Business Standard, Delhi, 13/01/2026
Page No: 7, Size: 82.50cm × 24.47cm

India partners Germany to develop green hydrogen infra

SHUBHANGI MATHUR
New Delhi, 12 January

India has partnered Germany to develop green hydrogen infrastructure and secure off-take of green ammonia. This was announced after a meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and German Chancellor Friedrich Merz in Ahmedabad.

Merz was accompanied by a delegation of 23 chief executive officers (CEOs) and industry leaders. The partnership focuses on deepening bilateral engagement while accelerating the adoption of renewable energy in India.

India's Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with DVGW, a German technical and scientific association for gas and water.

This is to establish a framework for hydrogen integration in the country's natural gas infrastructure.

"The MoU is intended to support evidence-based regulation and standardisation, initially for hydrogen blending and progressively for 100 per cent hydrogen applications, subject to statutory mandate. It is a non-binding framework, with specific activities to be pursued through separately-agreed work plans and arrangements," said PNGRB.

Germany-based DVGW formulates technical rules and test principles for gas and hydrogen infrastructure and supports their application through standardisation and testing.

Under the partnership, PNGRB would have access to relevant DVGW technical rules or test principles and standards adoption for Indian operating conditions. The partnership would enable exchange of practices on odorisation, leak detection and safety methodologies, along with technical exchanges.

PNGRB said network simulation tools would be used for hydrogen blends of up to 20 per cent initially with a roadmap towards 100 per cent hydrogen.

Meanwhile, India's AM Green Ammonia also signed a long-term binding off-take agreement with Uniper Global Commodities SE for renewable ammonia, certified as a renewable fuel of non-biological origin (RFNBO).

Under the agreement, Uniper will off-take up to 500,000 tonnes of green ammonia per year from AM Green.

The first shipment is expected to take place as early as 2028 from AM Green Ammonia's first 1 million tonne per annum (MTPA) under-construction plant in Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.

"AM Green's renewable ammonia is designed to meet stringent European RFNBO compliance standards. It is enabling multiple downstream sectors, including ammonia, aluminium, chemicals, and other energy-intensive industries to lower their emissions significantly for India and the world," said Anil Kumar Chalamalasetty, founder of Greenko Group and AM Green. Easier to store and transport compared to hydrogen, green ammonia is produced by combining green hydrogen with nitrogen.

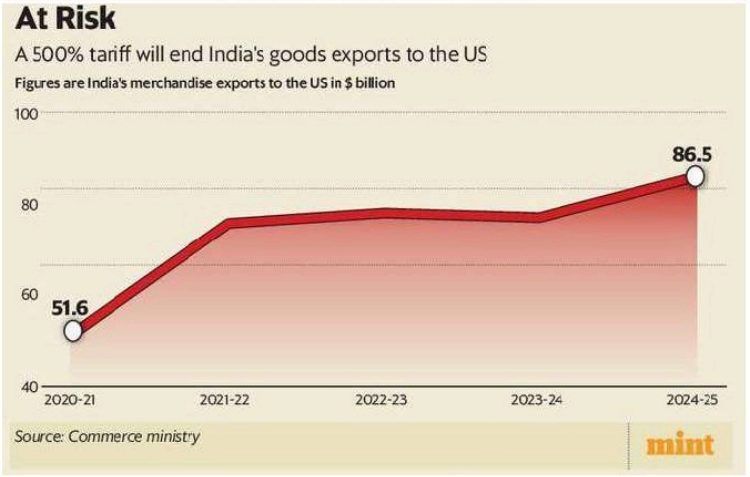
The MoUs were part of the 27 bilateral agreements signed on Monday, including a joint declaration of intent on cooperation in critical minerals.

Mint, Delhi, 13/01/2026
Page No: 1, Size: 22.23cm × 32.54cm

Why Trump is backing a tough oil sanctions bill

BY N. MADHAVAN

The Russia sanctions bill, which authorizes the US president to impose a punitive 500% import duty on countries that buy oil from Russia, has gained fresh momentum after Donald Trump signalled his support for the legislation. *Mint* examines what the bill proposes, why it has resurfaced, and what it could mean for India.



1 What is the Russia sanctions bill?

Spearheaded by Republican senator Lindsay Graham, the Russia sanctions bill is a legislation that seeks to punish countries that are importing petroleum products from Russia. The revenue from sale of Russian oil, the US government has been maintaining, is funding Russia's war against Ukraine. This legislation will become a law once cleared by both the Senate and the House of Representatives. If approved by both the houses, US President Donald Trump will have the necessary authorization from the Congress to impose punitive tariffs that can go as high as 500% on goods the US imports from countries that are buying petroleum products from Russia.

Mint, Delhi, 13/01/2026
Page No: 1, Size: 9.42cm × 19.90cm

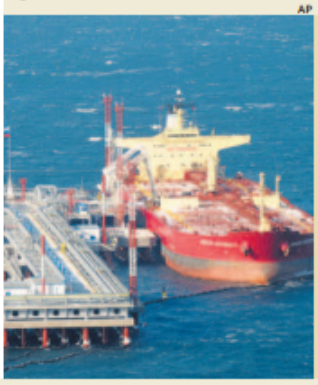
Why Trump is backing a tough oil sanctions bill

FROM FRONT FLAP

2 Is this oil sanctions bill a new legislation?

No. The legislation has been in the works for months and was first introduced in the Congress way back in April 2025. The bipartisan bill has been read twice in the Senate and has been referred to the Committee on Banks, Housing and Urban Affairs. In the House of Representatives, the bill has been referred to multiple committees. The legislation remained under the radar as Trump, who was busy with his reciprocal and other punitive tariffs on several countries, including the 25% levy he put on India for purchasing Russian oil, did not see the need for it then. He has now given his backing for the bill. As per *Bloomberg*, the nod for the bill was stalled for long as Trump had earlier suggested he wanted to secure the peace deal between Russia and Ukraine through diplomatic efforts.

AP



3 Why is Trump backing the bill now?

US president Donald Trump's efforts to end the Ukraine war have been repeatedly foiled as Russia has been dragging its feet. Experts see the nod for the bill as his latest attempt to pressurize Russia and bring about a ceasefire. Moreover, with the US Supreme Court set to rule on the legality of the tariffs imposed by Trump, this law could act as a back-up plan to keep the tariff momentum going in case of an adverse verdict.

4 Is the sanctions bill targeted at India?

Not explicitly. But lawmaker Graham has said the bill will give "tremendous leverage against countries like China, India and Brazil" to make them halt cheap oil buys. Trump has been frustrated with Delhi for the long-drawn trade talks and its strict red line on opening up the farm and dairy sectors. That India continues to grow rapidly, and has signed multiple trade deals with nations such as the UK, Oman and New Zealand has only added to it. US officials feel that with India trying to rapidly diversify exports, the best time to sign the pact is now.

5 How will the bill affect India?

If this bill becomes a law and Trump chooses to implement it, India will be hit badly. At 500% duty without any exemptions, its $87 billion exports to the US (in FY25) could effectively be frozen. This would put pressure on India to strike a trade deal with the Washington. Moreover, foreign investment flows will get hit, as India will be seen as uncompetitive and capital outflows would accelerate, putting further pressure on the rupee. India's negotiating position in trade talks with other nations will also weaken.

Mint, Delhi, 13/01/2026
Page No: 2, Size: 14.90cm × 27.30cm

Venezuelan crude on offer to India, China

Reuters
feedback@livemint.com
NEW DELHI/SINGAPORE

Vitol and Trafigura have started discussions on Venezuelan crude oil sales with refiners in India and China for cargoes to be delivered in March, several traders said on Monday.

The global commodities traders confirmed on Friday they had struck agreements with the US government to help market stranded Venezuelan oil, days after the interim government in Caracas agreed to export up to 50 million barrels of crude oil to the US.

The trading firms are scrambling to secure ships, moving swiftly to sell the Venezuelan oil

Their marketing efforts will accelerate the sale of Venezuelan oil under the US programme, allowing the Opec producer to resume exports which have been halted since the ouster of president Nicolas Maduro.

The trading firms are scrambling to secure ships, moving swiftly to sell the Venezuelan oil, with Trafigura's CEO saying it will load its first cargo for the US this week.

Vitol is approaching Indian state refiners to sell the oil, two of the persons said. The trader offered a cargo at a discount of $8–$8.50 a barrel to ICE Brent on a delivered basis to one, one of the persons said.

Refiners Indian Oil Corp. and Hindustan Petroleum Corp. would consider buying Venezuelan oil, the persons told *Reuters* last week. Neither responded to requests for comment.

Reliance Industries said it would consider resuming purchases of Venezuelan crude if sales to non-US buyers are permitted under US regulations. Vitol and Trafigura have also approached PetroChina, exploring interest from the Chinese state refiner which was a major buyer of Venezuela's heavy sour Merey crude as well as fuel oil before US sanctions started, three persons said.

Business Line, Delhi, 13/01/2026
Page No: 10, Size: 12.46cm × 18.10cm

Go long on natural gas futures; stop-loss at ₹270

Akhil Nallamuthu
bl Research Bureau

Natural gas futures lost about 12 per cent last week. The January contract is now quoted at ₹290 per mmBtu, and the price action remains bearish.

COMMODITY CALL.

The region between ₹285 and ₹300 is where a trendline lies. There might be a slow-down in the sell-off. This could lead to a consolidation phase or a corrective rally, if not a bullish trend reversal.

Once the bulls get some hold and start pushing the price up, natural gas futures can rally to ₹350. The uptrend might extend to ₹375. If contract breaches the support at ₹285, the downswing could extend to ₹230, a notable support. Subsequent base is at ₹205.

Although the bears appear to be in control, the support band of ₹285-300 might give some breathing space to the bulls, at least temporarily.

TRADE STRATEGY

Go long on natural gas futures (January) now at ₹290. Place stop-loss at ₹270 at first. Raise the stop-loss to ₹300 when the contract moves up to ₹325. Book profits at ₹350.

Millennium Post, Delhi, 13/01/2026
Page No: 9, Size: 11.09cm × 12.41cm

Essar to invest ₹5,100 cr to set up bio-fuel complex in Gujarat, inks MoU at VGRC

AHMEDABAD: Essar Future Energy Ltd on Monday announced it would establish a large-scale bio-fuel complex in Gujarat's Devbhumi Dwarka district with a proposed investment of Rs 5,100 crore. The company signed an MoU with the state government at Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conference (VGRC) in Rajkot.

"The project involves a proposed investment of Rs 5,100 crore and is expected to generate around 350 direct employment opportunities, with operations targeted to commence by 2029," a release from the company said.

Under the MoU, Essar Future Energy will establish a large-scale bio-fuel complex in Devbhumi Dwarka district, with an initial feedstock processing capacity of 1 million tonnes per annum, it added.

The project will be developed as an SEZ unit and will focus on decarbonizing hard-to-abate sectors, offering clean fuel solutions for aviation, shipping, and road transport, the release said, adding that it is expected to contribute to regional development while strengthening Gujarat's clean fuels and bio-energy ecosystem. PTI

Business Standard, Delhi, 13/01/2026
Page No: 4, Size: 13.86cm × 14.18cm

Vitol, Trafigura offer Venezuelan crude to India, China refiners

Vitol and Trafigura have started discussions on Venezuelan crude oil sales with refiners in India and China for cargoes to be delivered in March, trade sources said on Monday. The global commodities traders confirmed on Friday they had struck agreements with the US to help market stranded Venezuelan oil. Vitol is approaching Indian state refiners to sell the oil. The trader offered a cargo at a discount of $8-$8.50 a barrel to ICE Brent on a delivered basis to one. Vitol and Trafigura have also approached PetroChina. REUTERS

Hindustan Times, Delhi, 13/01/2026
Page No: 18, Size: 42.39cm × 34.61cm

Hindustan Times

Refining India's future in critical minerals

New Delhi must take deliberate and coordinated steps to establish its own midstream capabilities to avoid dependence on external actors

Amitabh Kant

Adil Rana Chhina

The global scramble for critical minerals is no longer a future concern; it is a live strategic contest, and India is in danger of arriving late. As countries race to lock in supply chains for clean energy and digital technologies, the real battle is not over who mines the ore or who assembles the final product, but who controls the midstream — the processing stage that turns raw minerals into usable, high-purity materials. This is where power in the global economy is being consolidated, and without urgent action to build domestic processing capacity, India risks becoming permanently dependent on external actors.

Presently, the global midstream landscape is strikingly concentrated. China controls nearly 90% of processing capacity for key minerals such as lithium, cobalt, graphite and rare earths. Even when countries like Australia or Chile mine the ores, they often end up being refined in China before re-entering global markets as high-value materials. This structural asymmetry gives Beijing disproportionate leverage in green and digital value chains, with ripple effects across the global economy. Against this backdrop, India must now take deliberate and coordinated steps to establish its own midstream capabilities.

First, India must secure reliable and diversified feedstock for its future processing industry. The Geological Survey of India aims to undertake 1,200 exploration projects by 2031, which will be a crucial step for strategic self-sufficiency. However, developing a new mine typically takes an average of 15 years for most minerals. Therefore, in parallel to developing domestic mines, India must also secure a steady feedstock of raw ores in the short-to-medium term from resource-rich nations. This can be done through long-term offtake agreements, equity stakes or outright acquisition of mining rights, which will be essential to insulate from supply disruptions and price volatility. While Khanij Bidesh India Ltd. (KABIL), a government joint-venture company, has been tasked with securing overseas mineral assets, it must move swiftly and decisively or risk being left behind in the global race to acquire critical minerals. India should also build strategic mineral stockpiles to buffer against geopolitical shocks or market fluctuations. This steady ore supply will power India's midstream processing ambitions.

Second, India must move from policy intent to implementation through coordinated midstream infrastructure development. Establishing midstream facilities demands robust infrastructure, including reliable power, water and logistics connectivity. Without coordinated efforts between government, industry and research institutions, scaling up midstream processing can face delays and underutilisation. India has begun laying the groundwork for a coordinated national approach to critical minerals. The notification of a list of 30 critical minerals in 2023 signalled clarity in national priorities. This year, the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) was launched to address the entire value chain from exploration and mining to recovery from end-of-life products. Embedded within the mission is the aspiration to build four critical mineral processing parks and achieve self-sufficiency in the processing of at least five critical minerals. India must identify suitable sites near ports or mineral corridors, and rapidly operationalise these parks with single-window clearances, anchor investors and shared infrastructure for refining and testing.

Third, India must leverage its strategic partnerships with Australia, Japan, the US, the UK and the EU to access advanced processing know-how and technology. For instance, the India–Australia Critical Minerals Investment Partnership already extends to collaboration on developing processing technologies for minerals like titanium and vanadium. The UK likewise presents a timely opportunity, with India designated as a priority partner under its new critical minerals strategy, opening avenues for collaboration in refining and standards. Similarly, tie-ups with Japanese firms experienced in high-purity metallurgy and German firms that bring advanced separation and refining processes can help India achieve the quality standards needed for EV-grade and solar-grade materials. The objective should be to move from a buyer-seller dynamic to joint ownership of midstream assets that build domestic capability.

The global midstream landscape is strikingly concentrated. China controls nearly 90% of processing capacity for key minerals. REUTERS

Fourth, India must invest in human capital and R&D to build technological self-reliance. Advanced processing requires specialised expertise in materials chemistry, metallurgy and process control, which is currently woefully lacking in the country. Dedicated training programmes through the IITs, CSIR laboratories and the nine new Centres of Excellence established under the NCMM should be adequately supported to build this knowledge base. Collaborative research with global technology centres can help develop indigenous process flowsheets catering to a multitude of ore grades and environmental conditions. Bridging the gap between laboratory research and commercial deployment through pilot projects and R&D funds will be key to translating knowledge into scale.

And lastly, India must create market certainty to attract private investment into the midstream. To ensure assured offtake and strengthen investor confidence, the government should mandate that industries progressively source a portion of their processed critical minerals from Indian refiners. Complementing this, a price-floor mechanism could be introduced to guarantee minimum returns on investment and reduce market risk for early-stage processors. Such measures can be balanced with calibrated import duties to deter predatory low-cost imports, particularly from China, while maintaining competitiveness. India should also explore public–private partnerships to develop common refining infrastructure, testing and certification facilities, as well as logistics linkages.

Ultimately, scaling critical mineral processing will determine whether India can truly anchor itself in global clean technology value chains. The midstream processing sector is the missing link that connects mineral wealth to industrial competitiveness, energy security and green leadership. Building it will require not just capital and technology but strategic will and institutional coherence.

Amitabh Kant is chairman, Fairfax Centre for Free Enterprise, former G20 sherpa and former CEO, NITI Aayog, and Adil Rana Chhina is a climate and energy policy specialist. The views expressed are personal

Hindu, Mumbai, 13/01/2026
Page No: 13, Size: 9.26cm × 11.64cm

PNGRB, DVGW ink MoU to advance hydrogen integration

India's Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) and its German counterpart DVGW inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on Monday to establish a cooperative framework for integrating hydrogen into the country's natural gas infrastructure. Among other things, the MoU would seek to facilitate knowledge sharing relating to safety methodologies. It would also seek to facilitate technical visits and anonymised data sharing.

Hindu, Delhi, 13/01/2026
Page No: 13, Size: 10.77cm × 16.59cm

INBRIEF

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India's Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) and its German counterpart DVGW inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on Monday to establish a cooperative framework for integrating hydrogen into the country's natural gas infrastructure. Among other things, the MoU would seek to facilitate knowledge sharing relating to safety methodologies. It would also seek to facilitate technical visits and anonymised data sharing.

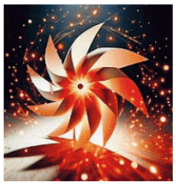
Economic Times, Delhi, 13/01/2026
Page No: 8, Size: 18.63cm × 41.99cm

Energy Flywheel Gathers Momentum

High demand and weak reforms could risk it

India is moving closer to achieving energy security by addressing chronic bottlenecks. Coal production now exceeds 1 bn tonnes, with both Coal India and private miners posting healthy growth. The US intervention in Venezuela signals its intent to maintain oversupply in the oil market. Changes in liability laws are expected to draw private capital into nuclear energy. Renewables now constitute over half the total installed power capacity, a milestone in the country's effort to create 500 GW of non-fuel capacity in the next 5 yrs. Each of these achievements involves policy reorientation to access energy from all sources to maintain economic momentum over a period of anticipated high growth.

The country is well-placed to negotiate external pressure over sourcing crude oil from affordable sources, such as Russia, if the glut persists in the market. India will be driving incremental energy demand globally and would find itself boxed in if the crude oil market were to turn tight. Oil-producing nations are finding it difficult to stick to production quotas, and with the prospect of additional reserves being tapped, their job becomes even more difficult. India has maintained a neutral stance on sourcing crude oil and natural gas, which makes switching vendors simple. It also allows New Delhi to deflect criticism over the strategic impact of its energy imports.



The economy has a low-energy intensity, but the scenario is projected to change with greater policy focus on manufacturing exports. New technologies like AI and EVs will contribute to India's incremental energy demand. The work that has gone into improving the supply response in the energy market will, however, have to be matched by improvements on the demand side. India must get its energy pricing right to be able to successfully harness it for accelerated growth. Politicisation of electricity prices has eluded successive rounds of reforms. It remains an area of concern because it affects the investment climate. The distribution bottleneck, if left unaddressed, will impact upstream revenue.

Business Standard Hindi, Delhi, 13/01/2026
Page No: 8, Size: 4.45cm × 13.76cm

हरित हाइड्रोजन पर जर्मनी संग करार

शुभांगी माथुर

भारत ने हरित हाइड्रोजन के विकास के लिए बुनियादी ढांचा विकसित करने और हरित अमोनिया की खरीद सुनिश्चित करने के लिए जर्मनी के साथ करार किया है। भारत के पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस नियामक बोर्ड (पीएनजीआरबी) ने जर्मन तकनीकी और वैज्ञानिक संघ, डीवीडब्ल्यूजी के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए।

जर्मनी स्थित डीवीडब्ल्यूजी गैस और हाइड्रोजन ढांचे के लिए तकनीकी नियम और परीक्षण सिद्धांत तैयार करता है तथा मानकीकरण और परीक्षण के माध्यम से उनके अनुप्रयोग का समर्थन करता है। साझेदारी के तहत पीएनजीआरबी के लिए इन सुविधाओं को अपनाने का रास्ता खुल जाएगा। साझेदारी के तहत गंध, रिसाव का पता लगाने और सुरक्षा पद्धतियों के साथ-साथ तकनीकी आदान-प्रदान आसान हो जाएगा। इस बीच, भारत के एएम ग्रीन अमोनिया ने अक्षय अमोनिया के लिए यूनिपर ग्लोबल कमोडिटीज एसई के साथ दीर्घकालिक समझौता किया है। समझौते के तहत यूनिपर एएम ग्रीन से प्रति वर्ष 5,00,000 टन तक हरित अमोनिया खरीदेगा।

Pioneer, Delhi, 13/01/2026
Page No: 9, Size: 31.41cm × 22.70cm

The strategic calculus behind America's Venezuela operation

Oil has long been a central pillar of the United States' foreign policy imperatives. Washington's action in Venezuela is a stark demonstration of its continued dominance on the global stage, raising critical questions about geopolitics, energy security, environmental costs, and the future of a rules-based world order

FIRST Column

BK SINGH

The US spends roughly $1 trillion annually on its military. A country that has shown superiority in the economic and technological fields also has to exhibit its dominance in the military field. Military power was displayed over a weaker enemy, Venezuela, in a half-hour operation at 2.00 a.m. local time on 3 January, capturing President Nicolas Maduro and his wife, Cilia Flores. About 150 US military aircraft, including fighter jets, drones, and helicopters, took off from land and sea. Fighter jets provided air cover, while US satellite and cyber capabilities blocked Venezuelan radars. Technology was used to switch off the power supply of Caracas, the capital city. The efficiency and confidence of the US military are noteworthy. The use of technology was the most important part of the operation, leading to the inability of the Venezuelan military to offer any resistance. If, however, Venezuelan armed forces were ready to resist, questions are raised over the Chinese air defence network and weapons deployed in Caracas. The assessment of the Chinese air defence system is already under a shadow, as it could not provide protection to Pakistan when India launched Operation Sindoor on 7 May last year.

Maduro and his wife were taken to the USS Wasp, one of the American warships prowling Caribbean waters, and were later transferred to New York via the Guantanamo Bay base. Maduro was produced before a New York federal court on charges of narco-terrorism, cocaine importation conspiracy, and possession of machine guns and destructive devices. He pleaded not guilty before the federal judge. No deaths or fatal injuries were caused to any Americans in the operation; however, around 80 deaths were reported among Venezuelan civilians and army personnel.

This has been one of the most successful operations in US history. George HW Bush's 1989 invasion of Panama took 42 days to capture Manuel Noriega, during which 23 American troops were killed and 325 were injured. While George W. Bush's approval rating rose to 90 per cent after 9/11, Trump's stands between 40 and 45 per cent. Prior to this operation, only 40 per cent of Americans supported bombing boats allegedly carrying drugs in the Caribbean. Trump also seeks actions that increase his approval rating, which is needed to win the election scheduled later this year in November. All 435 seats in the US House of Representatives and 35 out of 100 seats in the US Senate will be contested to determine the 120th United States Congress. His power will be curtailed if he loses a majority in either House. Accelerated oil production is expected to bring oil prices below $50 a barrel globally. This may also provide an edge to Trump's Republican Party in the mid-term national elections.

VENEZUELA HOLDS 303 BILLION BARRELS OF OIL RESERVES, FOLLOWED BY SAUDI ARABIA WITH 267 BILLION BARRELS, CANADA WITH 159 BILLION BARRELS, AND THE UNITED STATES AND RUSSIA WITH 80 BILLION BARRELS EACH

The writer is Retired Head of Karnataka Forest Force and presently teaches Economics in Karnataka Forest Academy

The US has been preparing for the operation for over four months, and during this period President Trump frequently stated that Maduro was part of drug cartels in Venezuela that were illegally sending drugs to the US. He also expressed his intention to change the regime in Venezuela. However, experts were of the opinion that invoking drugs was a way to gain legitimacy for his actions, while Trump was actually eyeing Venezuela's oil deposits, the largest in the world. After the successful "Operation Absolute Resolve", he wasted no time in announcing at a press conference, "We are going to have very large US oil companies, the biggest anywhere in the world, go in, spend billions of dollars, fix the badly broken infrastructure, and start making money for the country." He further added that the Venezuelan oil industry had been a "total bust" for a long time and said, "They were pumping almost nothing by comparison to what they could have been pumping."

Venezuela holds oil reserves of 303 billion barrels, followed by Saudi Arabia with 267 billion barrels, Canada with 159 billion barrels, and the US and Russia with 80 billion barrels each. Venezuela struggles to produce one million barrels a day, around one per cent of global production. Venezuelan oil is extra heavy and can be extracted only at exorbitant production costs. It is also more polluting.

The extraction process emits more greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. In a warming world, when we are unable to transition away from fossil fuel consumption, should we pursue such heavy oil? Doing so will only accelerate global warming. Moreover, if prices fall due to accelerated production, oil consumption will rise, and the pace and scale of transition to green energy across countries will suffer a setback.

A research firm, Energy Aspects, conducted a study and found that Venezuela's oilfields suffer from years of insufficient drilling, dilapidated infrastructure, frequent power cuts, and equipment theft. PDVSA, the national oil company, lacks the capital and expertise to increase production.

Experts from Energy Aspects have cautioned that increasing oil production will not be cheap. Adding another half a million barrels per day would cost $10 billion and take two years. To reach Venezuela's maximum production level of 3.5 million barrels per day, infrastructure would need substantial upgrading, and American oil companies would have to invest $10 billion annually for ten years, amounting to a total investment of $100 billion. America would then control nearly 30 per cent of the world's oil reserves.

India, once a major processor of Venezuelan heavy crude and importing up to 400,000 barrels a day at peak levels, had to stop imports when sweeping US sanctions were imposed in 2020. At the time of the sanctions, ONGC Videsh Limited (OVL) operated the San Cristobal oilfield in eastern Venezuela. With the sanctions, critical technology, equipment, and services were blocked, and output at San Cristobal declined sharply. Venezuela has failed to pay nearly $1 billion to OVL for its stake in the field and dividends due from partnerships in the San Cristobal and Carabobo-I oilfields.

Experts believe that once sanctions are eased, OVL could move rigs and equipment to San Cristobal and resume operations. However, with Trump in control of Venezuelan oil, OVL may not be able to restart operations without his approval. He has already announced that major US oil companies will move in, repair infrastructure, and maximise oil production. The investments required would be enormous, and companies from other parts of the world would likely be excluded from benefiting. Trump is also expected to levy a significant share of revenue earned by American oil companies for the US Treasury. It may be recalled that he imposed a 15 per cent levy on Nvidia for selling chips to China.

While explicitly endorsing the "Monroe Doctrine", Trump said during a media briefing, "American dominance in the Western Hemisphere will never be questioned again." In a provocative remark that shocked the world, he stated that Vice President Delcy Rodriguez, appointed Acting President of Venezuela, had little choice but to submit to Washington's diktat. He added that failure to cooperate would result in the same fate that befell Maduro.

Trump's actions have also unsettled governments in Colombia, Cuba, and Denmark. Colombia's President Gustavo Petro has promised to defend the homeland amid the threats. Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel, addressing a rally in Havana, expressed support for Venezuela, but the Trump administration has treated Cuba as a pariah, reducing economic and security cooperation to a bare minimum. Denmark's Prime Minister has warned that any attempt by Trump to take over Greenland would result in the collapse of NATO. In the absence of a rules-based world order, confusion now prevails from Latin America to Iran.

Amar Ujala, Delhi, 13/01/2026
Page No: 2, Size: 5.16cm × 11.96cm

न्यू गुरुग्राम में जल्द मिलेगी पीएनजी

न्यू गुरुग्राम। न्यू गुरुग्राम की कई सोसाइटियों में पीएनजी की सप्लाई जल्द मिलने की उम्मीद है। इस समस्या के समाधान के लिए 10 जनवरी को अदानी ऑयस्टर, ब्लॉक बी2 के पांच सदस्यों के एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने राव नरबीर सिंह से मुलाकात की। इस मुलाकात में जीएमडीए और एचसीजीएल की ओर से सप्लाई पाइपलाइन का न बिछाया जाने की समस्या को मंत्री के समक्ष रखा। प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने मंत्री से जल्द समाधान और तुरंत कार्रवाई करने का अनुरोध किया। प्रतिनिधिमंडल के अनुसार एचसीजीएल ने जानकारी दी है कि जीएमडीए अगले 15 दिनों के भीतर बाहरी गैस पाइपलाइन बिछाने के लिए डिमांड नोट जारी करने को तैयार है।

Amar Ujala, Gurgaon, 13/01/2026
Page No: 2, Size: 5.45cm × 13.71cm

न्यू गुरुग्राम के लोगों को जल्द मिलेगी पीएनजी

न्यू गुरुग्राम। न्यू गुरुग्राम की कई सोसाइटियों में पीएनजी की सप्लाई जल्द मिलने की उम्मीद है। इस समस्या के समाधान के लिए 10 जनवरी को अदानी ऑयस्टर, ब्लॉक बी2 के पांच सदस्यों के एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने राव नरबीर सिंह से मुलाकात की।

मुलाकात में जीएमडीए और एचसीजीएल ने समस्या को मंत्री के समक्ष रखा। प्रतिनिधिमंडल ने मंत्री से जल्द समाधान और तुरंत कार्रवाई करने का अनुरोध किया। प्रतिनिधिमंडल के अनुसार एचसीजीएल ने जानकारी दी है कि जीएमडीए अगले 15 दिनों के भीतर बाहरी गैस पाइपलाइन बिछाने के लिए डिमांड नोट जारी करने को तैयार है। एचसीजीएल ने यह भी पुष्टि की है कि डिमांड नोट मिलने के 10 दिनों के भीतर जीएमडीए को पेमेंट कर दिया जाएगा। संवाद