22,000 crore in compensation support for their



India has over 33 crore domestic LPG consumers, and this is the second hike in domestic LPG prices in 11 months. ANI

accumulated losses worth Rs 28,000 crore on LPG sales.

India imports over half of its LPG requirement, and domestic prices are linked to global benchmarks such as the Saudi Contract Price (CP). According to industry data, the average Saudi CP has jumped from \$466 per tonne in November 2025 to over \$542 this month. "Domestic LPG prices are consciously moderated by the government to shield households from international volatility. This targeted approach ensures that while market signals are visible through commercial LPG pricing, household cooking fuel remains protected and affordable... the modest price adjustment must be seen as part of a calibrated approach balancing consumer protection, financial sustainability of OMCs, and uninterrupted LPG supply for households across India," said a senior government official.

The conflict in West Asia has effectively halted vessel movement through the critical chokepoint of the Strait of Hormuz —

the narrow waterway between Iran and Oman that connects the Persian Gulf with the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea — from where over 80% of India's LPG imports transit. Around 40% of the country's oil imports and over half of its liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports also come through this chokepoint.

The disruption in maritime traffic through Hormuz has led to a surge in global prices of crude oil, petroleum fuels, and natural gas. Since the start of the conflict on February 28, benchmark Brent crude has risen over 27% to \$92.69 per barrel, the highest level since end-September 2023. India depends on imports to meet over 88% of its oil needs, and around half of its natural gas requirement.

Despite the spurt in international oil and fuel prices, there are no immediate plans for hiking petrol and diesel prices, which is in line with the government's policy of the past few years to keep pump prices stable despite the volatility in international energy markets, according to sources. Petrol

and diesel prices have effectively been flat since April 2022, with the OMCs taking losses when global prices jump, and recouping them when they fall.

To ensure continued availability of cooking gas to crores of Indian households amid the West Asia crisis, the Centre invoked emergency powers derived from the Essential Commodities Act to direct refiners to maximise LPG production, ensuring all the gas is supplied solely to domestic LPG consumers and not used to produce petrochemicals.

According to sources in the know, the government and Indian oil and gas companies are in touch with all international suppliers, including national oil companies and even large traders like Vitol, Trafigura, and ADNOC Trading, to source additional volumes of crude oil and LPG from their international portfolios in view of the conflict, even as the country is in a "comfortable" position to prevent any near-term shortage of major fuels like petrol, diesel, and LPG.

Some LPG volumes under the recently-linked import contract with the US have also started coming in. The sources also assured there was no need at present to ration fuels. As for crude, Indian refiners are ramping up purchases from non-Hormuz sources, including Russia. According to government sources, the country's stocks of crude oil and major fuels derived from it — like diesel and petrol — are increasing as oil cargoes from other regions, including Russian crude already in tankers on water, are coming in.

FULL REPORT ON  
[WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM](http://WWW.INDIANEXPRESS.COM)



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## Aus, Canada offer extra gas supply

**W**ith India exploring alternative sources to further strengthen its energy security, countries like Australia, Canada and several others have offered additional gas supplies, official sources said on Saturday. Citing the closure of the key shipping route through the Strait of Hormuz, sources said the passage is not the only route for India's crude imports and asserted the days of dependence on a single maritime chokepoint are long over. They said supplies from Russia, the Americas and non-Gulf routes have ensured disruption in any single corridor does not result in a supply emergency. TNN

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# ‘India Not Dependent on Permission from Any Country to Buy Russia Oil’

Govt says Moscow remains largest crude supplier, country well-stocked in fuel

Our Bureau

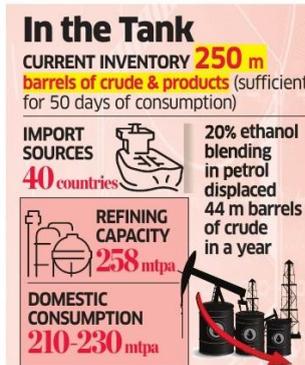
**New Delhi:** India has never depended on permission from any country to buy Russian oil, a government official said in response to the 30-day window the US opened on Friday for Indian refiners to import floating

Russian volumes.

“India is still importing Russian oil, even in February 2026, and Russia is still India’s largest crude oil supplier,” the official said. “Therefore, suggesting a short-term waiver ‘enables’ these purchases overlooks that the trade has continued consistently.”

The Iran war and the effective closure of the Strait of Hormuz have curtailed a major source of oil and gas supplies to the global market, bringing in sharp focus the Russian supplies that can partly replace the lost Gulf supplies for India.

Alternative Sources >> 7



**In the Tank**

- CURRENT INVENTORY** 250 m barrels of crude & products (sufficient for 50 days of consumption)
- IMPORT SOURCES** 40 countries
- REFINING CAPACITY** 258 mtpa
- DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION** 210-230 mtpa
- 20% ethanol blending in petrol displaced 44 m barrels of crude in a year

## Alternative Sources

>> From Page 1

“US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent announced a 30-day waiver permitting Indian refiners to continue purchases of Russian oil, explicitly describing India as an essential partner,” the official said. “The waiver removes a friction that was never in anyone’s interest to sustain — and it recognises the stabilising role India’s refining and procurement capacity has played in global energy markets.”

The US statements on waiver “are for their domestic audience,” the official said, without elaborating. India is continuing to source alternative oil and gas supplies after the effective closure of the Strait of Hormuz and maintains sufficient supplies to handle current challenges, he added. “India is well stocked with crude oil, petrol, diesel, ATE, LPG, and LNG, with sufficient inventories to handle short-term disruptions.”

India has over 250 million barrels of crude oil and refined petroleum products combined, which should be sufficient for 50 days of domestic consumption, according to the official. He also said that many countries, including Australia and Canada, have offered additional gas supplies.

After the shutdown of the world’s largest LNG facility in Qatar, imports of LNG are down 60%, prompting gas marketers to cut supplies to industrial customers in India. Imports make up half of domestic consumption.



## Now, Kuwait announces cuts in oil, refining output

**K**uwait, OPEC's fifth-biggest producer, cut oil and refinery production following the near-halt of shipping traffic through the Strait of Hormuz, the latest in a string of output reductions hitting some of the world's biggest energy producers. The cuts follow the "ongoing aggression by the Islamic Republic of Iran against the state of Kuwait, including Iranian threats against safe passage of ships through the Strait of Hormuz," Kuwait Petroleum Corp said in a statement.

The cutback started with about 100,000 barrels a day as of early Saturday and is expected to almost triple on Sunday, with further gradual reductions depending on storage levels and the status of Hormuz, a person with direct knowledge of the plan said, asking not to be named because the details are private. BLOOMBERG

# India doesn't need permission to buy Russian oil, say officials

## 'Talk Of Waiver For Domestic Audience In US'

Atul.Mathur@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: India never stopped sourcing crude from Russia, govt sources said on Saturday, despite US President Donald Trump's linking the withdrawal of a 25% penalty tariff in the proposed trade deal framework to New Delhi's purported pledge to halt such purchases.

Sources said India has never depended on permission from any country to buy Russian oil, and Russia continued to be its largest crude supplier in Feb. They added that India's energy procurement decisions are guided by the

### IRAN REGRETS ATTACKING GULF STATES

Iran's president Masoud Pezeshkian apologises for attacks on 'neighbouring countries' even as it **continues to rain drones and missiles on them.** Says 'we have targeted US military bases, facilities and installations', **no more attacks unless attacked first**

Dismisses US President Trump's call to Tehran to surrender as a 'dream'

Trump responds by calling Iran 'loser of the Middle East'. Says it would be **'hit very**



**hard'**, vows to attack 'areas and groups of people that were not considered for targeting up until this moment in time'

**Israeli warplanes hammer Beirut and Tehran.** Toll in Iran rises to at least 1,230 people; nearly 300 dead in Lebanon

In early days of war, **Iran destroyed \$300m radar of THAAD missile defence system in Jordan,** besides radar systems in UAE and Qatar, it emerges

principle of "national interest". "We source crude from wherever supplies are available, competitively priced and deliverable, and we will continue to do so," a govt source said.

Declaration of a "30-day waiver" by top US officials for India to buy Russian oil was, sources said, meant for their domestic audience.

► **Hormuz not sole route, P 22**

# Hormuz not sole route, only 40% of India's crude imports pass through it, says official

► Continued from P1

This has been our consistent position across administrations and geopolitical cycles," a govt source said, adding that every decision made by govt in the petroleum sector is guided by three criteria: affordability, availability and sustainability.

US treasury secretary Scott Bessent said late Thursday the Trump administration had granted a temporary 30-day waiver allowing Indian refiners to buy Russian oil stranded at sea so that supplies continue flowing into the global market and ease the pressure caused by Iran's blockade of the Strait of Hormuz.

US energy secretary Chris Wright said later that as a short-term measure to increase crude availability and reduce prices, Washington had



India holds over 250 million barrels of crude oil and refined petroleum products, translating into 7-8 weeks of buffer coverage

sounded India on purchase of excess Russian barrels floating around South Asia.

Govt sources said the 30-day waiver merely removes a friction point that was not in any party's interest to sustain. Officials pointed out that during three years of the Russia-Ukraine war since 2022,

India continued buying oil from Moscow due to deep discounts it was offering and refinery demand despite objections from the US and the European Union.

Suggesting a short-term waiver enabled these purchases overlooks the fact the trade has continued consistently. India is a net exporter of refined products to the world — a position that reinforces, not undermines, its energy security, a govt source said. India's crude imports from Russia in Feb were a little over 1 million barrels a day (mbd), nearly 20% of its total purchases, compared with 1.1 mbd in Jan and 1.2 mbd in Dec. Cargoes from Russia hit a peak of nearly 2.2 mbd in May 2023 and accounted for over 31% of imports during April-Dec 2025.

Officials also said that as part of its strategic oil diplo-

macy, India has expanded its supplier base from 27 to 40 countries across six continents, and its energy security is no longer tied to conditions at a single maritime chokepoint such as the Strait of Hormuz. "The Strait of Hormuz is not the only route for India's crude imports. Only around 40% of India's crude imports pass through Hormuz, while about 60% are routed through other supply corridors that remain unaffected. This has ensured there has been no shortage of energy for Indian consumers even during global turmoil or the pandemic," an official said.

Govt sources said India holds over 250 million barrels (nearly 4,000 crore litres) of crude oil and refined petroleum products, translating into 7-8 weeks of buffer coverage across the supply chain.

 Hindustan Times

# LPG prices up by ₹60 amid West Asia crisis

**Rajeev Jayaswal**

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**NEW DELHI:** Energy supply disruptions due to the war in West Asia have hit the common man as State-run oil marketing companies on Saturday raised cooking gas prices across the country by ₹60 per 14.2 kg cylinder, taking the price of domestic liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cylinders in Delhi to ₹913 — the highest retail price since August 2023.

According to industry executives, the current rate hike reflects a partial transmission of the impact caused by an energy supply crunch in West Asia after the war in the region disrupted tanker movement through the Strait of Hormuz. This triggered a surge in benchmark Brent crude prices to \$94.64 a barrel in Friday's session before settling at \$93.32, a nearly 27% jump in just one week. Similarly, halting of liquefied natural gas (LNG) supplies from Qatar saw Asian spot LNG prices surging more than double from about \$10 per metric million British thermal unit (mmBtu) to about \$25 mmBtu.

People aware of the matter, requesting anonymity, said that State-run companies are unlikely to raise petrol and diesel prices immediately as they



**The hike took the price of LPG cylinders in Delhi to ₹913.** HT FILE

have significant cushion to shield the consumer from the price shock. HT on March 6 reported that State-run refiners' combined net profit exceeded ₹57,810 crore in the first nine months of FY26, a 192% increase from the ₹19,768 crore they earned in the same period in FY25.

The firms, however, decided to raise kitchen fuel rates for Indian households — the first hike in 11 months. Cooking gas price in India was last raised by ₹50 a cylinder to ₹853 per cylinder on April 8, 2025.

City-wise retail prices vary because of transportation costs and local levies. The cost of a cylinder jumped to ₹939 in Kolkata from ₹879 on Saturday. Similarly, it cost ₹912.50 a cylinder in Mumbai (from ₹852.50) and ₹928.50 in Chennai (from ₹868.50).

Price of 19 kg commercial LPG cylinders, used for indus-

trial purposes, also jumped by ₹114.50 to ₹1,883 per cylinder in Delhi.

Three state-run oil marketing companies (OMCs) — Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) — dominate the retail LPG sector in the country.

Poor households will also pay a higher price for gas, but they will continue to get the ₹300 per cylinder subsidy under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY). In other words, a 14.2 kg cylinder would now cost ₹613 for PMUY beneficiaries in Delhi.

On August 8 last year, the Union Cabinet approved the targeted subsidy of ₹300 per 14.2 kg cylinder for up to nine refills per year (and proportionately pro-rated for 5 kg cylinder) to the beneficiaries of PMUY during 2025-26 at an expenditure of ₹12,000 crore. The scheme benefits about 103.5 million beneficiaries. The PMUY scheme was launched in May 2016 to provide deposit-free LPG connection to adult women from poor households. The government in May 2022 started a targeted subsidy of ₹200 per 14.2 kg cylinder to PMUY beneficiaries.

In October 2023, the government raised this amount to ₹300 per 14.2 kg cylinder.

**STOCKS TOTAL OVER 250 MN BARRELS**

# Amid turmoil, India has 8-week oil buffer

**MPOST BUREAU**

**NEW DELHI:** Amid turmoil in West Asia, government sources said that India remains in a comfortable position on energy security and has a total of eight weeks of crude oil and petroleum products inventory, which includes strategic reserves.

They asserted that India holds over 250 million barrels of crude oil and refined petroleum products combined — approximately 4,000 crore litres. This translates into 7 to 8 weeks of buffer coverage across the full supply chain. These stocks are not held in a sin-

gle location or a single form.

Only about 40 per cent of India's crude oil imports transit through the Strait of Hormuz, significantly limiting exposure to regional disruptions.

The sources said India is closely monitoring developments in the region but is well-prepared to manage any potential supply-side challenges due to adequate inventory levels and diversified sourcing.

According to sources, India currently has around 25 days of crude oil inventory. Additionally, the country maintains about 25 days of petrol and diesel inventory.



**STOCKPILE**

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- » These stocks are not held in a single location or a single form
- » Only about 40 per cent of India's crude oil imports transit through the Strait of Hormuz, significantly limiting exposure to regional disruptions

Overall, India has a total inventory cover of nearly eight weeks of crude oil and petroleum

products, ensuring energy security in the event of short-term disruptions.

Only 40 per cent of India's crude moves through the Strait of Hormuz, and 60 per cent of the rest of the crude comes from other sources. India continues to import Russian crude as per previous contracts. The country is in a comfortable position with respect to LPG and LNG supplies, they added.

The government, according to sources, is keeping a close watch on the global energy market to ensure uninterrupted supplies for the country. Earlier in the day, sources indicated that India is scouting for alternative sources for **Continued on P6**



## Amid turmoil...

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importing crude oil, LPG and LNG. The sources said that there are no immediate plans to raise the prices of petrol or diesel in the country amid tensions in West Asia.

Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Puri, on Monday, reviewed the supply situation for crude oil, LPG, and other petroleum products with senior officials from the Ministry and PSUs, amid tensions in West Asia.

The Petroleum Ministry has said it is continuously monitoring the evolving situation, and all necessary steps will be taken in order to ensure the availability and affordability of major petroleum products in the country. India is a major importer of crude oil and natural gas from West Asian countries.

"We are continuously monitoring the evolving situation, and all necessary steps will be taken in order to ensure availability and affordability of major petroleum products in the country," the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas said in a post on X.

Moreover, the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, held a stakeholder consultation with all stakeholder ministries, key logistics and trade facilitation partners to review the emerging geo-political situation in West Asia and its potential impact on India's export-import cargo flows, including the export ecosystem.

According to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the meeting was chaired by Special Secretary, Department of Commerce, Suchindra Misra and Lav Agarwal, Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT).

The meeting was attended by representatives from logistics operators and shipping lines/forwarders, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, the Reserve Bank of India, export promotion ecosystem and other concerned agencies.

Stakeholders presented an assessment of the evolving operational environment, including routing and transit-time changes, vessel scheduling adjustments, container/equipment availability, freight and insurance cost trends, and implications for time-sensitive exports.

"The discussions covered the need to maintain predictability in cargo movement, minimise avoidable delays, and ensure seamless documentation and payment processes for exporters and importers," the Commerce Ministry said in a statement.

WITH AGENCIES INPUTS

# India explores new options: Canada, Australia offer additional gas supply

**‘The Strait of Hormuz is not the only route for India’s crude imports & the days of dependence on a single maritime chokepoint are long over’**

**OUR CORRESPONDENT**

**NEW DELHI:** With India exploring alternative sources to further strengthen its energy security, countries like Australia, Canada and several others have offered additional gas supplies, official sources said on Saturday.

Citing the ongoing US-Israel conflict with Iran leading to the closure of the key shipping route through the Strait of Hormuz, sources said the passage is not the only route for India’s crude imports and asserted that the days of dependence on a single maritime chokepoint are long over.

They noted that supplies from Russia, West Africa, the Americas, Central Asia, and non-Gulf Middle Eastern routes have ensured that disruption in any single corridor results in a managed sourcing adjustment, rather than a supply emergency.

Only around 40 per cent of India’s crude imports pass through the Strait of Hormuz, while about 60 per cent are routed through other supply routes that remain unaffected, they said. This has ensured that there has been no shortage of energy for Indian consumers even during global turmoil or the pandemic, sources said.



**‘Supplies from Russia, West Africa, the Americas, Central Asia, & non-Gulf Middle Eastern routes have ensured that disruption in any single corridor results in a managed sourcing adjustment’**

Several countries, including Australia and Canada, have also offered additional gas supplies, and India continues to explore alternative sources to further strengthen energy security, they said. India has also recently entered into new energy supply arrangements with partners such as the United States and the United Arab Emirates to ensure stable long-term supplies.

Over the last decade, India’s strategic oil diplomacy has expanded its supplier base

from 27 to 40 countries across six continents. The days when India’s energy security rose and fell with conditions in a single maritime chokepoint are over, sources said.

They highlighted that India’s energy procurement decisions are governed by one principle — national interest. “We source crude from wherever supplies are available, competitively priced, and deliverable, and we will continue to do so. This has been our consistent

**Key Points**

- » ‘Only around 40% of India’s crude imports pass through the Strait of Hormuz, while about 60% are routed through other supply routes’
- » India has also entered into new energy supply pacts with partners such as the US and the UAE to ensure stable supplies
- » Over the last decade, India’s strategic oil diplomacy has expanded supplier base from 27 to 40 nations across six continents

position across administrations and across geopolitical cycles,” a senior government official said, adding that the recent US statements are meant for the country’s domestic audience.

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent on Friday announced a 30-day waiver permitting Indian refiners to continue purchases of Russian oil, describing India as an essential partner.

India has complied with all 18 rounds of G7 price cap rules since they were introduced.

The waiver removes a friction that was never in anyone’s interest to sustain and recognises the stabilising role India’s refining and procurement capacity has played in global energy markets.

India remains in close touch with major global crude oil and gas suppliers as well as international energy institutions such as the International Energy Agency (IEA) & the OPEC, sources said.

“India acted within international law throughout. Every transaction used compliant shipping, audited channels, and legal traders. India did not break the rules. India stabilised markets and the record of global crude prices during a period when India was actively procuring is the clearest evidence of that,” the official added.

Sources said every decision taken by the government in the petroleum sector is guided by three criteria — affordability, availability, and sustainability.

On fuel prices, the sources noted that petrol prices rose by about 55 per cent in Pakistan, 22 per cent in Germany, 19 per cent in France, and 11.54 per cent in the US during the same period, while India’s petrol prices increased by less than 1 per cent.

## ● SURPASSES \$90 A BARREL

# Oil, gas prices rapidly rise as war shows no signs of letting up

ASSOCIATED PRESS  
New York, March 7

THE PRICE OF oil surged higher and showed no signs of halting its rapid climb a week after the US and Israel launched major attacks on Iran that escalated into a war in the Middle East.

The conflict, in which nearly every country in the Middle East has sustained damage from missiles or drone strikes, has left ships that carry roughly 20 million barrels of oil a day stranded in the Persian Gulf, unable to safely pass through the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow mouth of the Gulf that is bordered on its north side by Iran.

The disruption and damage to key oil and gas facilities in the Middle East has led to an interruption in the supply of oil and gas. Oil prices surpassed \$90 a barrel Friday, with American crude settling at \$90.90, up 36% from a week ago, and Brent, the international standard, climbing 27% over the course of the week to land at \$92.69. The fallout is ratcheting up what consumers and business will pay for gasoline,

## Pakistan fuel prices surge

PAKISTAN ON Friday raised consumer prices for diesel and petrol about 20%, citing higher oil prices driven by conflict.

The government announced a large 55-rupee increase to 321.17 rupees for diesel and 335.86 rupees for petrol. "We have taken this decision under compulsion because of a sharp surge in petroleum prices globally," the petroleum ministry said. **Reuters**

diesel and jet fuel, with some drivers already feeling it at the pump. "It's crazy. It's not needed, especially at a time when people are already struggling, but not unexpected from all this turmoil that's going on," said Mark Doran, who was pumping gas in Middlebury, Vermont Friday.

On Monday, President Donald Trump said that the US expected its military opera-

tions against Iran to last four to five weeks but has "the capability to go far longer." And on Friday, Trump appeared to rule out talks with Iran absent its "unconditional surrender."

In the US, a gallon of regular gasoline rose to \$3.32 on Friday, up 11% from a week ago, according to AAA motor club. Diesel was selling for \$4.33 a gallon Friday, up 15% from a week ago.

The price shocks were felt even more heavily in Europe and Asia, markets that rely more heavily on energy supplies from the Middle East. Diesel prices doubled in Europe, and jet fuel prices rose by close to 200% in Asia, according to Claudio Galimberti, chief economist at Rystad Energy.

Energy prices climbed throughout the week as Iran launched a series of retaliatory attacks, including a drone strike on the US Embassy in Saudi Arabia, and the conflict widened. Iran also hit a major refinery in Saudi Arabia and a LNG facility in Qatar, halting flows of refined products and taking about 20% of the world's LNG supply offline.



# LPG dearer by Rs 60; petrol, diesel spared

LPG Price Hike			₹ Per Cylinder		
Effective March 7, 2026					
<b>Non-Subsidised for Domestic Use</b> (14.2 Kg Cylinder)			<b>Commercial Use</b> (19 kg Cylinder)		
<b>Delhi</b>			<b>Delhi</b>		
Old	New	Change	Old	New	Change
853	913	▲ 60	1,768.5	1,883.0	▲ 114.5
<b>Kolkata</b>			<b>Kolkata</b>		
Old	New	Change	Old	New	Change
879	939	▲ 60	1,875.5	1,990.0	▲ 114.5
<b>Mumbai</b>			<b>Mumbai</b>		
Old	New	Change	Old	New	Change
852.5	912.5	▲ 60	1,720.5	1,835.0	▲ 114.5
<b>Chennai</b>			<b>Chennai</b>		
Old	New	Change	Old	New	Change
868.5	928.5	▲ 60	1,929.0	2,043.5	▲ 114.5

Source: IOCL.com KBK Infographics

*'India's LPG among cheapest globally'*

**OUR CORRESPONDENT**

**NEW DELHI:** Amid ongoing conflict in the Middle East, the prices of domestic LPG and commercial cylinders have been hiked by a steep Rs 60 and Rs 114.5, respectively, from Saturday.

This is the second price hike in less than a year. Government sources said the revision comes after a sharp jump in global energy prices since the military conflict between the United States and Israel against Iran began in West Asia.

Sources, however, added that an increase in petrol and diesel prices is not in the offing as state-owned oil firms have enough financial muscle to absorb the warranted increase.

Non-subsidised LPG -- the one that common households use in kitchens -- will now cost Rs 913 per 14.2-kg cylinder in Delhi as against Rs 853 previously, according to the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) website.

Ujjwala Yojana beneficiaries -- the over 10 crore poor who have got free LPG connections since 2016 -- will also have to bear the same amount of price increase. They will now pay Rs 613 per 14.2 kg cylinder after accounting for a subsidy of

**KITCHEN SHOCK**

- » This is the second price hike in less than a year
- » Government sources said the revision comes after a sharp jump in global energy prices since the military conflict between the United States and Israel against Iran began in West Asia
- » Sources, however, added that an increase in petrol and diesel prices is not in the offing as state-owned oil firms have enough financial muscle to absorb the warranted increase

Rs 300 per bottle they get for up to 12 refills in a year.

Government sources said the increase was necessitated because of a spike in global energy prices. Despite the increase, the price is less than the Rs 1,050 per 14.2-kg cylinder rate required to break-even at cost.

They said considering an average consumption of 4-5 cylinders per year per household, the increase translates to 80 paise per day for a family of four or just 20 paise per person. Even at the increased prices, LPG in India is cheaper than

Continued on P6



## LPG dearer by...

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most countries in the world, they said adding cooking costs Rs 1,207 per bottle in Katmandhu, Rs 1,241 in Sri Lanka and Rs 1,046 in Pakistan.

Sources ruled out any immediate increase in petrol and diesel price as three fuel marketing companies - Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) with bumper profits in earlier this year - had enough financial muscle to absorb such impact.

Retail petrol and diesel prices have been on a freeze since April 2022, with fuel retailers absorbing losses when crude prices are high and making profits when rates are low.

Alongside, the price of commercial LPG - the one used by establishments such as hotels and restaurants - was increased by Rs 114.5 per 19-kg cylinder.

It now costs Rs 1,883 in Delhi. This increase comes on top of Rs 28 per 19-kg cylinder raise effected on March 1. Commercial LPG rate has risen by Rs 302.50 this year.

Since the conflict broke out on February 28, the US crude soared 35.63 per cent for the biggest weekly gain in the history of futures contract dating back to 1983.

LPG markets have also tightened as shipments from key Gulf exporters face logistical disruptions, pushing international propane and butane benchmarks higher and raising concerns over supply availability for major importers such as India.

In Mumbai, non-subsidised LPG now costs Rs 912.50, Rs 939 in Kolkata, and Rs 928.50 in Chennai, according to the IOC website. Rates differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local sales tax or VAT.

The Strait of Hormuz is also a critical conduit for India's energy imports, with roughly half of the crude oil the country buys from overseas transiting through the narrow waterway. In addition, nearly 40 per cent of India's natural gas imports, largely in the form of LNG from Gulf suppliers like Qatar and the UAE, also pass through the strait.

● **AMID WEST ASIA CONFLICT**

# Indian refiners start buying Russian oil after US relief

**Purchasing both sanctioned and non-sanctioned oil**

**SAURAV ANAND**  
New Delhi, March 7

**INDIAN REFINERS HAVE** begun purchasing Russian crude cargoes currently at sea after the United States issued a 30-day waiver allowing India to procure Russian oil loaded on vessels as of March 5, providing refiners temporary flexibility to access supplies already in transit.

"After the US announced the waiver, refiners are purchasing both sanctioned and non-sanctioned Russian oil that is currently on water," a senior official aware of the development said on condition of anonymity.

The waiver, issued by the US Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), allows Indian companies to receive Russian crude cargoes that had already been loaded on vessels on or before March 5 and are destined for Indian ports. The exemption will remain valid until April 4, 2026. Officials said the relaxation enables refiners to purchase cargoes from all Russian sources provided the oil was loaded before the specified deadline. "The latest waiver allows refiners to purchase oil from all Russian sources which were loaded on vessels till the specified time of March 5 as

**ALTERNATE SOURCING**

■ Russia still India's top supplier with **1.04 mn** barrels/day supplied to India in February, followed by Saudi Arabia (1 mn bpd) & Iraq 980,000 bpd

■ Imports from outside Strait of Hormuz increase from **60% to nearly 70%**



**US announces \$20-billion reinsurance plan to ease trade**

**THE TRUMP** administration announced a \$20 billion reinsurance programme aimed at reviving shipping in the Strait of Hormuz.

The US International Development Finance said Friday it is deploying maritime reinsurance, including war risk, in the Gulf region to stabilise commerce. The facility will insure losses up to about \$20 billion "on a rolling basis" and will apply only to vessels for now, according to

a statement. This comes days after President Donald Trump ordered DFC to offer insurance "at a very reasonable price" to ensure the flow of energy and other commercial trade in the Gulf as oil prices soar. His comments came after some governments, including the US, had suggested insurance availability was blocking transit. Trump also said the US military may escort ships in the Strait. **Bloomberg**

per the OFAC order. So all oil on sea that's on offer they are trying to procure," the official said. Russia has remained India's largest crude supplier since 2022, after Western sanctions on Moscow pushed discounted Russian oil toward

Asian markets. However, shipments to India had declined in recent months after sanctions were imposed on Rosneft and Lukoil, two of Russia's largest oil producers, in November.

The development comes at a time when global energy mar-

kets remain volatile following the escalation of tensions in West Asia, which has disrupted shipping routes and heightened concerns over supplies moving through the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's most critical oil transit chokepoints.

Government sources, however, gave a positive update on cargo movements, indicating that shipping activity near the Strait of Hormuz may resume soon after Iran pledged not to target neighbouring countries unless attacked from their territory. Officials said India has already taken steps to reduce supply risks by diversifying crude sourcing routes. "India has ramped up about 10% of its crude imports from sources other than the Strait of Hormuz," a government source said. As a result, the share of crude imports sourced outside the strait has increased from around 60% to nearly 70%, helping ensure a steady flow of supplies despite disruptions in the region. Officials also ruled out any immediate increase in petrol and diesel retail prices, saying domestic fuel stocks remain comfortable.

According to tanker-tracking data from Kpler, Russia supplied about 1.04 million barrels per day (bpd) of crude to India in February, followed by Saudi Arabia at around 1 million bpd and Iraq at 980,000 bpd, underlining Moscow's continued dominance in India's crude import basket.

# Domestic LPG price hiked by ₹60, commercial cylinder up ₹115

**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
New Delhi, 7 March

The price of domestic LPG cylinders has been increased with effect from Saturday, 7 March, with the cost of a 14.2-kg household cooking gas cylinder rising by Rs 60 across the country, according to sources.

Similarly, the price of a 19 kg commercial LPG cylinder has also been increased by Rs 115 from the same date, impacting businesses such as hotels, restaurants and small commercial establishments.

As per the source, the price of a 14.2 kg domestic LPG cylinder in Delhi has increased from Rs 853 to Rs 913. In Mumbai, the new rate of a domestic LPG cylinder now stands at Rs 912.50, up from Rs 852.50 earlier.

In Kolkata, the price has risen from Rs 879 to Rs 939, while in Chennai it has increa-

LPG Price Hike				₹ Per Cylinder		
Effective March 7, 2026						
<b>Non-Subsidised for Domestic Use</b> (14.2 Kg Cylinder)				<b>Commercial Use</b> (19 kg Cylinder)		
<b>Delhi</b>				<b>Delhi</b>		
Old	New	Change		Old	New	Change
853	913	▲ 60		1,768.5	1,883.0	▲ 114.5
<b>Kolkata</b>				<b>Kolkata</b>		
Old	New	Change		Old	New	Change
879	939	▲ 60		1,875.5	1,990.0	▲ 114.5
<b>Mumbai</b>				<b>Mumbai</b>		
Old	New	Change		Old	New	Change
852.5	912.5	▲ 60		1,720.5	1,835.0	▲ 114.5
<b>Chennai</b>				<b>Chennai</b>		
Old	New	Change		Old	New	Change
868.5	928.5	▲ 60		1,929.0	2,043.5	▲ 114.5

Source: IOCL.com KBK Infographics

sed from Rs 868.50 to Rs 928.50.

The revised rates will come into effect immediately from today. The hike also applies

to commercial LPG cylinders used by businesses.

In Delhi, the price of a 19-kg commercial cylinder has increased from Rs 1768.50 to

Rs 1883. In Mumbai, the price has risen from Rs 1720.50 to Rs 1835. Similarly, in Kolkata, the price has gone up from Rs 1875.50 to Rs 1990, while in Chennai it has increased from Rs 1929 to Rs 2043.50.

Earlier, the price of a domestic LPG cylinder had remained unchanged since April 2025, when the non-subsidised rate in Delhi stood at Rs 853.

The latest revision marks a significant increase for household consumers as well as commercial users who rely on LPG for daily operations.

The increase comes amid discussions around India's energy supply and fuel availability. Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri earlier assured that there is no shortage of energy in the country and that consumers need not worry about supply disruptions.

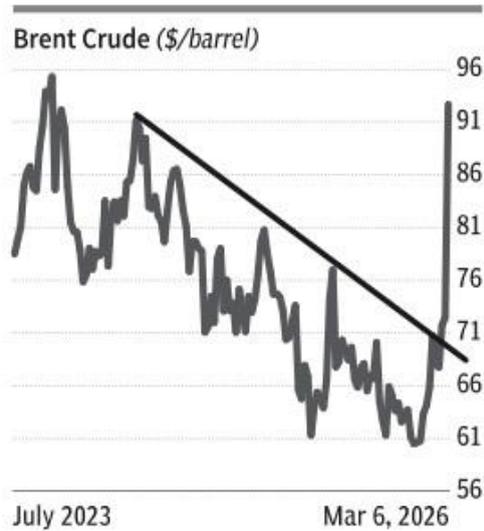
# Brent Crude: More upside

**B**rent Crude Oil (\$92.70 per barrel) has clearly made a bullish breakout on the charts. The price has been trading inside a bear channel since end-September 2023. Additionally, this breakout has happened after forming a double-bottom pattern. This is a bullish reversal pattern.

The recent surge also indicates that the long-term downtrend that has been in place since mid-2022 has come to an end. The neckline support of the double-bottom pattern is coming around 79. On the other hand, the channel support (resistance-turned-support) will come in the 74.50-73 region.

Immediate support is around \$89.20. If the momentum sustains and the price stays above \$89.20, a further rise to \$98-99 can be seen from here. Thereafter a corrective fall to \$90-\$88 is a possibility.

Can oil surpass the \$100 mark? Chances cannot be ruled out. A rise above \$100, can take it higher to \$108 eventually.



Our preferred move would be to see \$98-\$99 now. Then see a correction to \$90 and then surge to \$108.

The price has to fall below \$89.2 in order to see \$84 or \$80 on the downside. Only then the chances of a rally above \$100 will reduce. But that is unlikely as long as the US-Iran war continues.

**Take away:** Be prepared for higher oil price and high inflation.

**Gurumurthy K**  
bl. research bureau

**T**he US attacking Iran on March 7 rattled the global financial markets last week. Crude Oil price surged about 28 per cent. Brent Crude oil touched a high of \$94.65 per barrel during the week. It closed the week at \$92.70 per barrel.

On the other hand, the global equity markets were knocked down badly initially. However, some markets managed to recoup some of the loss in the second half.

In the US, the Dow Jones Industrial Average and the S&P 500 index were down 3 per cent and 2 per cent respectively for the week.

Gold remained volatile. Surprisingly it has not gained much sheen at this time of huge uncertainty. The yellow metal price went up 2.7 per cent initially, but then fell giving back all the gains. Indeed, it closed the week down by 2.7 per cent.

Dollar index has gained about 1.2 per cent for the week. It was up just over 2 per cent intra week. Looking at this, it clearly shows that the dollar index is gaining more of the safe-haven status this time compared to gold. The reason could merely be because gold price has already surged a lot.

On the domestic front, the Indian benchmark indices, the Nifty 50 and Sensex fell about 3.5 per cent each during the week. They recovered from the lows and ended the week down by about 2.9 per cent each.

The Indian rupee fell 1.4 per cent and marked a new low of 92.30 against the dol-

lar last week. The domestic currency closed the week at 91.75, down 0.84 per cent.

## US-IRAN WAR.

# What next for Oil, Gold, Dollar and Rupee

**CHART CHECK.** Using technical analysis, we assess how major asset classes may respond in the days ahead, as geopolitical tensions unsettle sentiment and reshape global risk appetite

### WHAT NEXT?

The big question now is where the market is headed from here. Will the war disrupt the oil supply? How long can this war go on? Will the situation worsen further with other countries getting pulled into the fight? These are some of the questions for which we do not have a concrete answer as of now.

That makes the situation more complex and unpredictable.

So, we keep all these questions aside without attempting to find an answer.

However, we take a different approach to forecast where the market is headed by analysing the historical price movement alone using charts and technical analysis. Many may argue that forecasting using charts at times of high uncertainty may not work. *Known fundamentals are already discounted, and the price reacts to unknown fundamentals.* Technical analysis works under this premise.

So, here is our analysis and forecast on Brent Crude Oil, Dollar Index, Gold and Indian Rupee based on charts.

To know where the domestic equity indices (Sensex, Nifty 50, Bank Nifty) are headed, please read our 'Index Outlook' column on Chart-Gazing page of this edition.



# Govt hikes LPG prices a day after invoking emergency powers to boost output

**Rishi Ranjan Kala**  
New Delhi

The Union government on Saturday raised the price of cooking gas by ₹60 per cylinder for both PMUY and non-PMUY users as the world's third largest liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) consumer navigates a complex scenario of rising prices coupled with lack of cargoes from its main suppliers in West Asia, a region caught in a full blown war.

The price hike — second in the current financial year — comes at a time as Delhi scrambles to secure cargoes from the US and Canada, while invoking emergency powers to direct refiners to maximise production of the critical cooking fuel used by more than 33 crore consumers, including over 10 crore PM Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) beneficiaries.

Effective Saturday, non-PMUY consumers will have to shell out ₹913 for a 14.2-kg cylinder in Delhi. PMUY consumers will have to pay ₹613 per cylinder.

Breaking down the ₹60 per cylinder price hike for both PMUY and non-PMUY consumers, a top source said it translates to roughly 80 paise per family per day for cooking, or around 20 paise per person per day (for a family of four).

The government also raised the price of commercial LPG by ₹114.5 per 19-kg cylinder to ₹1,883 in Delhi.



## HALT AT HORMUZ

Government sources said the price rise reflects the conflict in West Asia, which led to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz.

India consumed more than 33 million tonnes of LPG in FY25, of which over half was imported. Of the imports, 85-90 per cent came from West Asia with most cargoes transiting via the Strait of Hormuz.

Middle East Gulf (MEG), excluding Iran, is India's largest supplier of LPG, covering 92 per cent (around 720,000 barrels per day) of imports as of 2025, per Vortexa.

The government is exploring all possible sources to get fresh supplies, some of which are expected by this month end.

Besides buying 10 per cent of its LPG requirement from the US, India is also in touch with Canada to procure LPG. Africa is another region that India can look at for additional cargoes.

# Domestic LPG cylinder costlier by ₹60

■ Govt rules out petrol/diesel price hike ■ Cong, TMC flay Centre

**AGE CORRESPONDENT  
with agency inputs  
NEW DELHI/KOLKATA,  
MARCH 7**

The government-controlled oil companies on Saturday hiked the price of domestic cooking LPG gas by a steep ₹60 per cylinder. While the Opposition slammed the second increase in rate in less than a year, the government sources attributed it to the spike in global energy rates amidst the ongoing conflict in West Asia but ruled out any immediate increase in the petrol and diesel prices.

According to the Indian

Oil Corporation (IOC) website, beginning Saturday, non-subsidised LPG, the one that common households use in kitchens, will cost ₹913 per 14.2 kg cylinder in Delhi as against ₹853 previously. In Mumbai non-subsidised LPG now costs ₹912.50, in Kolkata ₹939 and in Chennai ₹928.50. Rates differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local sales tax or VAT.

The hike will also impact over 10 crore Ujjwala Yojana beneficiaries, who got free LPG connections since 2016. They will also bear the same amount of

▶ **INDIA HAS** also recently entered into new energy supply arrangements with partners such as the United States and the UAE to ensure stable long-term supplies

price increase and pay ₹613 per 14.2 kg cylinder after accounting for a subsidy of ₹300 per bottle they get for up to 12 refills in a year.

Alongside this, the price of commercial LPG, the one used by establishments such as hotels and restaurants, was increased by ₹114.5 per 19 kg cylinder. It now costs ₹1,883 in Delhi. This increase comes

on top of the ₹28 per 19 kg cylinder raise effected on March 1. The commercial LPG rate has risen by ₹302.50 this year.

While the government maintains it has steady supplies of oil due to a diversified portfolio, the oil companies said the hike in domestic rates is due to a steep rise in global energy prices since the US and Israel attacked Iran last weekend, leading to a wider military conflict in the oil- and gas-rich Middle East. The conflict has led to massive disruptions of oil tanker movement through the

■ Turn to Page 4

## LPG cylinder costlier by ₹60

■ Continued from Page 1

Strait of Hormuz, triggering a spike in global oil and gas prices. Roughly half of India's crude oil supplies transit through the Strait of Hormuz. In addition, nearly 40 per cent of India's natural gas imports, largely in the form of LNG from Gulf suppliers like Qatar and the UAE, also pass through the strait.

Sources in the government insist there is no shortage of oil in the country. Also, India is exploring purchasing oil from countries like Australia and Canada, among others, to boost its domestic reserves. So far supplies from Russia, West Africa, the Americas, Central Asia, and non-Gulf Mideast routes have ensured that disruption in any single corridor results in a managed sourcing adjustment, rather than a supply emergency.

India has also recently entered into new energy supply arrangements with partners such as the United States and the United Arab Emirates to ensure stable long-term supplies.

Leading the Opposition's attack, West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee accused the Centre of arbitrarily hiking LPG prices without making alternative arrangements in an "anti-people manner". She also announced that the TMC's women's wing will stage protests on the streets against the hike on Sunday.

Ms Banerjee said: "They increased the LPG price by ₹60. Then they put a lock-in period of 21 days for booking gas. What will people do if their cylinder is exhausted? Should they not have thought about these issues beforehand? They have also reduced the kerosene quota. You are forcefully

increasing prices. Why did you not plan all this earlier? Why did you not think about these things?"

Meanwhile, the Congress doubled down on its attack on the Modi government over US officials' remarks on India's Russian oil purchase and accused it of being "cowardly and compromised". Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said the US treasury secretary has given the Modi government its certificate for faithfully following the US President's orders. The Opposition party's jibe came after the US said it has given "permission" to India to buy Russian oil that is on ships already floating on waterways with a view to easing supplies around the world amid the West Asia conflict.

"We source crude from wherever supplies are available, competitively priced, and deliverable, and we will continue to do so. This has been our consistent position across administrations and across geopolitical cycles," a senior government official said, adding that the recent US statements are meant for the country's domestic audience. Dismissing the Opposition allegations, a senior government functionary said India has never been dependent on permission from any nation to buy Russian oil and though the US sanctions' waiver allowing refiners to purchase it removes friction, it does not define the country's policy.

Russian oil continued to flow into India even after the US objected to it and imposed sanctions, the functionary said, citing a 2013 adjustment done by the then Congress government in oil imports under US sanctions.

## Cooking gas price up by ₹60 a cylinder

**New Delhi:** Domestic cooking gas will cost Rs 60 more per cylinder from Saturday while commercial LPG price rose by Rs 114.5, amid pressure on global energy markets and rising costs due to the West Asia conflict, **reports Atul Mathur.**

The 14.2-kg domestic LPG cylinder now costs Rs 913 in the capital.

Officials, however, said there will be no revision in the retail price of petrol and diesel, as oil marketing companies (OMCs) have enough cushion to absorb the rise in global crude prices.

► **Last hike in April 2025, P 22**

# LPG cylinder price was last hiked by ₹50 in April 2025

► **Continued from, P1**

The price of a 19-kg commercial cylinder is Rs 1,883. Ujjwala beneficiaries, who receive a subsidy of Rs 300 per cylinder directly in their bank accounts, will now pay Rs 613 per bottle. The price was last increased by Rs 50 last April. Prices of commercial cylinders, used by hotels and restaurants, are revised monthly based on international fuel costs. They were last hiked by Rs 28 per 19-kg cylinder on March 1 and have risen by Rs 302.5 in the last three months from Rs 1,580.5 in Dec 2025. The development comes a day after the govt invoked emergency powers under the Emergency Commodities Act of 1955 and directed refiners to increase production of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) for domestic customers due to supply constraints arising from the ongoing West Asia conflict. India imports over

60% of its LPG requirement and nearly 85-90% of shipments pass through the Strait of Hormuz, which is currently disrupted, curtailing energy flows from the region and triggering a spike in global oil and gas prices. India has over 33.3 crore LPG consumers, including 10.5 crore Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana beneficiaries who get a subsidy of Rs 300 per cylinder. In 2024-25, the country consumed 31.3 million tonne of LPG, of which only 12.8 million tonne were produced domestically.

Officials said the govt has always tried to shield households from international volatility. Domestic LPG prices are linked to international benchmarks such as the Saudi Contract Price (CP). Even as the Saudi CP benchmark rose 16% between Nov 2025 and Feb 2026, domestic LPG prices remained unchanged. Despite the latest revision, domestic LPG prices remain below the market-determined price of Rs 987 for a 14.2-kg cylinder in Delhi in March 2026, they said.

Officials said the three state-owned OMCs — Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum — absorbed losses of around Rs 39,000 crore in 2024-25 to protect domestic LPG consumers. Govt compensated Rs 30,000 crore to them.

“The impact of the hike translates to about 80 paise per day for a family of four, or just 20 paise per person, assuming an average consumption of 4-5 cylinders per household annually,” a govt official said, adding that LPG in India remains cheaper than in many countries. A cylinder costs Rs 1,207 in Kathmandu, Rs 1,241 in Sri Lanka and Rs 1,046 in Pakistan, the official said. Retail petrol and diesel prices were last revised in April 2022. OMCs absorb losses when crude prices are high and make profits when rates are low.

# Govt assures no petrol, diesel hike

OMCs have hiked domestic, commercial LPG cylinders prices by ₹60 and ₹115, respectively

RAKESH KUMAR @New Delhi

AFTER increasing the price of cooking gas (LPG), the government on Saturday said that state-run oil marketing companies will not increase petrol and diesel prices in the country despite volatility in global crude prices. Sources said the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) are not expected to increase petrol and diesel prices.

The ongoing conflict between Iran and Israel, which has impacted the flow of crude among Gulf countries, pushed global crude prices to their highest level since 2020 within a week. On Saturday, Brent crude futures were trading at \$92.69 a barrel, up by \$7.28 or 8.52 per cent at 7:38 PM IST. US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) rose \$9.89, or 12.12%, to \$90.90.

"I don't expect the oil companies will increase the price of petrol diesel in the country," said an official. The last major nationwide revisions in petrol and diesel prices took place on March 15, 2024, when oil companies announced a ₹2 per litre cut for both fuels.

The official also said that India's fuel supply situation remains stable as the country has diversified its supply sources beyond the Strait of Hormuz through which nearly 20% of global crude passes.



Oil cargos have resumed after Iran reassured that there would be no further attacks. The assurance has helped restore confidence among insurers and shipping lines, allowing vessels to resume movement

Government official

The situation in the region has also improved after Iran reassured that there would be no further attacks on neighbouring countries. The assurance helped restore confidence among insurers and shipping companies, allowing cargo vessels to resume movement through the key global energy route. Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian has said neighbouring countries will no longer be targeted unless an attack originates from there.

"Oil cargoes have resumed after Iran reassured that there would be no further attacks in the region. The assurance has helped restore confidence among insurers and shipping companies, allowing cargo vessels to resume movement through the key global energy

route," said the official.

The OMCs on Saturday hiked the price of domestic and commercial LPG cylinders in the country by ₹60 and ₹115, respectively. Following the hike, a 14.2 kg domestic LPG cylinder now costs ₹913 in Delhi, up from ₹853 earlier.

This is the second increase in LPG prices in less than a year. The LPG price hike comes after the government on Friday asked oil marketing companies to ramp up LPG production after supplies were impacted due to the ongoing Israel-Iran conflict in West Asia.

According to the petroleum ministry, the recent increase in cooking gas (LPG) prices translates to around Rs 0.20 per day for consumers under

the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY).

As of early 2026, the number of active beneficiaries under PMUY has surpassed 10.33 crore households. Overall, as of March 2026, India has around 33.08 crore active domestic LPG consumers.

According to the Union petroleum ministry, the average Saudi Contract Price (CP) — the international benchmark for LPG pricing — was around \$575 per metric tonne between March 2024 and March 2026.

Prices fluctuated from \$636 per metric tonne in March 2024 to \$466 per metric tonne in November 2025 before rising again to \$542 per metric tonne in March 2026. Despite this volatility, domestic LPG prices for PMUY beneficiaries have largely remained in the range of ₹503-553 during the same period.

Meanwhile, another official said Indian refiners have started purchasing both sanctioned and non-sanctioned Russian oil cargoes on water after receiving a 30-day waiver from the United States to import Russian crude.

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, in a social media post, said the Treasury Department is issuing a temporary 30-day waiver to allow Indian refiners to purchase Russian oil to ensure oil continues to flow into global markets. Russia has been the top supplier of oil to India since 2022.

## ईरान युद्ध लंबा चला तो 120 डालर प्रति बैरल तक जा सकता है कच्चा तेल

**नई दिल्ली, एएनआइ:** इन्फोमेरिकस रेटिंग्स के मुख्य अर्थशास्त्री मनोरंजन शर्मा का कहना है कि यदि ईरान संघर्ष लंबे समय तक जारी रहता है तो वैश्विक स्तर पर कच्चे तेल की कीमतें 120 डालर प्रति बैरल तक पहुंच सकती हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि एक विस्तारित भू-राजनीतिक संकट वैश्विक आर्थिक गणनाओं को महत्वपूर्ण रूप से बाधित कर सकता है।

एक विशेष बातचीत में शर्मा ने कहा कि तेल की कीमतें पहले ही एक छोटे समय में तेजी से बढ़ चुकी हैं। इस संघर्ष से पहले कच्चे तेल की कीमतें 70 डालर प्रति बैरल से नीचे थीं, लेकिन अब यह 90 डालर के पार पहुंच चुकी हैं। शनिवार को ब्रेट क्रूड का मूल्य 91.84 डालर प्रति बैरल और वेस्ट टेक्सास इंटरमीडियट (डब्ल्यूटीआई) का

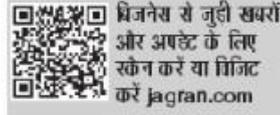


- इन्फोमेरिकस रेटिंग्स के मुख्य अर्थशास्त्री ने जताया अनुमान
- संघर्ष से पहले 70 डालर से कम था कच्चे तेल का मूल्य

मूल्य 89.62 डालर प्रति बैरल पर पहुंच चुका था। शर्मा के अनुसार, पहले उम्मीद थी कि संघर्ष कुछ हफ्तों में समाप्त हो जाएगा, लेकिन अब स्थिति अधिक अनिश्चित लग रही है।

शर्मा ने बताया कि देश के बजट अनुमानों और रिजर्व बैंक की

गणनाएं तेल की कीमतों को लगभग 70 डालर या उससे कम मानकर की गई थीं। यदि कीमतें स्थायी रूप से बढ़ती हैं तो नीति निर्माताओं को अपने अनुमानों पर पुनर्विचार करना पड़ेगा। कच्चे तेल में 10 डालर की वृद्धि से खुदरा महंगाई में 0.2-0.4 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हो सकती है। एक दशक पहले भू-राजनीतिक अनिश्चितता के चलते कच्चे तेल की कीमत 145-147 डालर प्रति बैरल तक पहुंच गई थी। उन्होंने उम्मीद जताई कि ऐसी स्थिति फिर से नहीं आएगी। लेकिन यदि संघर्ष बढ़ता है, तो 120 डालर प्रति बैरल तक पहुंचने की पूरी संभावना है।



## रसोई गैस 60 रुपये महंगी, नहीं बढ़ेंगे पेट्रोल और डीजल के दाम

जेएनएन, नई दिल्ली: पश्चिम एशिया में जारी युद्ध और वैश्विक ऊर्जा आपूर्ति पर उसके असर की आशंकाओं के बीच तेल कंपनियों ने रसोई गैस सिलिंडर की कीमत में 60 रुपये प्रति सिलिंडर की बढ़ोतरी की है। वहीं, कमर्शियल सिलिंडर की कीमत में 114.5 रुपये की बढ़ोतरी की गई है। नई कीमतें सात मार्च से लागू हो गई हैं। हालांकि, सरकार ने संकेत दिए हैं कि पेट्रोल-डीजल के दाम नहीं बढ़ेंगे। जागरण ब्यूरो के अनुसार, 14.2 किलो का गैर-सब्सिडी वाला घरेलू



एलपीजी सिलिंडर अब दिल्ली में 913 रुपये का हो गया है, जो पहले 853 रुपये का था। यह पिछले 11 महीनों में दूसरी बार बढ़ोतरी है। इससे पहले अप्रैल 2025 में कीमतों में 50 रुपये की वृद्धि की गई थी।

भारत को कई देशों से गैस आपूर्ति की पेशकश >> पेज 7

## भारत को कई देशों से गैस आपूर्ति की पेशकश

जागरण ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली: घरेलू रसोई गैस की कीमत 60 रुपये बढ़ने से पीएम उज्वला योजना के लाभार्थियों पर भी असर पड़ेगा। हालांकि, उन्हें प्रति सिलिंडर 300 रुपये की सब्सिडी मिलती है, जिसके बाद अब उन्हें 14.2 किलो के सिलिंडर के लिए 613 रुपये चुकाने होंगे। यह नई कीमतें सात मार्च से लागू हो गई हैं। होटल, रेस्तरां व व्यावसायिक प्रतिष्ठानों में इस्तेमाल होने वाले 19 किलो के कमर्शियल सिलिंडर की कीमत दिल्ली में 114.5 रुपये बढ़कर 1,883 रुपये हो गई है। इससे पहले एक मार्च को भी इसमें 28

### आसपास के देशों से एलपीजी अब भी सस्ती

दाम बढ़ाए जाने के बाद भी भारत में घरेलू एलपीजी पाकिस्तान, श्रीलंका और नेपाल की तुलना में काफी सस्ती है। तुलनात्मक रूप से, इसी सिलिंडर की कीमत पाकिस्तान में लगभग 1,046 रुपये, श्रीलंका में लगभग 1,241 रुपये और नेपाल में लगभग 1,207 रुपये है।

### रुपये की बढ़ोतरी की गई थी।

इस तरह इस साल कमर्शियल सिलिंडर की कीमत 302.50 रुपये बढ़ चुकी है।

पेट्र ने सूत्रों के हवाले से खबर दी है कि आस्ट्रेलिया, कनाडा और कई अन्य देशों ने भारत को अतिरिक्त गैस आपूर्ति की पेशकश की है। आइएएनएस ने सरकारी सूत्रों के हवाले से बताया

है कि पेट्रोल व डीजल की कीमतों में वृद्धि नहीं होगी। 'स्ट्रेट आफ होर्मुज से पहली खेप रवाना हो गई है, जो दर्शाता है कि आपूर्ति प्रवाह स्थिर हो रहा है।' एएनआइ ने सरकारी सूत्रों के हवाले से कहा है कि 'हमें कतर द्वारा आश्चर्य किया गया है कि मार्ग खुलते ही वे पहले ही मिनट में भारत को आपूर्ति शुरू कर देंगे।'

# रूसी तेल खरीदने को किसी की अनुमति पर निर्भर नहीं

नई दिल्ली, प्रेटर: केंद्र सरकार ने कहा है कि भारत रूसी तेल खरीदने के लिए कभी भी किसी अन्य देश की अनुमति पर निर्भर नहीं रहा है। हालांकि, अमेरिकी प्रतिबंधों में छूट से कंपनियों को इसे खरीदने की अनुमति मिल गई है, जिससे कुछ बाधाएं दूर हुई हैं। लेकिन, यह देश की नीति को परिभाषित नहीं करती।

एक वरिष्ठ सरकारी अधिकारी ने 2013 में तत्कालीन संग्रह सरकार द्वारा अमेरिकी प्रतिबंधों के तहत तेल आयात में किए गए समायोजन का हवाला देते हुए कहा कि अमेरिका द्वारा आपत्ति जताने और प्रतिबंध लगाने के बावजूद रूसी तेल भारत आता रहा। ईरान संग बढ़ते संघर्ष के बीच अमेरिका ने गुरुवार को भारतीय रिफाइनरियों को रूसी तेल खरीदने के लिए 30 दिनों की अस्थायी छूट देने की घोषणा की। अमेरिकी वित्त मंत्री स्काट बेसेंट ने कहा था कि दुनियाभर में आपूर्ति सुचारु बनाने के लिए भारत को रूसी तेल खरीदने की अनुमति दी है।

सरकारी अधिकारी ने कहा, सरकार का स्पष्ट संदेश है कि



● केंद्र सरकार ने कहा-अमेरिका की आपत्ति के बावजूद रूसी तेल भारत आता रहा

देश में ईंधन की आपूर्ति पूरी तरह सुरक्षित है। सरकार स्थिति पर लगातार नजर रख रही है। भारत के ऊर्जा प्रबंधन ने हमें वह सुरक्षा प्रदान की है, जिसकी हमें आवश्यकता है।

एएनआइ के अनुसार, बेसेंट ने कहा कि भारतीय बहुत अच्छे 'एक्टर' हैं। हमने उनसे प्रतिबंधित रूसी तेल खरीदना बंद करने को कहा था। उन्होंने ऐसा किया भी। वे इसके बदले अमेरिकी तेल खरीदने वाले थे। रायटर के अनुसार, बेसेंट ने कहा कि अमेरिका और अधिक रूसी तेल से प्रतिबंध हटा सकता है। समुद्री रास्ते में करोड़ों बैरल प्रतिबंधित कच्चा तेल मौजूद है।

## जंग का असर

# रसोई गैस 60 रु. महंगी वाणिज्यिक सिलेंडर 114.5 रुपए महंगा, पेट्रोल-डीजल स्थिर



### वेभव न्यूज ■ नई दिल्ली

पश्चिम एशिया में जारी संघर्ष के कारण वैश्विक ऊर्जा कीमतों में उछल के बीच शनिवार को एलपीजी की कीमत में 60 रुपए और वाणिज्यिक सिलेंडर की कीमत में 114.5 रुपए की भारी वृद्धि की गई है। हालांकि, सरकारी सूत्रों ने तुरंत स्पष्ट किया कि पेट्रोल और डीजल की कीमतों में बढ़ोतरी की कोई योजना नहीं है, क्योंकि सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की तेल कंपनियों के पास इस बोझ को सहने के लिए पर्याप्त वित्तीय क्षमता है। आईओसी की वेबसाइट के अनुसार, दिल्ली में अब गैस-सब्सिडी वाली एलपीजी का 14.2 किलोग्राम का सिलेंडर 913 रुपए में मिलेगा, जबकि पहले इसकी कीमत 853 रुपए थी। एक साल से भी कम समय में कीमत में यह दूसरी बड़ी बढ़ोतरी है। उज्ज्वला योजना के 10 करोड़ से अधिक लाभार्थियों को भी इतनी ही वृद्धि झेलनी होगी। उन्हें अब 300

रुपए की सब्सिडी के बाद प्रति सिलेंडर 613 रुपए देने होंगे।

वैश्विक ऊर्जा कीमतों में उछल के कारण यह वृद्धि आवश्यक थी। उन्होंने बताया कि इस बढ़ोतरी के बावजूद वर्तमान दर लागत के बराबर होने के लिए आवश्यक 1,050 रुपए प्रति सिलेंडर की दर से काफी कम है। सूत्रों ने तर्क दिया कि एक परिवार में सालाना 4-5 सिलेंडर की औसत खपत को देखते हुए, यह वृद्धि एक परिवार के लिए 80 पैसे प्रतिदिन या प्रति व्यक्ति केवल 20 पैसे प्रतिदिन के बराबर है। बढ़ी हुई कीमतों के बावजूद भारत में एलपीजी काठमांडू (1,207 रुपए), श्रीलंका (1,241 रुपए) और पाकिस्तान (1,046 रुपए) जैसे पड़ोसी देशों से सस्ती है। खुदरा पेट्रोल और डीजल की कीमतें अप्रैल 2022 से स्थिर बनी हुई हैं और वर्तमान में आईओसी, बीपीसीएल और एचपीसीएल जैसी कंपनियां इस अंतरराष्ट्रीय दबाव को झेलने की स्थिति में हैं।

# ऑटो, टेक्सटाइल और केमिकल उद्योग प्रभावित होने की आशंका

पश्चिम एशिया में बढ़ता तनाव: पेट्रोल डीजल और एलपीजी महंगे होने का असर

भास्कर न्यूज़ | गुरुग्राम

ईरान और इजराइल के बीच बढ़ते तनाव का असर केवल पश्चिम एशिया तक सीमित नहीं है, बल्कि भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था और उद्योग जगत पर भी इसके व्यापक प्रभाव दिखाई दे सकते हैं। प्रोग्रेसिव फेडरेशन ऑफ ट्रेड एंड इंडस्ट्री (पीएफटीआई) के चेयरमैन दीपक मैनी ने कहा कि यदि यह तनाव और बढ़ता है तो भारत में महंगाई, उद्योगों की लागत और आम लोगों के जीवन पर सीधा असर पड़ सकता है। गुरुग्राम जैसे बड़े औद्योगिक और कॉर्पोरेट हब पर भी इसका असर

देखने को मिल सकता है। यहां बड़ी संख्या में ऑटोमोबाइल, आईटी और मैनुफैक्चरिंग कंपनियां काम करती हैं। दीपक मैनी ने कहा कि ऐसे वैश्विक संकट के समय सरकार और उद्योग जगत को मिलकर वैकल्पिक ऊर्जा स्रोतों और सप्लाई चेन को मजबूत करने की दिशा में काम करना चाहिए, ताकि अर्थव्यवस्था पर पड़ने वाले संभावित झटकों को कम किया जा सके।

उन्होंने कहा कि भारत का ईरान, इराक, इजराइल, जॉर्डन, लेबनान, सीरिया और यमन जैसे देशों के साथ लगभग 3 लाख 55 हजार करोड़ रुपए

का व्यापार है। यदि क्षेत्र में अस्थिरता बढ़ती है तो निर्यात और आयात दोनों प्रभावित हो सकते हैं, जिससे कई भारतीय उद्योगों को नुकसान उठाना पड़ सकता है।

दीपक मैनी ने बताया कि तेल और एलपीजी की आपूर्ति में कमी आने के साथ साथ पाइपड नेचुरल गैस यानी पीएनजी की सप्लाई पर भी असर पड़ सकता है। देश के कई औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों में पीएनजी का इस्तेमाल नियमित उत्पादन प्रक्रियाओं में किया जाता है। यदि पीएनजी की आपूर्ति कम होती है तो ऐसी इंडस्ट्रीज को भारी नुकसान उठाना पड़ सकता है।

# ऑस्ट्रेलिया और कनाडा गैस देने के लिए तैयार

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। भारत अपनी ऊर्जा आपूर्ति को सुरक्षित बनाने के लिए नए स्रोतों की तलाश में है। इस बीच ऑस्ट्रेलिया, कनाडा और कुछ अन्य देशों ने भारत को गैस आपूर्ति करने का प्रस्ताव भी दिया है।

शनिवार को आधिकारिक सूत्रों ने बताया कि युद्ध के कारण होर्मुज स्ट्रेट बंद हो गया है। लेकिन रूस, पश्चिमी अफ्रीका, अमेरिका, मध्य एशिया और गैर खाड़ी मध्य पूर्व रूट से आपूर्ति जारी रहने से यह तय हो गया है कि किसी एक कॉरिडोर में रुकावट होने पर भी प्रबंधन किया जा

## जहां से आपूर्ति संभव, तेल खरीदेंगे

अधिकारी ने बताया कि ल में अमेरिका और यूएई के साथ लंबे समय तक स्थाई आपूर्ति की व्यवस्था की गई है। एक वरिष्ठ अधिकारी ने कहा कि जहां से भी प्रतिस्पर्धी कीमत पर आपूर्ति संभव होगी, वहां से हम कच्चे तेल की खरीद जारी रखेंगे।

**40**

प्रतिशत तेल  
आयात होर्मुज  
स्ट्रेट के रास्ते  
से होता है

**60%**

तेल आयात  
वाले रूटों पर  
नहीं है युद्ध का  
असर

सकता है। अधिकारी ने कहा कि भारत का करीब 40 प्रतिशत कच्चा तेल आयात होर्मुज स्ट्रेट से आता है, जबकि 60 परसेंट आपूर्ति दूसरे रूट से होती है, जिस पर युद्ध का कोई असर नहीं है। यही वजह है कि वैश्विक उथल-पुथल के बावजूद

देश में परेशानी नहीं है।

इस बीच ऑस्ट्रेलिया और कनाडा समेत कई देशों ने भारत को अतिरिक्त गैस आपूर्ति का प्रस्ताव दिया है। इसके अलावा भी भारत अपनी ऊर्जा सुरक्षा के लिए अन्य विकल्पों की भी तलाश कर रहा है।

कतर से भी मिलेगा तेल: कतर ने भी भरोसा दिया है कि जैसे ही रास्ता खुलेगा वह भारत को कच्चा तेल और एलएनजी की सप्लाई शुरू कर देगा। वर्तमान में कतर से ऊर्जा आपूर्ति का प्रमुख मार्ग होर्मुज जलडमरू मध्य है, जो अभी बंद है।

# 150 डॉलर प्रति बैरल तक पहुंच सकता है तेल

जंग से बढ़ रही तेल-गैस की कीमतें

अमेरिकी कच्चा तेल वायदा 12% से उछलकर 91 डॉलर प्रति बैरल के पार

नई दिल्ली। दुनियाभर में तेल और गैस की कीमतों में इस हफ्ते तेजी से बढ़ोतरी हुई है। इसकी वजह अमेरिका-इस्त्राइल और ईरान के बीच जारी संघर्ष से पश्चिम एशिया में ऊर्जा आपूर्ति में लंबे समय तक रुकावट आने का डर पैदा हो गया है। इससे तेल की कीमतों 100 से 150 डॉलर प्रति बैरल तक पहुंच सकती हैं।

तेल की कीमतों में शुक्रवार को भी तेजी जारी है। अमेरिकी कच्चा तेल 90.90 डॉलर प्रति बैरल पर आ गया जो एक हफ्ते पहले से 36% अधिक है। अकेले शुक्रवार के सत्र के दौरान, अमेरिकी कच्चा तेल वायदा 12% से अधिक उछलकर 91 डॉलर प्रति बैरल से अधिक हो गया। यह 2022 के अंत के बाद से सबसे अधिक स्तर है। साल की शुरुआत से अब तक अमेरिकी कच्चे तेल की कीमत लगभग 60% बढ़ गई है। इस बीच, अंतरराष्ट्रीय बेंचमार्क कच्चा तेल 94 डॉलर प्रति बैरल को पार कर गया, जो 9% से अधिक बढ़कर 2023 के अंत के बाद के अपने सबसे ऊंचे स्तर पर पहुंच गया। वहीं, कतर के ऊर्जा मंत्री ने कहा कि खाड़ी के सभी ऊर्जा उत्पादक कुछ हफ्तों में निर्यात बंद कर देंगे। इस कदम से तेल की कीमत 150 डॉलर प्रति बैरल तक पहुंच सकती है। ब्यूरो



अमेरिका-इस्त्राइल और ईरान की जंग की वजह से होर्मुज जलडमरूमध्य पिछले सात दिनों से एक तरह से बंद है। आमतौर पर हर दिन करीब 200 लाख बैरल तेल इसी रास्ते से गुजरता है। दुनिया की मांग का करीब 20% तेल आपूर्ति भी हर दिन इसी रास्ते से होती है। मिसाइल और ड्रोन हमलों के डर से सैकड़ों टैंकर इस इलाके में फंसे हुए हैं। जंग की वजह से पश्चिम एशिया में तेल और गैस के टिकानों को भी नुकसान पहुंचा है। इससे आपूर्ति में बाधा आई है। द वॉल स्ट्रीट जर्नल की एक रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि कुवैत ने अपने कच्चे तेल को भंडारण करने की जगह खत्म होने के बाद कुछ तेल क्षेत्रों में उत्पादन कम करना शुरू कर दिया है।

**सैकड़ों तेल टैंकर फंसे**

## ऊर्जा इंप्रगस्ट्रक्चर पर भी सीधा असर

ईरान ने सऊदी अरब में एक बड़ी रिफाइनरी और कतर में एक लिक्विफाइड नेचुरल गैस (एलएनजी) संयंत्र पर भी हमला किया। इन हमलों के चलते रिफाइनरी उत्पादों का प्रवाह थम गया और दुनिया की लगभग 20% एलएनजी आपूर्ति कुछ समय के लिए ऑफलाइन हो गई। रिस्टेड एनर्जी के मुख्य अर्थशास्त्री क्लाउडियो गैलिम्बर्टी ने कहा कि हर दिन करीब 90 लाख बैरल तेल अभी मार्केट से बाहर है क्योंकि संयंत्र बंद हैं या प्रोड्यूसर सावधानी के कदम उठा रहे हैं।

**उपभोक्ताओं को चुकानी पड़ रही कीमत :** बढ़ती लागत की कीमत उपभोक्ताओं और कारोबारियों को चुकानी पड़ रही है। अमेरिका में नियमित गैसोलिन की कीमत शुक्रवार को बढ़कर 3.32 डॉलर प्रति गैलन हो गई, जो एक हफ्ते पहले की तुलना में 11% अधिक है। डीजल की कीमतें 15% बढ़कर 4.33 डॉलर प्रति गैलन हो गईं। यूरोप और एशिया के ऊर्जा मार्केट पर और भी ज्यादा असर पड़ा है क्योंकि ये पश्चिम एशिया की आपूर्ति पर ज्यादा निर्भर हैं।

**वित्तीय बाजार भी हिले...** शुक्रवार को एसएंडपी 500 में 1.3% से अधिक की गिरावट आई। डॉव जोन्स इंडस्ट्रियल एवरेज में 453 प्वाइंट या 1% और नैसडेक कम्पोजिट में 1.6% की गिरावट आई। डीओडब्ल्यू ने अप्रैल 2025 के बाद सबसे खराब सप्ताह रिकॉर्ड किया है और एसएंडपी 500 ने अक्टूबर के बाद अपना सबसे खराब साप्ताहिक प्रदर्शन देखा है।

## भारत तलाश रहा ऊर्जा के नए विकल्प आस्ट्रेलिया और कनाडा ने की अतिरिक्त गैस आपूर्ति की पेशकश

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो  
नई दिल्ली, 7 मार्च।

भारत अपनी ऊर्जा सुरक्षा को और मजबूत करने के लिए वैकल्पिक स्रोतों की तलाश कर रहा है, जिसके तहत आस्ट्रेलिया और कनाडा सहित कई अन्य देशों ने अतिरिक्त गैस आपूर्ति की पेशकश की है। आधिकारिक सूत्रों ने शनिवार को यह जानकारी दी।

ईरान और अमेरिका-इजरायल के बीच चल रहे संघर्ष के कारण होर्मुज जलडमरूमध्य के बंद होने का हवाला देते हुए सूत्रों ने कहा कि यह मार्ग भारत के कच्चे तेल के आयात का एकमात्र रास्ता नहीं है। उन्होंने जोर देकर कहा कि एक ही समुद्री मार्ग पर निर्भरता के दिन अब लद चुके हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि रूस, पश्चिम अफ्रीका, अमेरिका, पश्चिम एशिया और गैर-खाड़ी मध्य पूर्वी मग़ो से आपूर्ति ने यह सुनिश्चित किया है कि

किसी भी एक गलियारे में व्यवधान होने पर आपूर्ति बनी रहे।

सूत्रों ने बताया कि भारत के कच्चे तेल के आयात का केवल लगभग 40 प्रतिशत हिस्सा होर्मुज जलडमरूमध्य से गुजरता है, जबकि लगभग 60 फीसद अन्य आपूर्ति मार्गों से आता है जो अप्रभावित रहते हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि इसी कारण वैश्विक उथल-पुथल या महामारी के दौरान भी भारतीय उपभोक्ताओं के लिए ऊर्जा की कोई कमी नहीं हुई है। आस्ट्रेलिया और कनाडा सहित कई देशों ने अतिरिक्त गैस आपूर्ति की पेशकश की है और भारत ऊर्जा सुरक्षा को और मजबूत करने के लिए वैकल्पिक स्रोतों की तलाश जारी रखे हुए है। भारत ने हाल ही में स्थिर दीर्घकालिक आपूर्ति सुनिश्चित करने के लिए अमेरिका और संयुक्त अरब अमीरात (यूएई) जैसे भागीदारों के साथ नई ऊर्जा आपूर्ति व्यवस्था भी की है।

## वित्त मंत्री स्काट बेसेंट ने कहा रूसी तेल की खरीद मुद्दे पर भारतीयों ने अच्छा सहयोग दिया

न्यूयार्क/वाशिंगटन, 7 मार्च (भाषा)।

अमेरिका ने कहा है कि उसने पश्चिम एशिया संघर्ष के बीच दुनिया भर में ऊर्जा आपूर्ति आसान बनाने के मकसद से भारत को उन पौत पर लदे रूसी तेल की खरीद की अनुमति दे दी है, जो पहले से समुद्री मार्गों पर हैं।

अमेरिकी वित्त मंत्री स्काट बेसेंट ने शुक्रवार को फाक्स बिजनेस को दिए एक साक्षात्कार में कहा कि दुनिया में तेल की पर्याप्त आपूर्ति है।

वित्त मंत्रालय ने भारत में हमारे सहयोगियों को

उस रूसी तेल की खरीद शुरू करने की कल सहमति दे दी जो पहले से समुद्र में है।

उन्होंने कहा कि भारतीयों ने बहुत अच्छा सहयोग दिया। हमने उनसे कहा था कि वे प्रतिबंधित रूसी तेल की खरीद बंद कर दें।



उन्होंने ऐसा किया। वे इसकी जगह अमेरिकी तेल लेने वाले थे लेकिन दुनिया भर में तेल की अस्थायी कमी को दूर करने के लिए

हमने उन्हें रूसी तेल स्वीकार करने की अनुमति दे दी है। हम रूसी तेल के अन्य प्रकारों से भी प्रतिबंध हटा सकते हैं।