

# No ban on CNG autos and petrol bikes for now

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**New Delhi:** The Delhi cabinet decided on Tuesday to withdraw the recommendation to phase out CNG autorickshaws and fossil fuel-powered two-wheelers under its new e-vehicle policy. Transport minister Pankaj Singh said after a cabinet meeting that it would not be binding on CNG auto operators to shift to electric ones. There would be no restrictions on motorcycles either. "All vehicles will continue to ply on the capital's roads," Singh said.

The draft for the next EV policy proposed phasing out

of battery capacity (capped at Rs 30,000) for two-wheelers and Rs 30,000 for e-light commercial vehicles.

Another decision that the cabinet took was to continue the power subsidy scheme for 2025-26. Currently, households consuming up to 200 units a month do not have to pay for electricity, while those using 201-400 units get a 50% subsidy.

Cabinet minister Ashish Sood said, "In a special proposal, the Delhi cabinet has decided to continue the subsidy given to farmers, to the 1984 anti-Sikh riot victims, to lawyers and to existing domestic power consumers."

Saying this was a major decision in favour of the anti-Sikh riot victims and lawyers, Sood added, "A continuous disinformation was being spread that Delhi govt would halt the subsidy. With this decision, the disinformation can stop now. Delhi govt will work at its own pace to prove the lie behind all false information."

The number of households benefiting from the power subsidy scheme has gone up sharply in recent years. In April 2022, around 22.8 lakh households received a 'zero bill' for consuming up to 200 units. The figure rose to 36 lakh by April 2024, a very high number given the capital has 60 lakh domestic power consumers. Winter is particularly a good season for free power. The number of houses getting zero bill in Dec 2022 was 31 lakh and in Jan 2023, 29 lakh. The figure went up to 42 lakh and 35 lakh in Dec 2023 and Jan last year. In Dec last year and Jan this year, the beneficiary households numbered 45 lakh and 40 lakh, respectively.

The state budget for 2025-26 has allocated Rs 3,847 crore for the power sector.

**Another decision by the cabinet was to continue the power subsidy scheme for 2025-26. Currently, households consuming up to 200 units a month do not have to pay for electricity while those using 201-400 units get a 50% subsidy**

CNG-powered three-wheelers and replacing them with e-autorickshaws by Aug. Similarly, the draft also suggested that petrol, diesel and CNG two-wheeler registration should not be allowed from Aug 15 next year. Govt sources said that the current EV policy, which was expiring on Tuesday, has been given another three-month extension.

The current EV policy offers a range of incentives, including a 25% purchase subsidy (up to Rs 5,500) for e-cycles, Rs 30,000 for e-rickshaws and e-carts, Rs 5,000 per kWh

## Oil glut to persist till 2026 as IEA cuts demand forecast

The International Energy Agency (IEA) slashed forecasts for global oil demand this year amid the brewing trade war, and in its first detailed assessment of 2026 predicted a persistent supply surplus. The adviser to major economies chopped projections for 2025 demand growth by a hefty 300,000 barrels a day — or almost a third — to 730,000 barrels a day, according to a monthly report on Tuesday. Half of the reduction was concentrated in the US and China, which are engaged in a full-blown trade war. The downgrade from the agency — which is closely-watched by traders and policy-makers alike — follows a slump in oil prices to a four-year low below \$60 a barrel in London last week, after US President Donald Trump announced a



slew of punitive trade tariffs. Brent futures have since recovered a little, trading near \$65 on Tuesday. Trump's move, coupled with a surprise decision by Opec+ producers to accelerate production increases next month, spurred a series of oil-price revisions from Wall

Street giants including Goldman Sachs Group Inc and JPMorgan Chase & Co. Consumption growth will be even slower in 2026, at 690,000 barrels a

day, due to "a fragile macroeconomic environment" and the rising popularity of electric vehicles, the Paris-based agency said. "The deteriorating outlook for the global economy amid the sudden sharp escalation in trade tensions in early April has prompted a downgrade to our forecast," IEA analysts wrote.

**BLOOMBERG**

## IEA cuts 2025 world oil demand growth forecast



**London:** The International Energy Agency (IEA) on Tuesday sharply cut its forecast for the growth in global oil demand this year due to escalating trade tensions, a day after a similar move by producer group OPEC. “The deteriorating outlook for the global economy amid the sudden sharp escalation in trade tensions in early April has prompted a downgrade to our forecast for oil demand growth this year,” the IEA said in a monthly report. REUTERS

# ‘India’s hydrocarbon sector entering new era of accelerated exploration’

## OUR CORRESPONDENT

**NEW DELHI:** The Indian hydrocarbon sector is entering a new era of “accelerated exploration and development”, said Union of Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, while addressing the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) Round-IX and Special Discovered Small Field (DSF) Signing Ceremony held here on Tuesday.

He highlighted that through investor-friendly reforms, swift approvals, scientific exploration and a strong emphasis on sustainability, India is steadily building a resilient and future-ready energy ecosystem aligned with the vision of Viksit Bharat.

Addressing the gathering, Puri noted that today’s signing ceremony signifies much more than the completion of a procedural formality—it is a powerful testament to India’s unwavering commitment to reducing its import dependence and securing its energy future.

With India currently reliant on imports for 88 percent of its crude oil and 50 percent of its natural gas needs, the urgency



Hardeep Singh Puri addresses the OALP Round-IX on Tuesday

MPOST

for domestic exploration and production has never been greater. As the minister pointed out: “In the next two decades, 25 percent of the world’s incremental energy demand growth will come from India.”

Reflecting on the past, Puri acknowledged the challenges the Indian upstream sector faced between 2006 and 2016—a “dull decade” marred by policy paralysis and procedural delays, leading to the exit of global energy giants like BP, ENI, and Santos. However, the tide has turned. “We were determined to unlock India’s untapped energy potential, estimated at approximately

42 billion tonnes of oil and oil equivalent of gas,” he said.

The government has implemented a series of “transformative reforms” over the past decade. A key achievement has been the expansion of exploration activity, with the explored area of India’s sedimentary basins increasing from 6 percent in 2014 to 10 percent today, with a target of reaching 15 percent, he added.

Puri reiterated the commitment to increasing exploration acreage to 1 million sq. km by 2030, highlighting the dramatic 99 percent reduction in “No-Go” areas within India’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

## OALP: ONGC wins 11 blocks, OIL 9, Cairn 7

**ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi**

OIL and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and its partners have won the most number of blocks (15) in the ninth round of the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP).

ONGC won 11 blocks on its own and remaining four with partners. Private sector exploration and production company Cairn, which had bid for all 28 blocks on offer, won 7 blocks. In a key development, UK-based energy major bp has forayed into exploration and production space as a bidder for oil and gas assets. "We are happy to confirm that we have signed a contract for a new exploration licence under consortium of ONGC (40 percent) RIL (30%) and bp (30%) for block GS-OSHP-2022/2 (Saurashtra Basin) in OALP IX bidding round," a bp spokesperson said.

OALP Round-IX covered 1,36,596 sq. km across 28 blocks. The distribution of these blocks included - Onland: 13,875.19 sq. km; shallow waters: 26,648.14 sq. km; ultra-deep waters: 96,073.12 sq. km. "The government was open to accommodating in the next two decades, 25% of the world's energy demand growth that will come from India," said Puri. Another state-owned energy company Oil India Limited (OIL) secured 9 blocks under OALP Round IX, adding over 51,000 Sq.km to its exploration portfolio — with 6 blocks as sole operator and 3 as consortium partner.

# OPECut Can Get India Up the Pecking Order

On Monday, Opec trimmed its 2025 global oil demand growth forecast, lowering projection to 1.30 mn bpd. This will be a silver lining to a global trade war for importing nations such as India. A weak energy market eases pressure on last-mile inflation, and offers RBI leeway to implement its growth objective. Monetary policy has become accommodative after two consecutive interest rate cuts. More reductions are likely if the average annual price of crude oil is projected to decline by \$10 a barrel. Low crude import prices will help India manage its current account balance better in an environment of uncertain exports. The apex bank will have it easier dealing with capital outflow while damping rupee volatility. Fiscal deficit also



becomes more manageable with stable outgo on subsidies, such as fertilisers that are tied to international oil prices.

Low energy prices may be a weak force against global economic slowdown. However, they impact India less unfavourably than export-oriented emerging economies. Depending on the pass-through to

consumer fuel prices, it will arrest slowing domestic consumption, which is holding up investment revival. India's growth rate is relatively high and energy-intensive. Low and stable oil prices for an extended period provides a cushion to GDP growth while easing India's transition to RE. This can be a valuable bargaining chip in negotiating a new world trade order. If tariff wars result in restructuring global supply chains, India can pitch its case for a bigger role in manufacturing.

Donald Trump's campaign promise of producing more oil could stretch out the favourable energy market scenario for India. This presents an opportunity to press the energy-intensive growth pedal.

## Cong seeks spl Parl session over rise in fuel prices

NEW DELHI, APRIL 15

The Congress on Tuesday targeted the Centre over the hike in excise duty on petrol and diesel and prices of LPG cylinders. The party has urged the government for a White Paper and a special session of Parliament to discuss the issue.

Mahila Congress president Alka Lamba urged the government to reduce prices of LPG, petrol and diesel. She also demanded a special relief package for women and the poor, while calling for a strict policy to tackle prices of essential commodities.

Meanwhile, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday launched an orientation program for district observers at the Gujarat Pradesh Congress Committee office in Ahmedabad. The party's pilot project aims at strengthening District Congress Committees (DCCs) in the state. —TNS

# Explainer

## ● How is the price of an LPG cylinder calculated?

**PRICES OF LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM** Gas (LPG), also known as cooking gas, are calculated based on a formula known as import parity price (IPP). Since India meets most of its LPG demand via imports, the calculations as per the IPP are dependent on fluctuations in LPG prices in the international market, which in turn, are dependent on the price of its main raw material, crude oil. The IPP is benchmarked to the LPG price of Saudi Aramco, the world's largest producer of LPG. The price thus calculated in US dollars is then converted to Indian rupees. To this price, is then added a host of components such as the Free on Board (FOB) price, ocean freight, insurance charges, customs duties, port dues, the costs of inland freight, marketing costs, oil company margins, bottling charges, dealer commission, and the Goods and Services Tax (GST). The final price thus calculated gives the retail selling price for non-subsidised cooking gas cylinders for consumers across different states. The price of LPG cylinders is revised on a monthly basis.

### FUEL BILLS



## How LPG price hike will help OMCs offset under-recoveries

The government raised LPG prices by ₹50 per cylinder last week and hiked excise duty on diesel and petrol by ₹2 per litre as crude oil prices fell to \$63-64 per barrel. The aim is to help the state-owned oil marketing companies (OMCs) offset the losses incurred due to subsidised gas prices, explains **Banasree Purkayastha**

## ● Why has the government hiked prices now?

**ON APRIL 8**, the government increased the price of domestic LPG by ₹50 for every cylinder. With this, price of a non-subsidised gas cylinder of 14.2 kg has increased to ₹853 in Delhi, ₹852 in Mumbai and ₹868 in Chennai. The hike also applies to Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) beneficiaries.

Petroleum minister Hardeep Singh Puri has said the price hike, which comes after almost a year, is part of periodic reviews conducted to align with global fuel market trends and offset rising import costs. The hike will provide support to the profitability of the three state-owned OMCs — Hindustan Petroleum

Corporation Ltd, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd and Indian Oil Corporation Ltd — which were suffering massive under-recoveries of nearly ₹43,000 crore on the sale of domestic LPG. The reduction in under-recoveries due to the price hike is estimated at ₹10,000 crore for FY25-26.

### 28.6 MT

APR-FEB FY24-25  
LPG CONSUMPTION  
WHILE IMPORTS  
STOOD AT 130.03  
THOUSAND TONNE,  
AS PER PPAC

## ● How excise duty hike will also help OMCs

**THE GOVERNMENT HAS** also increased excise duties on petrol and diesel by ₹2/litre. Puri has said the excise duty hikes were aimed at compensating oil marketing companies (OMCs) for selling LPG cylinders at a loss, in spite of the steady increase in their prices over the last few years internationally. The increase in excise duty collections for FY25-26 owing to the hike is expected to be ₹35,000 crore. "Owing to the significant decline in crude oil prices recently, the marketing margins of oil

marketing companies are expected to remain healthy despite the excise duty increase. Crude oil prices have crashed to \$63-65/barrel (bbl) now from above \$77/bbl as on March 31 owing to growing fears of a global recession with retaliatory tariffs being announced by China. Additionally, the planned production increase by OPEC+ is also contributing to downward pressure on crude prices," said Prashant Vasishth, senior vice-president and co-group head, Corporate Ratings, ICRA.

## ● The burden of the subsidy bill

**THE THREE OMCs** cumulatively had 32.89 crore active domestic LPG customers, served through 25,542 distributors, as of December 2024. Under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (PMUY) scheme availed by 10.33 crore consumers, a ₹300 subsidy is given via direct benefit transfer (DBT) on every 14.2 kg cylinder for up to 12 refills per annum (and proportionately pro-rated for 5 kg connections). Again, under the 'Give It Up' campaign, as of February 1, 2025, around 1.15 crore well-off customers have given up their subsidies.

With the deregulation of petrol and diesel prices, the fuel subsidy bill of the Union government has decreased substantially over the years. In FY23-24, the LPG subsidy bill of the government was ₹12,240 crore (including DBT of ₹1,460 crore). The revised budget estimate for FY24-25 was ₹15,700 crore (including DBT of ₹500 crore). The Budget for FY25-26 has estimated the LPG subsidy at ₹11,100 crore (including DBT of ₹1,500 crore).

## ● Consumption & import trends

**ABOUT 60-65% OF** the domestic LPG demand is met through imports. LPG imports rose 10.3% y-o-y to 1.82 million tonne (mt) in January 2025. However, it fell by 2.2% on a monthly basis, as per the Petroleum Planning & Analysis Cell. LPG consumption had surged by 7% in 2024 due to a combination of low global prices, the general elections and increase in rural LPG consumption. In 2025, however, LPG import growth is likely to slow down as residential demand eases, with the policy shifting towards piped natural gas and biofuels as LPG penetration nears saturation, per a March 2025 report by maritime research consultancy Drewry. In 2024, the Middle East contributed 97% of India's total LPG imports (Middle Eastern LPG is butane-dominated thus meeting India's residential LPG need of 60:40 butane-propane blend. If China competes for Middle East supplies given the ongoing tariff war with the US, it could lead to higher Saudi CP propane prices and a higher import bill for India.



# US crude oil helped India fill Russia's supply gap in 2024

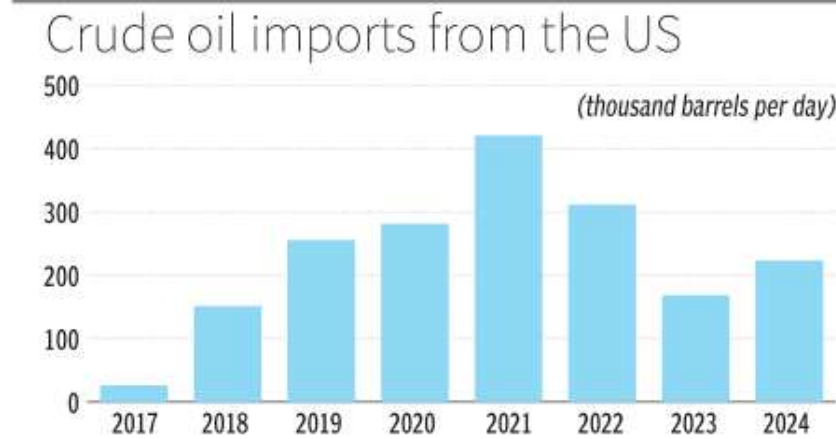
**Rishi Ranjan Kala**

New Delhi

India's crude oil imports from the US rose to a two-year high in the 2024 calendar year (CY) as cargoes from the North American country helped bridge the deficit due to lower Russian shipments.

According to the US Energy Information Administration (EIA), India's crude oil imports from the US rose by 32.74 per cent y-o-y to 2,23,000 barrels per day (b/d) in 2024. Cargoes in 2023 had hit a 5-year low of 1,68,000 b/d.

US exports to Asia (overall) decreased by 1,31,000 b/d to 1.58 million b/d as in-



Source: US EIA

creased exports to South Korea, Singapore and India were offset by the decrease in shipments to China, it pointed out.

## HIGHER CARGOES

Crude oil exports to India increased 32 per cent in 2024, bouncing back from relative

lows in 2023, the agency said.

In 2023, India increased imports of relatively cheap crude oil from Russia, following sanctions that limited the price Russia could charge for crude oil exported using the shipping and insurance services of sanctioning countries, the US EIA said.

India's oil consumption growth overtook China's in 2024, increasing Indian demand for imported crude oil.

However, despite this rising demand, Indian imports of crude oil from Russia fell in 2024 as the price discount on oil from Russia narrowed, it added.

"With the decrease in Russian imports, US crude oil helped fill in the gap, resulting in a nearly 55,000 b/d increase in US crude oil exports to India in 2024," it said. The US is India's sixth largest energy trade partner, including the fifth highest source of crude oil and second largest for liquefied natural gas (LNG).

Bilateral trade in hydrocarbons between the two hit

\$13.7 billion in FY24. Oil and gas imports from the US will rise as India tries to balance its trade deficit with the former. However, LNG seems to have a higher scope.

## RECORD IMPORTS

US LNG supplies to India will grow in FY26, given the fact that the new US administration views the commodity not just a growth driver but also as a geopolitical lever.

The US wants to move deeper into India, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.

India's imports of LNG from the US surged to 256.05 billion cubic feet, or roughly 7.25 billion cubic meters (BCM), during 2024 — the highest on record.

## Reliance, BP

### IN RARE PARTNERSHIP

## Reliance, BP, ONGC win Gujarat offshore block

### OUR CORRESPONDENT

**NEW DELHI:** In a notable first, Reliance Industries Ltd, BP, and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) have teamed up to secure an offshore oil block in Gujarat, marking a rare collaboration between the three energy majors. The trio won the GS-OSHP-2022/2 block in the latest round of the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP-IX), which saw ONGC emerge as the dominant bidder overall.

The ninth round of the OALP offered 28 blocks for exploration and production across a combined area of

### Vedanta wins 7, ONGC leads with 15 in ninth round of oil block auctions

over 1.36 lakh square kilometres. ONGC, India's largest oil and gas producer, secured 15 of these blocks—11 independently and four through joint ventures. One of the most high-profile wins was its partnership with Reliance and BP in the Gujarat offshore block.

"We are happy to confirm that we have signed a contract for a new exploration licence under the consortium of **Continued on P4**

ONGC (40 per cent), RIL (30 per cent), and BP (30 per cent) for block GS-OSHP-2022/2 (Saurashtra Basin)," a BP spokesperson said. "This consortium brings together the strengths of India's leading national oil company, its largest private conglomerate, and a global energy leader."

Mining magnate Anil Agarwal's Vedanta Ltd, which had submitted bids for all 28 blocks, was awarded seven. Oil India Ltd secured six blocks on its own and an additional three in partnership with ONGC.

The signing ceremony for the contracts took place in New Delhi, attended by Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri. During the event, Director General of the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH), Pallavi Jain, highlighted the scale of prior investments under the OALP scheme. "A total investment commitment of \$3.77 billion has been made under the previous eight rounds," she noted.

The OALP-IX round drew interest from a mix of public and private sector players. ONGC submitted standalone bids for 14 blocks and partnered with Oil India Ltd and Indian Oil Corporation for four others. Including its joint bid with Reliance-BP, ONGC submitted bids for 19 of the 28 blocks on offer.

Sun Petrochemicals Ltd placed bids for seven blocks but did not feature among the major winners. According to officials, four blocks received three bids each, while the remainder had two bidders, often including Vedanta.

Under OALP terms, blocks are awarded to companies offering the highest revenue share to the government and the most promising work programmes.

The government has continued to push for increased exploration through successive OALP rounds since the policy was introduced in 2017. Unlike earlier systems where the government identified areas, OALP allows companies to propose areas for exploration. Identified zones are grouped and offered twice annually, with a scoring advantage for firms that originally selected them.

Despite this flexibility, private sector involvement has remained limited. Vedanta dominated the inaugural round by winning 41 out of 55 blocks and added 10 more in later rounds. State-run companies have otherwise led the field.

Looking ahead, the government launched OALP-X in February, putting 25 new blocks on the table across land, shallow water, deepwater, and ultra-deepwater zones. Bidding for this round is scheduled to

close on July 31.

Reliance and BP already operate the KG-D6 block in the Krishna Godavari basin, where they produce about 28 million standard cubic meters of gas per day. Their latest collaboration with ONGC signals a broader push to diversify exploration efforts and reduce India's reliance on oil imports, which cost the country \$222 billion annually.

# ONGC, Partners Secure 15 Oil Blocks in Latest Oilfield Bids

**Our Bureau**

**New Delhi:** Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) and its partners have won exploration licences for 15 blocks in the latest oilfield bidding round. ONGC won 11 blocks on a standalone basis, three in ventures with Oil India and one in partnership with Reliance Industries and BP.

Vedanta won licences for seven exploration blocks. Oil India won nine blocks either alone or in partnership with other firms.

A total of 28 blocks were bid out

in the ninth auction round. A ceremony was held on Tuesday to showcase the contract signing between bid winners and the government. At the function, the government also launched a fresh discovered small field (DSF) bidding round and coal bed methane (CBM) round.

A total of 55 discoveries have been offered in the DSF round and three in the CBM round.

The government has also begun consultation for framing new rules following amendments to the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act.

# ONGC wins 11 blocks in round nine of oil and gas asset auctions

**SUBHAYAN CHAKRABORTY**

New Delhi, 15 April

State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and its partners won the most number of blocks — 15 — in the ninth round of the national oil and gas asset auctions.

Under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP) Round-IX, ONGC won 11 blocks on its own and the four others with partners, the government announced on Tuesday.

Private sector exploration and production company Cairn, which had bid for all 28 blocks on offer, won seven blocks. Meanwhile, UK-based global energy major BP announced its foray into exploration and production as a bidder for oil and gas assets.

“We are happy to confirm that we have signed a contract for a new exploration licence under the consortium of ONGC (40 per cent), RIL (Reliance Industries) (30 per cent), and BP (30 per cent) for block GS-OSHP-2022/2

(Saurashtra basin) in the OALP-IX bidding round,” a BP spokesperson said.

Earlier this year, BP PLC won a bid to operate and boost production from ONGC’s flagship Mumbai High field, which has been witnessing a steady decline in output.

OALP Round-IX covered 136,596 square kilometres (sq km) across 28 blocks. The distribution of these blocks included on-land (13,875.19 sq km), shallow waters (26,648.14 sq km), and ultra-deep waters (96,073.12 sq km).

The government also released an online portal for stakeholders to discuss the Draft Petroleum and Natural Gas Rules, 2025.

These rules operationalise new substantive provisions introduced by the Oilfields Regulation & Development Act, including renewal, extension and unitisation of leases, sharing of production and processing facilities, dispute resolution, site restoration, sound management of mineral oils, and decarbonisation.

# ONGC wins big in OALP-IX, bags block with Reliance & bp

ARUNIMA BHARADWAJ  
New Delhi, April 15

**A CONSORTIUM OF** state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC), Reliance Industries and global energy major bp won for the first time an off-shore oil block in Gujarat in the ninth round of bidding under the open acreage licensing policy (OALP). While ONGC won a majority of the blocks — 11 on its own and another four with different partners — Vedanta's Cairn Oil and Gas won seven oil blocks.

The consortium of ONGC (40%), RIL (30%) and bp (30%) won the GS-OSHP-2022/2 block in the Saurashtra basin. "This strategic collaboration brings together the expertise of India's largest national oil and gas company, ONGC, the largest Indian conglomerate, Reliance Industries, and global energy major bp. This consortium leverages the strength of all parties and is another step towards strengthening India's energy security goals," said a bp spokesperson. The global giant had won the bid to operate ONGC's flagship Mumbai High field earlier this year.

OALP-IX covered 136,596 sq km across 28 blocks. The government also launched the discovered small fields bid round IV, putting on offer 55 discoveries across nine contract areas. It also launched the draft petroleum and natural gas (PNG) rules 2025, operationalising new substantive provisions introduced by the Oil fields (Regulation and Development)



Minister Hardeep Singh Puri (left) at the ninth round of bid under OALP in New Delhi on Tuesday ANI

Act, including renewal and extension of leases, unitisation of leases, sharing of production and processing facilities, dispute resolution, site restoration, sound management of mineral oils, and decarbonisation.

Oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri said, "76% of the total area currently under exploration has been brought under active exploration only since 2014." The minister announced that OALP-X has already been launched offering 25 blocks across 13 sedimentary basins. In the next two decades, 25% of the world's incremental energy demand growth will come from India, Puri said.



## ONGC bags 15 blocks in the ninth round of OALP

REUTERS



**New Delhi:** State-run Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) secured 15 blocks at the ninth round of auctions for 28 hydrocarbon blocks under the Centre's Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP), on Tuesday. Four bids were placed in partnership with other players, and 11 independently, as per a statement issued by the ministry of petroleum and natural gas.

**RITURAJ BARUAH**

# चारों कैटेगरी की बिजली सब्सिडी जारी रहेगी: सूद

## दिल्ली सरकार की कैबिनेट का फैसला

### ■ सीएनजी ऑटो या अन्य श्रेणी के वाहनों को बंद करने की चर्चा को निराधार बताया

नई दिल्ली, 15 अप्रैल (नवोदय टाइम्स): दिल्ली सरकार की कैबिनेट ने बिजली सब्सिडी जारी रखने का फैसला किया है। दिल्ली सचिवालय में मंगलवार को मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता की अध्यक्षता में देर तक चली कैबिनेट बैठक के बाद ऊर्जा मंत्री आशीष सूद ने कहा कि कैबिनेट ने चार प्रमुख वर्गों के लिए सब्सिडी को जारी रखने का निर्णय लिया है।

ऊर्जा मंत्री ने कहा कि मौजूदा घरेलू उपभोक्ताओं को मिलने वाली सब्सिडी, किसानों के लिए सब्सिडी, 1984 के सिख दंगा पीड़ितों के लिए सब्सिडी और वकीलों के चेंबर से जुड़ी सब्सिडी जारी रहेगी। कहा कि 1984 के सिख दंगा पीड़ितों और वकीलों के लिए सब्सिडी हमारी सरकार का बेहद महत्वपूर्ण फैसला है। इस निर्णय के जरिए



नई दिल्ली : कैबिनेट फैसलों की जानकारी देते आशीष सूद व पंकज सिंह।

हम उन सभी अफवाहों और दुष्प्रचारों को खारिज करते हैं, जिनमें यह कहा जा रहा था कि दिल्ली सरकार सब्सिडी समाप्त करने जा रही है। कहा कि चारों कैटेगरी की सब्सिडी जारी रखने के फैसले से विपक्ष के दुष्प्रचार का भी अंत हो गया है।

### नई ईवी पॉलिसी के आने तक पुरानी पॉलिसी लागू रहेगी

जब तक नई ईवी पॉलिसी 2.0 लागू नहीं होती, तब तक पुरानी ईवी पॉलिसी लागू रहेगी। दिल्ली सरकार की कैबिनेट ने पुरानी ईवी पॉलिसी को विस्तार दे दिया है। सरकार ने नई ईवी नीति-2 को फिलहाल घोषणा करने से रोक दिया है। कैबिनेट बैठक के बाद परिवहन मंत्री डॉ. पंकज सिंह ने कहा कि पिछली सरकार ने ईवी खरीद पर सब्सिडी की राशि जारी नहीं की, जिसकी वजह से उन उपभोक्ताओं को आज तक उनका हक नहीं मिल पाया है। कहा कि सीएनजी ऑटो या किसी अन्य श्रेणी के वाहनों पर कोई प्रतिबंध नहीं होगा। उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार अपने निवासियों के लिए कई चीजें करना चाहती है और हम उन्हें संशोधित ईवी नीति में शामिल करेंगे। कहा कि यह स्पष्ट करना चाहता हूं कि तिपहिया पर कोई प्रतिबंध नहीं होगा, न ही किसी भी श्रेणी के वाहनों पर प्रतिबंध लगाने का कोई प्रस्ताव है। मौजूदा ईवी नीति अगले तीन से चार महीनों तक जारी रहने की उम्मीद है।

## सीएम से सीएनजी पंप के निकट संचालित स्कूल को लेकर कार्रवाई की मांग

**गाजियाबाद:** सीएनजी पंप के निकट चल रहे निजी स्कूल को लेकर जीपीए (गाजियाबाद पेरेंट्स एसोसिएशन) ने विरोध जताया है। उन्होंने इसे बच्चों के लिए खतरा बताते हुए उत्तर प्रदेश के सीएम से मामले में संज्ञान लेते हुए स्कूल को मान्यता देने वाले अधिकारियों पर कार्रवाई की मांग की है। जीपीए की अध्यक्ष सीमा त्यागी ने बताया कि एसोसिएशन को मामले में अभिभावकों की ओर से शिकायत प्राप्त हुई थी। शिकायत में लोनी स्थित सेंट थॉमस स्कूल का संचालन सीएनजी पंप के साथ होना बताया गया, स्कूल और सीएनजी पंप की दीवार लगभग एक ही है, जबकि मानकों के हिसाब से सीएनजी स्टेशन और स्कूल एक साथ नहीं हो सकते हैं। पदाधिकारी अनिल सिंह का कहना है कि स्कूल को मान्यता देने से पहले सीएनजी पंप का संचालन किया जा रहा था अब अगर भविष्य में सीएनजी पंप पर कोई हादसा हो जाता है तब स्कूल में पढ़ने वाले बच्चों की सुरक्षा की जिम्मेदारी किसकी होगी। मामले में मुख्यमंत्री से जांच करा मान्यता देने वाले अधिकारियों पर सख्त कार्रवाई की मांग की है।

# अगले दो दशकों में, दुनिया की ऊर्जा मांग में वृद्धि का 25 फीसदी हिस्सा भारत से आएगा: पुरी

● ओएनजीसी ने हासिल किये सबसे ज्यादा ब्लॉक, तेल और गैस की खोज और उत्पादन के लिए 1.36 लाख वर्ग किलोमीटर क्षेत्र में फैले 28 ब्लॉक पेश किए गए थे

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी) : पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने यहां आयोजित ओपन एकरेज लाइसेंसिंग पॉलिसी (ओएएलपी) राउंड-IX और विशेष खोजे गए छोटे क्षेत्र (डीएसएफ) हस्ताक्षर समारोह को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि भारतीय हाइड्रोकार्बन क्षेत्र त्वरित अन्वेषण और विकास के एक नए युग में प्रवेश कर रहा है।

उद्योग हितधारकों और निवेशकों की सभा को संबोधित करते हुए हरदीप पुरी ने कहा कि आज का हस्ताक्षर समारोह एक प्रक्रियात्मक औपचारिकता के पूरा होने से कहीं अधिक महत्वपूर्ण है कि यह भारत की आयात निर्भरता को कम करने और अपने ऊर्जा भविष्य को सुरक्षित करने की अटूट प्रतिबद्धता का एक शक्तिशाली प्रमाण है। हरदीप पुरी ने कहा कि भारत वर्तमान में अपने कच्चे तेल की 88 फीसदी और प्राकृतिक गैस की 50 फीसदी आवश्यकताओं के लिए आयात पर निर्भर है, इसलिए घरेलू अन्वेषण और



उत्पादन की आवश्यकता पहले कभी इतनी अधिक नहीं थी। उन्होंने दावा किया कि अगले दो दशकों में, दुनिया की ऊर्जा मांग में वृद्धि का 25 फीसदी हिस्सा भारत से आएगा। "इससे पहले रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज, ऊर्जा क्षेत्र की वैश्विक कंपनी बीपी और सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की ओएनजीसी ने मिलकर खुला क्षेत्र लाइसेंस नीति के तहत बोली के नौवें दौर में गुजरात अपतटीय तेल ब्लॉक हासिल किया है।

इस बोली में ओएनजीसी ने ज्यादातर क्षेत्र हासिल किये, जबकि वेदांता को सात ब्लॉक मिले। पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी की मौजूदगी में यहां एक कार्यक्रम में ओएएलपी के नौवें दौर के तहत ब्लॉक के लिए अनुबंधों पर हस्ताक्षर किये गये। इस दौर में, तेल और गैस की खोज और उत्पादन के

लिए 1.36 लाख वर्ग किलोमीटर क्षेत्र में फैले 28 ब्लॉक पेश किए गए थे। खुला क्षेत्र लाइसेंस नीति (ओएएलपी-आठ) के पिछले आठवें दौर में, ओएनजीसी ने गहरे समुद्र क्षेत्र कृष्णा गोदावरी बेसिन ब्लॉक के लिए बोली नहीं लगाई थी। इसके लिए रिलायंस-बीपी समूह ने बोली लगायी थी। हाइड्रोकार्बन महानिदेशालय (डीजीएच) की महानिदेशक पल्लवी जैन ने कहा कि ओएएलपी के तहत पिछली बोलियों के आठ दौर में 3.77 अरब डॉलर निवेश की प्रतिबद्धता जतायी गयी है। यह पहली बार है जब ओएनजीसी ने किसी उद्यम के लिए अन्य कंपनियों के साथ मिलकर काम किया है। रिलायंस, बीपी और ओएनजीसी के समूह ने जीएस-ओएसएचपी-2022/2 ब्लॉक जीता।

## सीएनजी और पीएनजी एक रुपये महंगी

जासं, लखनऊ : कंप्रेसड नेचुरल गैस (सीएनजी) और पाइपड नेचुरल गैस (पीएनजी) के उपभोक्ताओं की जेब पर और बोझ बढ़ेगा। लखनऊ और आगरा सहित पांच जिलों में सीएनजी और पीएनजी की आपूर्ति करने वाली ग्रीन गैस लिमिटेड ने गैस की दरों में बढ़ोतरी कर दी है। सीएनजी में एक रुपये और पीएनजी के दाम में 1.07 की वृद्धि की है। नई दरें बुधवार सुबह छह बजे से लागू हो जाएंगी। लखनऊ के अलावा आगरा, अयोध्या, सुलतानपुर और उन्नाव में सीएनजी अब 97.75 रुपये प्रतिक्विग्रा मिलेगी। सीएनजी की मौजूदा दर 96.75 रुपये थी। वहीं पीएनजी की दर 57.43 से बढ़कर 58.50 रुपये स्टैंडर्ड क्यूबिक मीटर हो गई है। ग्रीन गैस लिमिटेड के अधिकारी प्रवीण सिंह का कहना है कि सरकार घरेलू प्राकृतिक गैस का कोटा लगातार कम कर रही है, जिसके कारण गैस की दरों में बढ़ोतरी की जा रही है। माना जा रहा है कि अगर सरकार ने कोटे को नहीं बढ़ाया तो उपभोक्ताओं को और भुगतान करना पड़ सकता है।

# दो बड़े प्रोजेक्ट से रोजाना बचेगा सात करोड़ लीटर पेयजल, वेस्ट पानी को बेच निगम भी होगा मालामाल

प्रदीप शर्मा • जागरण

**पानीपत:** शहर के दो बड़े प्रोजेक्ट जो न केवल रोजाना सात करोड़ लीटर पीने योग्य पानी की बर्बादी को रोकेंगे, बल्कि सालाना 50 करोड़ रुपये नगर निगम की आमदनी का स्थाई साधन भी बनेंगे।

पहले प्रोजेक्ट में डाइंग यूनिट को भूजल की बजाय सीवरेज ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट (एसटीपी) के पानी देने के लिए प्लानिंग को आधिकारी मंजूरी मिल चुकी है। इसी वित्तीय वर्ष में इस कार्य को पूरा किया जाएगा। इस प्रोजेक्ट से रोजाना पांच करोड़ लीटर पीने योग्य पानी को बचत होगी।

दूसरा प्रोजेक्ट इंडियन आयल कारपोरेशन पानीपत रिफाइनरी के लिए तैयार किया जा रहा है, जिसके बायलर में इस्तेमाल होने वाले मोटे पानी की जगह उनके एसटीपी को ट्रीटेड पानी उपलब्ध कराने पर विचार किया जा रहा है।

● शहर की डाइंग यूनिट में इस्तेमाल होने वाले भूजल की जगह सीवरेज का ट्रीट किया हुआ पानी कराया जाएगा उपलब्ध

● इंडियन आयल कारपोरेशन रिफाइनरी में बायलर के लिए नहर से लिया जाने वाले दो करोड़ लीटर पानी की जगह एसटीपी का ट्रीटेड पानी होगा उपलब्ध



सीवरेज ट्रीटमेंट प्लांट।

**निगम को यह फायदा:** अभी डाइंग यूनिट जो पानी खरीद रही है वह पीने योग्य है। इन यूनिट को एसटीपी के माध्यम से ट्रीटेड पानी उपलब्ध करवाकर डाइंग यूनिट को प्रति किलोलीटर के हिसाब से निगम बचेगा। इसके लिए डाइंग

यूनिटों तक हरियाणा शहरी विकास प्राधिकरण के माध्यम से पाइपलाइन बिछवाई जाएगी। इससे निगम की आमदनी बढ़ेगी, सालाना 30 करोड़ रुपये रेवेन्यू के रूप में निगम के पास आएगा, जो विकास कार्यों पर खर्च होगा।

## यह है प्रोजेक्ट का स्टेटस

एचएसवीपी के साथ मिलकर पूरा प्लान तैयार कर लिया है। इस संबंध में मुख्यमंत्री नयव सेनी ने भी सहमति जता दी है। इसी वित्तीय वर्ष में इस प्रोजेक्ट का काम पूरा होगा।

**5** करोड़ लीटर पानी की बचत होगी डाइंग यूनिट में

## यह है प्रोजेक्ट का स्टेटस

इस प्रोजेक्ट को लेकर नेशनल मिशन फार क्लीन गंगा से फंडिंग की बात चल रही है। इसको लेकर मथुरा में विजिट भी प्रपोज़ की है। फंड की हरी झंडी मिलते ही इस प्रोजेक्ट पर भी जल्द का काम शुरू होगा।

दोनों ही प्रोजेक्ट से सात करोड़ लीटर पानी की प्रतिदिन बचत होगी। वेस्ट पानी का सदुपयोग होगा और नगर निगम की सालाना आमदनी भी 50 करोड़ रुपये बढ़ेगी। एक प्रोजेक्ट को इसी वित्तीय वर्ष में पूरा कर लिया जाएगा। आइओसीएल के प्रोजेक्ट को भी सिर्रे चढ़ाने के लिए प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं।

**डा. पंकज यादव,** आयुक्त नगर निगम पानीपत।

**50** करोड़ आमदनी का स्थाई साधन बनेंगे

## प्रोजेक्ट नंबर-2

आइओसीएल पानीपत रिफाइनरी बायलर के लिए पश्चिमी यमुना नहर व दिल्ली पैरलल नहर से प्रतिदिन 20 एमएलवी मोटा पानी ले रही है। इसकी एवज में रिफाइनरी 24 रुपये प्रति किलोलीटर के हिसाब से सिंचाई विभाग को कीमत अदा कर रही है। नगर निगम इस प्रोजेक्ट के लिए एसटीपी से पाइपलाइन बिछाकर ट्रीट किया हुआ पानी बायलर के इस्तेमाल के लिए देगा। इससे मोटे पानी की बचत होगी और नगर निगम की सालाना 20 करोड़ रुपये की आमदनी भी होगी।

## जानिये क्या हैं प्रोजेक्ट और कैसे काम करेंगे: औद्योगिक क्षेत्र

सेक्टर-25 व 29 में करीब 400 डाइंग यूनिट हैं। जिनमें प्रतिदिन पांच करोड़ लीटर भूजल का प्रयोग किया जा रहा है। इससे पानी पाताल की ओर जा रहा है। पीने योग्य इस पानी को बचाने के लिए नगर निगम ने एक प्रोजेक्ट तैयार किया है, जिसमें इन डाइंग यूनिट में भूजल की बजाय शहर व फैक्ट्रियों से निकलने वाले गंदे पानी को एसटीपी में ट्रीट कर इन डाइंग यूनिट को उपलब्ध कराया जाएगा। फिलहाल फैक्ट्रियों से निकलने वाले पानी को ट्रीट कर वापस ड्रेन में डाल रहे हैं, जो ड्रेन के माध्यम से यमुना में जाकर मिलता है। लेकिन अब इस पानी का सदुपयोग करने के लिए एसटीपी से सीधे डाइंग यूनिट्स को उपलब्ध कराया जाएगा। इससे पीने योग्य पानी बचेगा, और भूजल स्तर नीचे जाने से बचेगा।

## प्रोजेक्ट नंबर-1



## ओएनजीसी को 11 और केयर्न को 7 ब्लॉक

सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की ऑयल एंड नैचुरल गैस कॉर्पोरेशन (ओएनजीसी) और इसकी साझेदार कंपनियों ने राष्ट्रीय तेल एवं गैस परिसंपत्तियों की नीलामी के 9वें चरण में सबसे अधिक ब्लॉक (15) हासिल किए हैं। खुली क्षेत्र लाइसेंसिंग नीति (ओएएलपी) के 9वें चरण में ओएनजीसी ने अकेले 11 ब्लॉक और बाकी चार ब्लॉक साझेदारों के साथ जीते। सरकार ने मंगलवार को इसकी घोषणा की। निजी क्षेत्र की अन्वेषण और उत्पादन कंपनी केयर्न ने सभी 28 ब्लॉक के लिए बोली लगाई थी लेकिन 7 ब्लॉक ही जीत पाई। ओएएलपी के 9वें चरण में 28 ब्लॉक में 136, 596 वर्ग किलोमीटर क्षेत्र शामिल है। सरकार ने पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस (पीएनजी) नियम 2025 के मसौदे पर चर्चा के लिए हितधारकों के लिए एक ऑनलाइन पोर्टल जारी किया।