



ONLY FOR FLEX-FUEL VEHICLES

## India launches E85 fuel priced Rs 20 below petrol

### OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: India on Friday rolled out E85 fuel, a high-ethanol petrol blend meant for flex-fuel vehicles, with a price nearly Rs 20 per litre lower than conventional petrol as part of its push to expand cleaner and domestically sourced transport fuels.

Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri launched the fuel at an IndianOil outlet in New Delhi on World Environment Day. The fuel is being introduced at 48 public sector fuel stations across the country and

will initially be available only at select outlets.

Puri said the government plans to expand E85 availability to 500 fuel stations by December 2026 and around 5,000 outlets by December 2027.

E85 contains 80-85 per cent ethanol and 14-19 per cent petrol and can only be used in flex-fuel vehicles designed to operate on ethanol blends ranging from E20 to E100.

The minister said India has raised ethanol blending in petrol from 1.53 per cent in 2014 to 20 per cent now, meeting its target five years ahead of schedule. According **Continued on P4**

## India launches

to him, the programme has saved more than Rs 1.84 lakh crore in foreign exchange and reduced crude oil imports by nearly 302 lakh metric tonnes.

He said wider adoption of E85 could help increase the country's overall ethanol blending level to nearly 26 per cent by 2030-31.

Ministry estimates show that flex-fuel vehicles running on E85 can cut lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions by around 61 per cent compared with conventional petrol vehicles.

Puri said if half of all new two-wheelers and passenger vehicles sold in India adopt flex-fuel technology, annual ethanol demand could rise by over 312 crore litres. Such a shift could generate about Rs 12,403 crore in additional income for farmers, save roughly Rs 15,151 crore in foreign exchange each year and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 66.4 lakh metric tonnes.

Drawing a comparison with Brazil, where more than 80 per cent of light vehicles use flex-fuel technology, Puri said India was building a national flex-fuel ecosystem. He added that no engine failures linked to ethanol blending had been reported since E20 became the national standard fuel. "Every litre of ethanol replaces imported fossil fuel," he said. "Every drop of E85 carries the spirit of an Atmanirbhar Bharat."

**ENERGY FRONTIERS**

# Who Controls Venezuela's Oil?

*Though Caracas owns the world's largest proven oil reserves, sanctions, licensing regimes and geopolitical rivalries increasingly shape who buys the crude, who earns from it and who gains strategic leverage*



**SANJAY AGARWAL**  
THE WRITER IS A FORMER SECURITY ADVISOR, MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, GOI

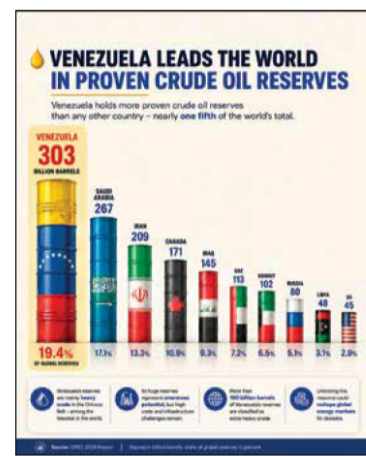
**From Washington to Beijing and New Delhi, multiple actors are vying for influence over the world's largest proven oil reserves**

The struggle over Venezuelan oil has never been merely about energy. It is about political power, geopolitical influence, sanctions, debt recovery, market access, and control over the world's largest proven hydrocarbon reserves. The central question is not who legally owns the oil—Venezuela does—but who controls its sale, who captures the revenue, and who derives strategic advantage. In 2026, Washington's policies, sanctions mechanisms, and licensing regimes have fundamentally reshaped Venezuelan oil exports.

**Ownership Versus Control**  
Legally, Venezuela's oil reserves belong to the state and are administered through Petróleos de Venezuela S.A. (PDVSA), the national oil company. Yet legal ownership and effective control are no longer synonymous. While PDVSA continues operating fields and overseeing production, its freedom to market oil internationally remains heavily constrained by U.S. sanctions, licensing requirements, banking controls, shipping restrictions, and financial oversight.

A significant portion of Venezuela's export system now functions under conditions where Washington exercises substantial influence over who may buy Venezuelan crude, how payments are processed, and where revenues ultimately flow. This creates a unique situation: an OPEC member formally owns its resources but faces external constraints shaping their commercial disposition. The consequence is not direct American ownership of Venezuelan oil, but considerable American leverage over its monetisation.

**Where Does the Money Go?**  
The traditional model under Hugo Chávez and Nicolás Maduro was straightforward: oil revenues flowed through PDVSA into government coffers, financing public spending, subsidies, patronage networks, social programs, and the security apparatus. That model has been progressively and significantly altered by sanctions, debt obligations,



arbitration awards, and licensing arrangements.

Today, revenues from many transactions face external scrutiny. Significant portions are absorbed by operating costs, debt servicing, investor repayments, and joint-venture commitments before reaching the Venezuelan state. In several arrangements, payments route through controlled financial channels designed to prevent direct access by sanctioned entities.

Recent reports indicate some oil revenue has been directed toward mechanisms supporting Venezuelan workers and stabilising domestic financial conditions through selected banking channels. The stated American objective is ensuring revenues benefit ordinary Venezuelans while minimising diversion through corruption or regime-controlled structures. Whether fully achievable remains debated, but the trend is unmistakable: the Venezuelan government now captures a smaller share of oil rent than it once did.

**The Real Beneficiaries**  
The greatest immediate beneficiaries are not necessarily located in Venezuela. India has emerged as perhaps the most significant commercial winner. Indian refiners dra-

matically increased Venezuelan crude purchases, taking advantage of substantial discounts relative to Brent benchmarks. Companies such as Reliance, IOC, and HPCL gain competitively priced feedstock while diversifying away from excessive dependence on any single supplier. Equally important, Indian state-owned investments trapped in Venezuela for years may finally have a pathway toward recovery. Venezuelan Acting President Delcy Rodríguez's long 5-day visit to India, June 3-7, 2026, is to be seen in this context.

Chevron is the principal corporate beneficiary. As the only major American oil company maintaining significant operations inside Venezuela, it occupies a privileged position in any recovery scenario. Beyond current production, Chevron gains access to some of the world's most extensive undeveloped reserves, providing enormous long-term strategic value.

American consumers may benefit indirectly. The Trump administration's energy strategy seeks to increase supply availability and moderate prices. Additional Venezuelan barrels contribute to this objective, even though immediate impact on global prices remains limited.

For Venezuela itself, benefits are mixed. Workers may receive greater income stability and economic activity may improve modestly. Yet the state's ability to capture and freely deploy oil revenues remains constrained compared with the pre-sanctions era.

China, by contrast, appears among the relative losers. Once the dominant buyer of Venezuelan crude and major financing source, Beijing's influence has diminished as sanctions, licensing requirements, and changing trade patterns redirected flows elsewhere. Russia faces similar limitations, though it retains political and strategic relationships with Caracas.

**Economics of Venezuelan Crude**  
A common misconception is that Venezuela's vast reserves automatically translate into immense profitability. The reality is more complicated. Most reserves are concentrated in the Orinoco Belt and consist of extremely heavy crude requiring dilution, upgrading, specialised transportation, and complex refining processes.

These technical challenges ensure Venezuelan crude trades at persistent discounts—approximately USD 25 below Brent. While headline reserve figures exceed Saudi Arabia's, extraction costs, infrastructure deterioration, operational inefficiencies, and years of underinvestment significantly reduce commercial attractiveness. Industry estimates suggest full-cycle production costs often approach USD 39-46 per barrel, leaving limited margins when prices soften.

Consequently, Venezuela's challenge is not geological abundance but economic viability. Possessing the world's largest reserves does not automatically confer market power if production capacity and infrastructure remain impaired.

**Implications for OPEC and Global Markets**  
Despite geopolitical drama, Venezuela's current production remains modest by global standards. Even

optimistic forecasts place output near 1 million barrels per day—a fraction of historical levels and only a small percentage of world supply.

For this reason, OPEC+ does not view Venezuelan recovery as an immediate threat. The greater concern lies in the long term. If American influence over Venezuelan exports expands while U.S. domestic production remains strong, Washington could indirectly shape additional volumes originating from an OPEC member. Such an outcome would challenge traditional assumptions about cartel cohesion and pricing power—especially after the UAE quit OPEC last month.

The strategic irony is striking: an administration advocating lower oil prices could simultaneously exercise significant influence over supply from one of the world's largest reserve holders. This potentially creates a new mechanism for influencing global energy markets outside conventional OPEC frameworks.

**Larger Geopolitical Significance**  
The Venezuelan oil question ultimately concerns much more than petroleum. It sits at the intersection of great-power competition, sanctions policy, energy security, and hemispheric influence. Washington seeks to limit Chinese and Russian leverage in Latin America. Beijing seeks to preserve access to strategic resources. India seeks affordable energy and recovery of stranded investments. Venezuela seeks economic revival without surrendering sovereignty.

The most important analytical point is simple: ownership, production, and control have become separated. Venezuela owns the oil. Yet the ability to determine who buys it, how revenues are handled, and who ultimately captures the economic rent is increasingly shaped by external power.

This reality represents one of the most consequential shifts in global energy politics of the past decade. The implications will continue unfolding over the years.

*Views expressed are personal*

# OIL's second Andaman gas find boosts exploration prospects

*The discovery was made at the Vijayapuram-3 exploratory well, located around 15 km off the east coast of Andaman*

**SRI VIJAYA PURAM:** Oil India Ltd (OIL) has made its second natural gas discovery in the Andaman offshore basin, bolstering hopes that the frontier region could emerge as a major hydrocarbon-producing area in the future.

The discovery was made at the Vijayapuram-3 exploratory well, located around 15 km off the east coast of the Andaman Islands in a water depth of 355 metres, Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Friday.

It follows OIL's first gas discovery at the Vijayapuram-2 well in September 2025. With two successful finds from three



exploratory wells drilled under its Andaman exploration campaign, the company has significantly improved the basin's exploration outlook.

Puri described the latest find as a positive step towards enhancing India's energy security through greater offshore

## CLOSER LOOK

- » Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri described latest find as a positive step towards enhancing India's energy security through greater offshore exploration
- » Initial production testing at a depth of over 1,900 metres in the Eocene formation confirmed the presence of natural gas through continuous flaring, he said

exploration. Initial production testing at a depth of over 1,900 metres in the Eocene formation confirmed the presence of natural gas through continuous flaring, he said in a post on X.

The minister noted that the discovery aligns with the Samudra Manthan Mission, the

National Deep Water Exploration Mission announced by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2025, under which a large number of deepwater and ultra-deepwater wells are planned across India's offshore basins.

According to OIL, the well

showed encouraging reservoir characteristics. After perforation, it recorded a rapid pressure build-up and commenced production, indicating commercial potential.

Industry experts view the back-to-back discoveries as a significant milestone for exploration in the relatively under-explored Andaman Basin. The company said the find confirms the presence of a working petroleum system and may point to additional hydrocarbon accumulations in the region.

Following the earlier Vijayapuram-2 discovery, OIL launched an extensive appraisal

programme, including reprocessing existing seismic data and acquiring nearly 600 sq km of additional 3D seismic data. The data is currently being processed and interpreted to guide future appraisal drilling.

With two gas discoveries already confirmed, the Andaman offshore region is increasingly being seen as one of India's most promising frontiers for oil and gas exploration.

"OIL remains committed to advancing exploration through technological excellence and unlocking the nation's hydrocarbon potential for a secure energy future," the company said.

AGENCIES

## ‘Flex fuel to cost ₹20/litre cheaper than E20 petrol’

**Our Bureau**  
New Delhi

Oil Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Friday that the retail selling price of flex fuel, the E85 variant that has a higher blend of ethanol, will be around ₹20 cheaper than the E20 petrol variant.

“I think we have consciously structured the pricing to ensure that consumers are adequately compensated by making E85 approximately ₹20 per litre cheaper than E20,” the Oil Minister said while launching the E85 variant at an Indian Oil Corporation-run retail outlet.

Currently, the E85 variant is priced ₹82.12 a litre in Delhi against ₹102.12 a litre of E20 blended petrol.

The rollout commences across 48 public sector OMC retail outlets (ROs) in the country, enabling flex-fuel vehicle users to access this cleaner fuel.

E85 is a high-ethanol blended fuel comprising 80-85 per cent ethanol and 14-19 per cent petrol, specifically designed for use in flex-fuel vehicles.

The initiative aims to facilitate the adoption of flex-fuel vehicles (FFVs), which are capable of operating on ethanol blends from E20 to

E100, without restricting consumers to a single blend.

### NEW VARIANT

The Minister explained that the newly launched variant, which has 85 per cent ethanol and 15 per cent petrol, will be available at fuel retail outlets (ROs) with clearly displayed signage.

“E85 is a different category. At fuel bunks, a board will say very clearly that only for E85 compliant cars only. You will buy E85 as you want to contribute to lessen fuel import bills, save the environment, and enhance farmer’s income. I believe within a few weeks we will have about 50 to 100 ethanol dispensing stations in Delhi-NCR, Pune, Mumbai, and Nagpur. By 2026-end, we will have 500 and by 2027 end we



Hardeep Singh Puri,  
Oil Minister

will have 5,000 dispensing stations,” Puri emphasised.

The Minister emphasised that several countries, particularly Brazil, had successfully leveraged flex fuel vehicles and are an intrinsic part of their energy dynamics. India is gradually moving in that direction.

Puri also noted that the push towards ethanol had led to a rise in the production capacity to around 1,900 crore litres of ethanol against a requirement of roughly 1,150 crore litres to meet the E20 petrol blending mandate.

“If one out of two cars which are manufactured from now onwards and which is very easy to do, if they are E85 compliant, then we will have a situation where another 318 crore litres of ethanol can be consumed. For 20 per cent ethanol blending, we required around 1,150 crore litres ethanol. The capacity installed is 1,800-1,900 crore litres. Today, it is absolutely clear that the debate of energy security Vs food security was baseless,” the Oil Minister explained.



## **OIL INDIA FINDS NATURAL GAS IN ANDAMANS: PURI**

**FC CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, JUN 5**

Amid the reported shortage of natural gas in the country, Union minister for petroleum and natural gas Hardeep Singh Puri on Friday said that Oil India Limited (OIL) has reported presence of natural gas in Sri Vijayapuram-3, 15 km off the east coast of the Andaman Islands, at a depth of 355 metres.

The initial production testing at depth of 1,900 plus meters in Eocene formation has established the presence of gas.

"An ocean of energy opportunities reinforced in the Andaman Sea! Very happy to report the presence of natural gas," he said in a post on X.

live**mint**

Oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri launches E85 petrol in New Delhi on Friday.

## E85 petrol to be ₹20 cheaper than regular fuel

Rituj Baruah  
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NEW DELHI

State-run oil marketing companies (OMCs) rolled out a high-ethanol petrol blend on Friday, priced about ₹20 per litre lower than regular fuel, as the government seeks to reduce the country's \$120-billion annual oil import bill and tap rising production capacity in the domestic ethanol sector.

Currently, about 48 retail outlets of public sector OMCs in the country offer this cleaner fuel, according to Union minister for petroleum and natural gas Hardeep Singh Puri. The government plans to scale it up to 500 retail outlets by December and about 5,000 by December 2027, and to raise India's aggregate ethanol blending level to nearly 26 per cent by 2030-31. The country currently has about 100,000 fuel stations, of which about 30,000 are state-run.

"I think we have consciously structured the pricing to ensure that consumers are adequately compensated by making E85 approximately ₹20 per litre cheaper than E20," Puri said at the launch of the E85 petrol, at an Indian Oil retail outlet in the national capital.

The lower price can be attributed to the new variant's lower calorific value compared to regular E20 petrol. At the time of the launch, in the national capital, the fuel was priced at ₹82.12 a litre.

Noting that all the existing vehicles compatible with E20 petrol would continue to get the regular fuel and there would be no supply constraint for it, Puri said: "E85 is a different category. At fuel bunks, a board will say very clearly that only for E85 compliant cars only. You will buy E85 as you want to contribute to lessen fuel import bills, save the environment, and enhance farmer's income."

The minister said that several countries, particularly Brazil, have successfully adopted flex-fuel vehicles.

Mint earlier reported that the Centre is preparing a broader policy push to enable the adoption of flex-fuel vehicles that can run on ethanol blends up to E85.

The launch comes as auto-makers, including Maruti Suzuki India and Hero MotoCorp, have introduced flex-fuel variants of their best-selling WagonR and Splendor vehicles.

For an extended version of this story, go to [livemint.com](https://www.livemint.com).

# Achieving energy self-reliance is key: PM

**ARCHIS MOHAN**  
New Delhi, 5 June

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said the current decade was turning out to be a decade of adversities, beginning with the Covid-19 pandemic and followed by several wars, which have triggered an energy crisis, leading to volatile oil prices and disruptions in gas supply chains. But India has weathered these challenges with strength and resilience through the collective efforts of its 1.4 billion people, he said.

Addressing a gathering in Gujarat's Surat after inaugurating and laying foundation stones for development projects worth ₹18,000 crore, the PM said the current global crises had underlined the importance of atmanirbharta, or self-reliance, in the energy sector, and the crucial role played by the country's efforts over the last 12 years to diversify its sources of oil supplies and build renewable energy capacity.

The PM detailed the govern-



**Prime Minister Narendra Modi (left) on a visit to L&T's Hazira unit in Surat, where he reviewed industrial operations and infrastructure projects**

PHOTO: PTI

ment's "historic investments" over the last dozen years in renewable energy, ethanol blending, railway electrification, civil nuclear energy, improving power

transmission networks and expanding the piped gas network.

The PM said voters had repeatedly given a mandate to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)

because they trust his government's development initiatives and growth-driven agenda for the country. He said that amid his government's focus on self-reliance, there are "some pessimists" in the country who constantly mock the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative.

To accelerate the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative, the country is focusing heavily on connectivity. Projects such as the Vadodara-Mumbai Expressway, the Dedicated Freight Corridor and the Ahmedabad-Mumbai bullet train corridor reflect this priority, he said. The PM added that the world is shifting towards a green future and India is working extensively on 'green growth', with Gujarat having taken decisive steps in this regard years ago.

Earlier in the day, the PM visited Larsen & Toubro's Hazira facility in Surat, where he reviewed ongoing industrial operations and infrastructure projects. He visited the AM Naik Heavy Engineering Complex, L&T's

state-of-the-art manufacturing facility, and was shown around by company officials. He was briefed on the 'Zorawar' tanks and other defence equipment manufactured at the facility. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and L&T Defence have jointly developed the air-transportable 25-tonne tank designed for rapid deployment, largely along the frontier with China.

Taking a jibe at the Congress, the PM said "immense public anger" forced the party to change its CM in Karnataka and accused it of spreading chaos in the past 12 years and seeking political and electoral opportunities in them.

Later in the evening, the PM launched ₹2,970 crore projects in Daman and inaugurated new Airport Terminal in Union territory. Addressing a gathering, he said the country clocked 7.7 per cent gross domestic product (GDP) growth in FY26. "India is fastest growing major economy in the world," he said.



# Puri launches E85 fuel; to be 20% cheaper than E20 petrol

**SUDHEER PAL SINGH**

New Delhi, 5 June

Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Friday launched petrol blended with 85 per cent ethanol, also called E85 or flex-fuel, at an Indian Oil petrol pump in Delhi. The cleaner fuel will be priced 20 per cent lower than the price of the E20 variant of petrol.

“We have consciously structured the pricing to ensure the consumers are more than adequately compensated for any lack in calorific value, by making E85 approximately ₹20 per litre cheaper than E20 blended fuel. This is a major plus,” Puri

said at the launch event. E20 fuel at Indian oil pumps is priced identical to regular petrol of ₹102.12 per litre.

The scaling up of E85, by making it available at 5,000 retail pumps by December 2027, will help raise India’s aggregate ethanol blending levels to nearly 26 per cent by 2030-31, the petroleum ministry said. The launch comes a day after the unveiling of India’s first mass-market flex-fuel car, the Maruti Suzuki Wagon R Flex Fuel, developed to run on ethanol-petrol blends ranging from E20 up to E85.

Puri said consumers should switch to E85 fuel also because its use allows Green

House Gas (GHG) emission reduction of 61 per cent compared to conventional petrol vehicles.

Puri said the new fuel was meant exclusively for especially-designed flex-fuel vehicles equipped with compatible engines, and the transition towards E85 vehicles will be guided by rigorous testing and validation by automobile manufacturers over time.

“I am in support of electric vehicles, but they require technology and critical minerals that are largely imported, but the E85 fuel is produced by the sweat and toil of the Indian farmers. E85 is at present the cleanest option in India.”



## PURI: E85 FUEL TO COST ₹20/L LESS THAN PETROL



INDIA ON THURSDAY launched E85 petrol, a high-ethanol fuel for flex-

fuel vehicles, with Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri announcing that the fuel will be sold at a discount of around ₹20 per litre to regular petrol, as the government moves to absorb surplus ethanol production, report **Saurav Anand & Nitin Kumar**.

# Puri: E85 fuel to cost less than petrol

SAURAVANAND  
& NITIN KUMAR  
New Delhi, June 5

INDIA ON FRIDAY launched E85 petrol, a high-ethanol fuel for flex-fuel vehicles, with Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri announcing that the fuel will be sold at a discount of around ₹20 per litre to regular petrol.

This comes as the government moves to absorb surplus ethanol production, reduce crude oil imports and deepen the country's biofuel programme.

The launch price of the E85 fuel was ₹82.12 per litre in Delhi, compared with the pre-



vailing petrol price of ₹102.12 per litre.

"E85 will be cheaper by around ₹20 per litre than regular petrol because of its lower calorific value," Puri said, while launching the fuel at an Indian Oil retail outlet in New Delhi on the occasion of World Envi-

ronment Day.

The fuel will be rolled out across 48 public sector OMC retail outlets and will be expanded to 500 outlets by December 2026 and around 5,000 outlets by December 2027. The government expects the initiative to help raise

India's aggregate ethanol blending level to nearly 26% by 2030-31.

FE had reported on June 3 that E100 fuel was likely to be priced at a discount of 15-20% to regular petrol, implying a retail price of around ₹82-87 per litre based on Delhi's petrol price. The launch price of E85 broadly falls within that range.

E85 comprises 80-85% ethanol and 14-19% petrol and is designed exclusively for flex-fuel vehicles capable of operating on blends ranging from E20 to E100.

The launch comes at a time when India's ethanol production capacity has significantly outpaced demand.



## Oil India strikes natural gas in third Andaman offshore well

**New Delhi:** State-run Oil India Limited (OIL) Friday said it has reported the presence of natural gas in its third exploratory well in the Andaman shallow offshore block, further indicating hydrocarbon potential in the region, reports **Atul Mathur**.

In a regulatory filing to stock exchanges, the company said natural gas was encountered in the exploratory well Vijayapuram-3, drilled 15 km off the east coast of the Andaman Islands at a water depth of 355 metres in an offshore block under the Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP).

“Initial production testing of the well at the depth of 1900 plus metres in the Eocene formation has established the presence of natural gas through continuous flaring. Post perforation, immediate pressure build up was observed and well started to produce,” it said. It added that gas sampling is being undertaken to assess its composition and calorific value and to carry out isotope studies to understand its genesis.

With this, OIL has established the presence of hydrocarbons in two of the three wells in the Andaman offshore block. The first indication of natural gas was reported from its second exploratory well, Vijayapuram-2, in Sept 2025.

# E85 Fuel to Be Sold at ₹20/L Discount: Puri

**Our Bureau**

**New Delhi:** State-run oil firms will sell E85 fuel — a blend of 85% ethanol and 15% petrol — at a discount of ₹20 per litre to offset the biofuel's lower energy content, oil minister Hardeep Singh Puri said on Friday after inaugurating an E85 dispensing facility at a Delhi petrol pump.

The government plans to roll out E85 fuel in phases, with 500 fuel stations targeted by the end of this year and 5,000 by the end of 2027 across India, Puri said.

Indian Oil already has a network of 400 fuel stations that can dispense E100 fuel, or pure ethanol with no mix of petrol, across Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu.

Ethanol's energy content is about one-third lower than that of petrol. To compensate for this, E85 users will receive a ₹20 per litre discount compared with E20, the regular fuel blend sold across the country that contains 20% ethanol

and 80% petrol.

The E20 blend will continue to be available at all fuel stations, as most vehicles currently on Indian

roads can use blends of up to 20% ethanol.

In recent days, Maruti Suzuki and Hero Moto-Corp have each launched one vehicle model capable of running on E85 fuel. The simultaneous rollout of compa-

tible vehicles and fuel dispensing infrastructure will help accelerate E85 adoption, Puri said.



## अंडमान के अपतटीय ब्लॉक में ऑयल इंडिया ने की प्राकृतिक गैस की नई खोज

एजेंसी ■ नई दिल्ली

सरकारी महारत्न कंपनी ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड ने शुक्रवार को अंडमान के उथले समुद्री (अपतटीय) ब्लॉक में अपने तीसरे खोजी कुएं में प्राकृतिक गैस की नई खोज की घोषणा की। कंपनी ने कहा कि यह खोज इस क्षेत्र में हाइड्रोकार्बन की मौजूदगी का एक और महत्वपूर्ण संकेत है। कंपनी के अनुसार, विजयपुरम-3 (स्थान ओईबी) नामक यह कुआं ओपन एकरेज लाइसेंसिंग पॉलिसी (ओएएलपी) के तहत ऑफशोर अंडमान ब्लॉक एएन-ओएसएचपी-2018/1 में ड्रिल किया गया है। यह कुआं अंडमान द्वीप समूह के पूर्वी तट से लगभग 15 किलोमीटर दूर समुद्र में स्थित है, जहां पानी की गहराई 355 मीटर है। कंपनी ने बताया कि ड्रिलिंग कार्य इयोसीन भू-स्तर में 1,900 मीटर से अधिक गहराई तक किया गया एक्सचेंज फाइलिंग में ऑयल इंडिया ने बताया कि कुएं के प्रारंभिक उत्पादन परीक्षण में प्राकृतिक गैस की मौजूदगी की पुष्टि हुई है। छिद्रण (परफोरेशन) के बाद लगातार गैस जलती हुई दिखाई दी, जो गैस की उपलब्धता का संकेत है। कंपनी ने



बताया कि कुएं में दबाव तेजी से बढ़ा और इसके बाद गैस का उत्पादन शुरू हो गया। ऑयल इंडिया ने अपनी नियामकीय फाइलिंग में कहा, ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड को यह घोषणा करते हुए खुशी हो रही है कि ओपन एकरेज लाइसेंसिंग पॉलिसी के तहत ऑफशोर अंडमान ब्लॉक एएन-ओएसएचपी-2018/1 में अंडमान द्वीप समूह के पूर्वी तट से 15 किलोमीटर दूर और 355 मीटर जल गहराई पर ड्रिल किए गए तीसरे खोजी कुएं विजयपुरम-3 (स्थान ओईबी) में प्राकृतिक गैस की मौजूदगी मिली है। कंपनी ने कहा कि फिलहाल गैस के नमूनों का परीक्षण किया जा रहा है ताकि उसकी संरचना और ऊष्मीय क्षमता का पता लगाया जा सके। इसके साथ ही समस्थानिक (आइसोटोप) अध्ययन भी किया जा रहा है, जिससे हाइड्रोकार्बन के स्रोत और उत्पत्ति को समझने में मदद मिलेगी।

# रेल मंत्री वैष्णव ने हाइड्रोजन ट्रेन का किया निरीक्षण

## तकनीक

नई दिल्ली, प्रमुख संवाददाता। रेल मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव ने शुक्रवार को शकूरबस्ती डिपो में हाइड्रोजन ट्रेन के साथ अत्याधुनिक तकनीकों और मेटेनेंस सुविधाओं का निरीक्षण किया। उन्होंने डिपो के कर्मचारियों और तकनीकी स्टाफ से संवाद किया और वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों को उनकी समस्याओं का समाधान करने के निर्देश दिए।

रेल मंत्री ने अत्याधुनिक 'रिट्रेक्टेबल ओएचई' प्रणाली का बारीकी से अवलोकन किया। यह तकनीक शेड के भीतर इंजनों और ट्रेनों के सुरक्षित एवं त्वरित रखरखाव में बेहद कारगर है। इसके साथ ही उन्होंने बोगी-पिट और बोगी लिफ्टिंग सुविधाओं का भी निरीक्षण किया और अधिकारियों को जमीनी स्तर



शकूरबस्ती में शुक्रवार को हाइड्रोजन ट्रेन का निरीक्षण करते रेल मंत्री अश्विनी वैष्णव।

पर कार्य कुशलता बढ़ाने के निर्देश दिए। अश्विनी वैष्णव ने भविष्य की इस पर्यावरण-अनुकूल हरित तकनीकी की प्रगति की समीक्षा की, जो भारतीयरेल को पूरी तरह प्रदूषण मुक्त बनाने की दिशा में एक क्रांतिकारी कदम है। उन्होंने 'विश्व पर्यावरण दिवस' के अवसर पर डिपो परिसर में आयोजित एक कार्यक्रम में भी भाग लिया और पौधारोपण किया।



## अंडमान में प्राकृतिक गैस का भंडार मिला

श्री विजयपुरम, (पंजाब केसरी): सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की कंपनी ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड (ओआईएल) ने अंडमान अपतटीय क्षेत्र में प्राकृतिक गैस का दूसरा भंडार खोज लिया है। इससे सीमांत बेसिन इलाके के आने वाले वर्षों में महत्वपूर्ण हाइड्रोकार्बन उत्पादक क्षेत्र के रूप में उभरने की संभावना मजबूत हुई है। केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने शुक्रवार को कहा कि नवीनतम खोज विजयपुरम-3 अन्वेषण कुएं में की गई है, जो अंडमान द्वीप समूह के पूर्वी तट से

लगभग 15 किलोमीटर दूर 355 मीटर गहरे समुद्री क्षेत्र में स्थित है। यह ओआईएल द्वारा इस क्षेत्र में खोदा गया दूसरा सफल गैस-युक्त कुआं है। इससे पहले कंपनी ने सितंबर 2025 में विजयपुरम-2 कुएं में प्राकृतिक गैस की खोज की थी। कंपनी ने बताया कि अंडमान में जारी उसके अन्वेषण अभियान के तहत अब तक खोदे गए तीन अन्वेषण कुओं में से दो में हाइड्रोकार्बन की उपस्थिति की पुष्टि हो चुकी है। यह कुआं अंडमान द्वीप समूह के पूर्वी तट से लगभग 15 किलोमीटर दूर समुद्र में स्थित है।

## भारत की ऊर्जा विविधीकरण रणनीति में वेनेजुएला की अहम भूमिका : पुरी

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो  
नई दिल्ली, 5 जून।

केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा, भारत और वेनेजुएला के बीच लंबे समय से मित्रता है।

उन्होंने, वेनेजुएला में ऊर्जा क्षेत्र के पुनर्निर्माण के प्रति भारत के मजबूत समर्थन को दोहराते हुए कहा कि भारतीय कंपनियां वहां अपनी भागीदारी बढ़ाने के लिए तत्पर हैं। उन्होंने भारत की ऊर्जा विविधीकरण रणनीति में वेनेजुएला की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका का जिक्र करते हुए वेनेजुएला के साथ ऊर्जा व्यापार को और मजबूत करने की भारत की इच्छा जताई।



हरदीप सिंह पुरी

केंद्रीय मंत्री पुरी ने गुरुवार को वेनेजुएला की कार्यवाहक राष्ट्रपति डेलसी एलोइना रोड्रिगेज गोमेज से मुलाकात के दौरान ये बातें कहीं।

भारत को वेनेजुएला का विश्वसनीय सहयोगी बताते हुए कार्यवाहक राष्ट्रपति ने भारतीय कंपनियों को वेनेजुएला के तेल और गैस क्षेत्र में सुधार में सक्रिय भूमिका निभाने के लिए न्यौता दिया। विश्व का सबसे बड़ा ज्ञात तेल भंडारों का देश वेनेजुएला, भारत के लिए कच्चे तेल का प्रमुख पारंपरिक आपूर्तिकर्ता है। भारत का उन्नत शोधन उद्योग वेनेजुएला के भारी कच्चे तेल को प्रभावी ढंग से संसाधित करने के लिए विशेष रूप से सक्षम है।

## 'अंडमान के पास प्राकृतिक गैस के बड़े भंडार मिले'

जागरण न्यूज नेटवर्क, नई दिल्ली: अंडमान निकोबार क्षेत्र में प्राकृतिक गैस के बड़े भंडार मिले हैं। केंद्रीय मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने वीडियो साझा करते हुए जानकारी दी। बताया कि सरकारी कंपनी आयल इंडिया लि. ने अंडमान अपतटीय बेसिन में प्राकृतिक गैस का भंडार खोजा है। इससे भारत के ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भर होने की संभावना को ज्यादा बल मिला है।

एक्स पर वीडियो शेयर करते हुए पुरी ने लिखा-अंडमान निकोबार द्वीप से 15 किमी दूर श्री विजय पुरम-3 में हमें प्राकृतिक गैस के भंडार मिले हैं। यह कुआं पानी में 1900 मीटर गहराई में है। टेस्टिंग में लगातार गैस जलने से गैस मौजूदगी की पुष्टि हुई है। गैस के नमूने जांच के लिए भेजे गए हैं।

# एथेनाल युक्त विशेष पेट्रोल लांच, अभी सात पेट्रोल पंपों पर मिलेगा

जागरण संवाददाता, नई दिल्ली: पश्चिम एशिया युद्ध के प्रभाव से बढ़ती पेट्रोल की कीमतों के बीच दिल्ली में पहली बार एथेनाल युक्त विशेष पेट्रोल (ई 85) लांच हुआ है। इस विशेष पेट्रोल में 85 प्रतिशत तक एथेनाल मिला है, जबकि सामान्य पेट्रोल में 20 प्रतिशत तक एथेनाल मिला होता है। इसकी कीमत सीएनजी से भी कम होगी। फिलहाल यह दिल्ली के सात पेट्रोल पंपों पर उपलब्ध होगा। यह पेट्रोल सामान्य वाहनों के लिए नहीं है। यह केवल ई-85 वाहनों के लिए उपलब्ध होगा। बता दें कि फिलहाल दिल्ली में ई-85 वाहनों की संख्या न के बराबर है। क्योंकि वाहन कंपनियों ने हाल में इस नए वर्ग की गाड़ियों को बाजार में उतारना शुरू ही किया है। ई-85 वाहन ऐसे वाहन हैं जो 85%



पूसा रोड स्थित पेट्रोल पंप पर ई 85 पेट्रोल भरते पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप पुरी • जागरण

एथेनाल और 15% पेट्रोल के मिश्रण वाले ईंधन पर चल सकते हैं।

शुक्रवार को एक कार्यक्रम में पूसा रोड स्थित इंडियन आयल के आउटलेट से पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप पुरी ने इस विशेष पेट्रोल को

लांच किया। इस मौके पर हरदीप पुरी ने कहा कि इस वर्ष के अंत तक इसे 500 पंपों तथा अगले वर्ष तक 5,000 पंपों पर विस्तार की तैयारी है।

शुक्रवार को जहां दिल्ली में

- पूसा रोड स्थित इंडियन आयल के आउटलेट से पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप पुरी ने इस विशेष पेट्रोल को लांच किया
- वर्ष के अंत तक इसके 500 पेट्रोल पंपों पर विस्तार की तैयारी, सीएनजी से भी सस्ता होगा विशेष पेट्रोल (ई 85)
- यह पेट्रोल सामान्य वाहनों के लिए नहीं है, यह केवल ई-85 वाहनों के लिए उपलब्ध होगा

सीएनजी की कीमत 83.09 रुपये प्रति किलो थी, तो ई 85 पेट्रोल प्रति लीटर 82.12 रुपये में उपलब्ध था। एक पेट्रोल पंप संचालक ने बताया कि इसके लिए पंपों पर अलग टंकी, अलग पंप तथा पाइप लाइन

बिछाई गई है। हिंदुस्तान पेट्रोलियम, भारत पेट्रोलियम जैसी कंपनियां ही उसकी आपूर्ति करेंगी।

पेट्रोल पंप संचालकों के मुताबिक जैसे जैसे इस वर्ग के वाहनों की संख्या बढ़ती जाएगी, वैसे-वैसे मांग बढ़ने के साथ अन्य पंपों पर भी ई 85 पेट्रोल उपलब्धता का भी विस्तार होगा। फिलहाल यह आनन्द विहार, करोलबाग के पूसा रोड, निजामुद्दीन समेत अन्य स्थानों पर उपलब्ध होना शुरू हुआ है। इसके प्रयोग से किसानों को भी फायदा होगा।

एथेनाल गन्ने और अन्य कृषि उत्पादों के अवशेषों से बनाया जाता है, जिससे किसानों को अतिरिक्त आमदनी होगी। विशेषज्ञों का दावा है कि इस पेट्रोल के इस्तेमाल से 61 प्रतिशत गैस उत्सर्जन में कमी आएगी।

# देश को अब नई दिशा मिलेगी केंद्रीय मंत्री पुरी ने ऑयल इंडिया को बधाई दी अंडमान में सागर में गहरे पानी के भीतर प्राकृतिक गैस का भंडार मिला

एजेसी नई दिल्ली

‘समुद्र मंथन मिशन’ की बड़ी सफलता

भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा और घरेलू उत्पादन बढ़ाने के मोर्चे पर एक बेहद सकारात्मक और बड़ी खबर है। देश की प्रमुख सरकारी अन्वेषण कंपनी ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड ने अंडमान सागर में गहरे पानी के भीतर प्राकृतिक गैस की खोज में एक बड़ी सफलता हासिल की है। केंद्रीय मंत्री हरदीप पुरी ने ऑयल इंडिया को बधाई देते हुए एक्स पर यह जानकारी दी। यह खोज भारत के महत्वाकांक्षी डीप-वाटर एक्सप्लोरेशन अभियान को एक नई दिशा देने वाली साबित होगी।

## कहां और कैसे मिली यह बड़ी सफलता?



पुरी ने बताया कि अंडमान द्वीप समूह के पूर्वी तट से 15 किमी दूर और 355 मीटर गहरे पानी में स्थित ‘श्री विजयपुरम-3’ नामक एक अन्वेषणात्मक कुएं में प्राकृतिक गैस की मौजूदगी का पता चला है।

ऑयल इंडिया की ओर से इओसीन संरचना में 1900 मीटर से अधिक की गहराई पर प्रारंभिक उत्पादन परीक्षण किया गया, जहां निरंतर ‘फ्लेयरिंग’ के माध्यम से गैस की पुष्टि हुई है। कंपनी गैस की संरचना और उसके ऊर्जा मूल्य का सटीक आकलन करने के लिए गैस के नमूने ले रही है। इसके साथ ही गैस की उत्पत्ति को गहराई से समझने के लिए आइसोटोप अध्ययन भी किया जा रहा है।

# ऑयल इंडिया को एक और गैस भंडार मिला

सुधीर पाल सिंह  
नई दिल्ली, 5 जून

ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड (ओआईएल) ने अंडमान में कम गहराई वाले अपने अपतटीय ब्लॉक में प्राकृतिक गैस की दूसरी 'उपस्थिति' का आज ऐलान किया। गैस की यह मौजूदगी अंडमान द्वीप के पूर्वी तट से 15 किलोमीटर दूर खोजे गए तीसरे कुएं 'विजयपुरम-3' में 355 मीटर की गहराई में मिली।

इस सरकारी पेट्रोलियम खोजकर्ता कंपनी ने 'ओपन एकरेज लाइसेंसिंग पॉलिसी' (ओएएलपी) के तहत मिले एएन-ओएसएचपी-2018/1 ब्लॉक में तीन कुओं को खोजा है। कंपनी इनमें से दो में हाइड्रोकार्बन की मौजूदगी का पता लगा चुकी है। कंपनी ने सितंबर 2025 में खोजे गए दूसरे कुएं 'विजयपुरम-2' में प्राकृतिक गैस मिलने की जानकारी दी थी।

कंपनी ने बयान में कहा, 'ईओसीन फॉर्मेशन में 1,900 मीटर से अधिक की गहराई पर स्थित कुएं के शुरुआती उत्पादन परीक्षण में निरंतर फ्लेयरिंग के जरिये प्राकृतिक गैस की मौजूदगी का पता चला है।' कंपनी ने कहा कि परफोरेशन के बाद तत्काल दबाव बनते देखा गया और कुएं ने उत्पादन शुरू कर दिया।

ओआईएल ने कहा कि गैस के संघटन और कैलोरी मान का आकलन करने के लिए गैस के नमूने पर काम किया जा रहा है और इसके उद्गम को समझने के लिए समस्थानिक अध्ययन भी किए जाएंगे।

## अंडमान में प्राकृतिक गैस का दूसरा भंडार मिला

श्री विजय पुरम, 5 जून (एजेंसी): ओआईएल ने अंडमान अपतटीय क्षेत्र में प्राकृतिक गैस का दूसरा भंडार खोज लिया है। इससे सीमांत बेसिन इलाके के आने वाले वर्षों में महत्वपूर्ण हाइड्रोकार्बन उत्पादक क्षेत्र के रूप में उभरने की संभावना मजबूत हुई है। केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा कि नवीनतम खोज विजयपुरम-3 अन्वेषण कुएं में की गई है, जो अंडमान द्वीप समूह के पूर्वी तट से लगभग 15 किलोमीटर दूर 355 मीटर गहरे समुद्री क्षेत्र में स्थित है। इससे पहले कंपनी ने सितम्बर 2025 में विजयपुरम-2 कुएं में प्राकृतिक गैस की खोज की थी।

