

# *'Trump's Trade Tariffs Add Another Level of Uncertainty to LNG Mkt'*

**Sanjeev Choudhary**

**New Delhi:** US President Donald Trump's move to impose trade tariffs have added "another level of uncertainty" to the liquefied natural gas (LNG) market, a senior Shell LNG marketing executive said, adding that LNG trade will find ways to adapt to logistical interruptions.

Shell, the world's largest trader of LNG, accounts for 15% of global trade and supplies about a tenth of India's LNG imports. The company remains sanguine about India, which imported record volumes of LNG in 2024, and aims to tie up more long-term sale contracts with Indian buyers and expand its import terminal capacity when there is a need for it, Tom Summers, senior vice president for Shell LNG Marketing & Trading, told ET in an interview.

Summers defended Shell's India terminal's underutilisation, saying global utilisation average is probably 50% or less and its India terminal is strategically connected to supply and demand centres to serve the growing customer needs. Shell's Indian terminal's utilisation is about 40% while India's average is 55%.

Summers, however, refrained from saying whether Trump's tariffs were "good or bad" for the LNG market. "But it certainly means we're having to weigh up multiple factors at the moment to understand the impacts on the market together with all the other fundamentals, technical and other geopolitical im-



**Tom Summers**

pacts," he said. "It's another level of uncertainty that our buyers are seeking to understand and I think the same goes for some new supply projects."

Even after the end of the Ukraine war, Europe will continue to need LNG supplies, Summers said. "I won't speculate on Russian gas returning (after the war ends). There's a lot of geopolitical factors that are being weighed up at the moment," he said.

"What we do see is that you need LNG as a base load supply to Europe now," he said, contrasting it with the pre-war times when Europe used LNG mainly to meet peak winter demand or acted as a balancer in the global market.

The global LNG market will "remain uncertain over the next few years" but LNG is "really well placed" to be "able to respond to the uncertainties", Summers said. "The energy markets are constantly reconfiguring themselves and adapting to everything that's changing around us. We've certainly seen signs of that already in 2025," he said.

## AAP protests against unfulfilled promise of free LPG cylinder



**STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, 12 MARCH

Stepping up an attack on the BJP government in Delhi, the AAP, on Wednesday, staged a citywide protest at 40 locations reminding the saffron party of its free LPG cylinder promise made during the Assembly elections.

AAP workers carried empty cylinder cutouts as a symbol of broken promise by the BJP and several leaders including MLA Rituraj Jha, Shelly Oberoi also joined the protest.

Criticizing the saffron party for its failure to deliver its poll

promise, Atishi said, "With just two days left for Holi, they are wondering whether they will receive a free cylinder or if, like the 2,500, this too will turn out to be another jumla."

Echoing similar sentiments, Rituraj Jha alleged, "People believed PM Modi's 'guarantee' would be genuine. But it turned out to be false. The BJP must answer where has PM Modi's guarantee gone? Our mothers and sisters in Delhi are waiting to refill their empty cylinders. But at this rate, the BJP might just say, 'Bura na mano, Holi hai your cylinders will remain empty'."

# AAP protests at 40 places in city

Reminds BJP of its promise to provide free LPG cylinders on Holi

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, MARCH 12

The AAP on Wednesday staged demonstrations at 40 locations across the national capital reminding the BJP of its poll promise to provide free LPG cylinders to women on Holi.

AAP leaders and workers, accompanied by women carrying empty LPG cylinders, were detained by the police at several protest sites, including ITO, Mandi House and Kalkaji.

The protests were led by senior AAP leaders, including Leader of Opposition in the Delhi Assembly Atishi, former Delhi Mayor Shelly Oberoi and former MLA Rituraj Jha. Atishi accused the BJP of making false promises to the women of Delhi.

"The BJP's promise of giving Rs 2,500 monthly aid to women by March 8 turned out to be a 'jumla' and a betrayal. PM Modi also promised to give one free LPG cylinder to every woman on Holi and Diwali," she said.

"With just two days left for Holi, women are wondering if they will get a free cylinder or if, like the Rs 2,500, this too



AAP workers hold a protest against the BJP Government in New Delhi on Wednesday. TRIBUNE PHOTO

## PROTESTERS DETAINED AT SEVERAL PLACES

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will turn out to be another 'jumla'," she said.

At Mandir Marg, former Delhi Mayor Shelly Oberoi led the protests with AAP workers, demanding that the BJP government keeps its word. Similar protests were held in Kalkaji, Sangam Vihar and other

parts of the city.

AAP alleged that when its leaders and workers gathered at the ITO to press for the implementation of the free LPG scheme, they were detained by the police.

"First, the BJP deceived women with the false promise of Rs 2,500. Now,

they seem to be backing out of their free cylinder commitment too. Will the BJP turn all its promises into 'jumlas'?" AAP said in a statement.

The AAP also questioned whether it had become a crime to remind the BJP of its own election promises. "When AAP leaders and workers peacefully ask the BJP to fulfil its guarantees, they are forcibly arrested. What kind of democracy is this?" the party asked.



AAP holds protest at ITO in New Delhi. ANI

## AAP reminds BJP of poll promise on free LPG cylinders on Holi

**EXPRESSNEWSERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 12

REMINDING THE ruling BJP of its "unfulfilled" election promise to give free LPG cylinders to women on Holi, the AAP on Wednesday held demonstrations at 40 locations across Delhi.

As the demonstrations intensified, the Delhi Police detained former MLA Rituraj Jha and several AAP workers.

Referring to the election promise, Jha said, "How will the women celebrate Holi? People believed the PM's 'guarantee' would be genuine. But it turned

out to be false. Our mothers and sisters in Delhi are waiting to refill their empty cylinders. But at this rate, the BJP might just say, 'Bura namano, Holi hai—your cylinders will remain empty'."

Eversince it lost the Assembly elections, the AAP has repeatedly cited Prime Minister Narendra Modi's election speeches to refer to the poll promises. In her statement to the press, former CM Atishi said, "The BJP's promise of giving Rs 2,500 to women by March 8 turned out to be a jumla and a betrayal. PM Modi also made a second promise—to give one free LPG cylinder to every woman on Holi and Diwali."

MAXIMISING OUTPUT THE ONGC WAY

# Drill, baby, drill but smartly

● The oil major uses AI to vastly improve its exploration accuracy

SUDHIR CHOWDHARY

THE TRADITIONAL EXPLORATION approach in oil and gas sector is expensive, risky, and prone to mistakes, as it relies heavily on human fieldwork. Even drilling dryholes hit oil and gas companies where it hurts — their wallets. The investment poured into geological assessment, drilling and testing goes up in smoke when the well doesn't deliver. Artificial intelligence (AI) reduces the likelihood of such costly surprises and Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) is showing the way forward. This state-owned enterprise, which produces nearly 68% of indigenous crude oil and 54% of country's gas production, has made judicious use of AI technologies, such as machine learning and data analytics, thereby improving the accuracy of exploration predictions and resource estimation.

ONGC has deployed AI/ML techniques at its Gandhar oil field, Cambay basin, near Bharuch town in Gujarat, to enhance its explorative and operational efficiency. "The project is top-down reservoir modelling in the GS-3A sand of the Gandhar oil field," said Arun Kumar Singh, chairman & CEO, ONGC. This field has been in production for over 35 years and has a complex history involving oil, gas, water, and water injection. The project leveraged spatio-temporal learning, a machine-learning



algorithm designed for fluid flow through porous media.

"Using the neural networks techniques and model training, 98% accuracy in history matching and production forecasting could be achieved. The AI-driven workflow also identified a new infill development well; the location was drilled to extract remaining oil and enhance recovery from the field," Singh said. Similar top-down reservoir modelling is planned for Heera field in western offshore of

ONGC, indicating the potential for broader application of this AI-driven approach.

Singh said the integration of AI in the oil and gas upstream industry has emerged as a big enabler. AI technologies, such as machine learning and data analytics, have enabled companies to extract

## TECH MOMENTUM

■ ONGC produces nearly 68% of indigenous crude oil and 54% of the country's gas production from 7,993 oil and gas wells

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■ The PSU aims to induct the latest technology to create an integrated and intelligent digital oil field ecosystem

valuable insights from vast datasets, optimise processes, and enhance decision-making. During the exploratory phase, AI can help facilitate advanced seismic interpretation and reservoir modelling, improving the accuracy of exploration predictions and resource estimation. Smart drilling systems powered by AI can enhance drilling efficiency, reduce downtime, and optimise well performance through real-time data analysis during drilling operations.

ONGC has embarked on an ambitious

digital transformation journey, aiming to transform its processes and workforce skillset while inducting the latest technology to create an integrated and intelligent digital oil field ecosystem. In alignment with the recently launched Project DOT (Digitalisation for Organisational Transformation) initiatives, the PSU behemoth is working to enhance transparency by integrating data-driven insights into business functions.

The focus areas include optimising resource recovery and field performance, improving the evaluation and approval of development schemes, accelerating asset monetisation through AI-based analytics etc. According to Singh, the next wave of AI will unlock significant opportunities, from predictive maintenance to autonomous drilling operations through these initiatives.

Additionally, ONGC has identified several AI and analytics use cases across various domains. While many solutions, such as the enterprise-wide dashboard DARPAN, HR, and healthcare applications, have been delivered, others including AI-based automatic seismic trace editing for exploration, AI-driven chatbots for processes etc, are in development.

Looking ahead, ONGC is set to accelerate AI and ML investments over the next 3-4 years. "Leveraging the power of AI, ML, and data analytics, we are building a robust digital foundation to fuel innovation, enhance efficiency, and drive the next phase of transformation," Singh added.



ARUN KUMAR SINGH,  
CHAIRMAN & CEO, ONGC

ONGC's vision is clear — to lead the energy sector's AI revolution, creating a data & AI-driven enterprise that is smarter, faster, and more agile than ever before



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## **Govt to auction exploration licences for 13 blocks**

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**New Delhi:** The Mines Ministry will launch the country's first ever auction of exploration licences on Thursday, ahead of putting 13 blocks on sale to tap mineral resources like zinc, diamond and copper. In the first phase, the exploration licence blocks will cover zinc, diamond and copper through the online bidding process. The auction will be launched in Goa.

OUR BUREAU

# Lok Sabha passes Bill to boost investments in oil and gas sector

**The Hindu Bureau**  
NEW DELHI

A Bill that seeks to amend the existing law governing exploration and production of oil and gas as well as delink petroleum operations from mining operations was passed by the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

The Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 2024, is aimed at boosting investment in the sector. The Bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha in December.

Replying to the debate before the passage of the Bill, Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said India was the only country where in the reference period of the past three years, the prices of petrol and diesel had actually come down. This had been possible because “the Prime Minister reduced the central excise (duty) on two occasions.”

Mr. Puri said that Congress-ruled States have increased VAT (value-added tax) on petrol and diesel.

“The oil Bill aims to resolve one of the biggest grievances of global oil companies interested in investing in India by providing stability in operation, both in terms of tenure of the lease and the condition. The Bill also does not alter the rights of the

**It aims to resolve grievances of global firms interested in investing by ensuring stability in operation**

States, which will continue to give petroleum leases and receive royalties as before. The Bill also does not alter the existing level-playing field and offers no preference to either the private or the public sector,” the Minister said.

Among others, the Bill aims to decriminalise some of the provisions of the original Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948, by introducing “penalties, adjudication by an adjudicating authority and appeal as against the order of adjudicating authority”.

**Lacks vision, says Cong.**  
Earlier, Congress MP Manish Tewari said the draft Bill lacked vision and a road map.

Referring to oil imports, Mr. Tewari said that India was not “future ready”.

“What is required is a road map to make India energy sufficient, which unfortunately is completely missing. What is the government planning to do to encourage independent oil explorers? Is there anything in the Bill that incentivises them,” he asked.



# Lok Sabha passes Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Bill

**Our Bureau**  
New Delhi

In a significant development, the Lok Sabha on Wednesday passed the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 2024, which aims to enhance the ease of doing business in exploration and production (E&P) as well as increase domestic oil and gas production.

Passed by the Rajya Sabha during the winter session in December 2024, the Act delinks petroleum operations from mining, besides expanding the scope of 'mineral oils', introducing the concept of 'petroleum lease' and granting lease on stable terms.

Replying to the discussion on the Bill, Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri said, "It aims to resolve one of the biggest grievances of global oil companies interested in investing in India by providing stability in operation, both in terms of tenure of the lease and condition."

The Minister emphasised that the Bill does not "alter" the rights of States, which will continue to give petroleum leases and receive royalties as before. The Bill also does not alter the existing level-playing field and offers no preference to either the private or public sector.

## 'FAR-REACHING'

Terming the development as "historic", Puri emphasised that the "far-reaching amendments" made in the existing legislation will further strengthen and propel India's energy sector and ensure policy stability, international arbitration and extended lease periods.

"The present global energy scenario and the hydrocarbon landscape has dramatically changed. Hence, there was a need to amend



Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri in the Lok Sabha during the Budget session PTI

the Act to reflect current realities, national priorities, promote Ease of Doing Business (EoDB), decriminalise provisions and align India's Exploration and Production (E&P) framework with practices of competing geographies," Puri noted.

## OPPOSITION'S VIEW

Attacking the government during the debate, Congress MP and former Union Minister Manish Tewari said: "So, I would like to ask what has this government done with regard to trying to explore shale oil and gas, which incidentally has made America almost self-sufficient insofar as their oil and gas needs are concerned? So, what you require in addition to a law is actually a roadmap to make India energy sufficient, which unfortunately is completely missing."

He suggested that the Bill should incentivise independent oil explorers. "It only makes minor changes. It is more of a technical Bill. What is really missing is a vision. What is really missing is a roadmap," Tewari opined.

"Therefore, I would like to request the government that you need to come out with a proper strategy which takes into account hydrocarbons, intermediates and renewables in a holistic manner so that you have a roadmap to energy self-sufficiency by 2050 or by 2060," Tewari added.



# Lok Sabha passes Oilfields Bill

**SUBHAYAN CHAKRABORTY**

New Delhi, 12 March

The Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 2024, which aims to delink petroleum operations from mining, clarify the granting and extension of petroleum leases, and create a new dispute resolution mechanism for the exploration and production sector, was passed in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday.

Passed in the upper house back in December, the amendment bill will replace existing laws dating from 1948, which were last amended in 1969, and brings in the concept of a 'petroleum lease', to be legally separate from a mining lease.

“By virtue of the fact that we are going to rely on conventional energy for some time, we need to step up our exploration and production activities. Today’s success-

ful passage of the bill will be a constructive and positive step in this direction,” Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said. The bill also does not alter the existing level playing field and offers no preference to either the private or the public sector, the minister said.

Since both crude oil and natural gas are found in the pore spaces of subsurface rocks and are extracted by drilling, the delinking of terms like 'mine', 'quarried', or 'excavated' as referred to in the current Act will remove ambiguity and introduce ease of doing business into the sector, which is more technologically driven, Puri has stressed. More ease in exploration would be made possible by incorporating a larger set of hydrocarbons in the new bill. Case in point, it introduces the term 'mineral oils' in place of 'oils', and brings a wide range of mineral oils under its ambit.

# LS passes bill to boost investments in oil, gas

**Rajeev Jayaswal & Saubhadra Chatterji**

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**NEW DELHI:** The Lok Sabha on Wednesday passed the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 2024 that differentiates petroleum operations from mining, defines mineral oil to cover all hydrocarbons including natural gas, and proposes policy stability along of ease of doing business to make domestic petroleum exploration and production attractive for investors.

Speaking on the bill in the House, petroleum minister Hardeep Singh Puri said augmenting domestic oil and gas output is necessary to fuel India's high economic growth as for any major economy, energy consumption is a "reasonably good indicator" of economic performance. Rajya Sabha has already passed the bill on December 3, 2024.

Puri also emphasised on "what the bill does not do, and will not do". "The bill does not alter the rights of states," he said. For on-land areas, states will continue to give leases and receive royalties as before. "That is the situation now and that is the situation which will continue," he added.

Citing the assessment of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), he said India will be the third largest economy by 2027



**Hardeep Singh Puri, petroleum minister.**

PTI

and fast economic growth is "heavily dependent" on the utilisation of energy. He said India's crude oil consumption is expected to rise up to 7 million barrels per day in few years to maintain a high growth rate.

"Today, we are currently consuming 5.5 million barrels of crude oil in a day. When I had the privilege of being associated with this ministry... three-and-a-half years ago, we were consuming 5 million barrels. If we continue to grow at 6.5-7% rate of growth, it is only a matter of time that we will be consuming 6, 6.5, 7 million barrels of crude oil in a day," he said.

Congress leader Manish Tewari spoke about the global context -- the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine, the war involving Israel, Hamas, Houthis, Hezbollah, and some other states, and the continuing rise of China since 2013. "It has implications both for India's

national security and by extension, energy security, which is a subset of that larger, overarching, constructive national security. Therefore, our vulnerabilities remain," he said.

Tewari also underlined three "choke points"-- the Straits of Bab-el-Mandab, the Straits of Hormuz, and the Straits of Malacca and said, "Unfortunately, and this is not to apportion blame on anybody, but globally also and through collective efforts, we have not really been able to find a solution, a reasonable, sustainable solution to these existential security dilemmas, which have an impact on the largest energy consuming nations in Asia, be it India, be it China, be it South Korea, or be it Japan. That continues to be a continuous Achilles' heel. Of course, we have had some windfalls over the last couple of years." According to the bill, "mineral oils" is defined as any naturally occurring hydrocarbon, whether in the form of natural gas or in a liquid, viscous or solid form, or a mixture. It includes crude oil, natural gas, petroleum, condensate, coal bed methane, oil shale, shale gas, shale oil, tight gas, tight oil, gas hydrate in their usual industrial connotation and other gases occurring in association with mineral oils. It, however, does not include coal, lignite and helium occurring in association with petroleum or coal or shale.

# LS passes bill to boost oil and gas sector

Rituraj Baruah  
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NEW DELHI

Parliament on Wednesday passed a bill that is expected to bring in ease of doing business in the oil and gas exploration and production sector and attract greater investments.

The Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill 2024, which was passed by the Lok Sabha, now awaits the President's nod to become law. Rajya Sabha had passed the bill in December 2024.

The bill's proposal to delink petroleum operations from mining is expected to bring in more investments into the sector.

Union minister for petroleum and natural gas Hardeep Singh Puri said the bill's "far-reaching amendments made in the existing legislation will further strengthen and propel India's energy sector under the leadership of PM Modi Ji, and ensure policy stability, international arbitration, extended lease period, etc."

Noting that the global energy scenario and the hydrocarbon landscape has dramati-



Union minister for petroleum and natural gas Hardeep Singh Puri BLOOMBERG

cally changed, Puri said on X there was a need to amend the law to reflect current realities, national priorities, promote ease of doing business, decriminalize provisions and align India's Exploration and Production framework with practices and competitive geographies.

The original Act from 1948 defined petroleum and natural gas as mineral oils. This bill expands the definition to include coal bed

methane, oil shale, shale gas, shale oil, tight gas, tight oil and gas hydrate, but does not include coal, lignite and helium

**The proposal to delink petroleum ops from mining is expected to bring in more investments into the sector**

occurring in the petroleum process.

The bill also alters the previously used term 'mining lease' and introduces 'petroleum lease', allowing companies to explore, prospect, produce, make merchantable, and dispose of mineral oils. However, the existing mining leases in use will remain valid.

As small operators and new entrants often face difficulties in carrying out operations due to high costs of infrastructure and facilities, this bill proposes to enable the government to make rules to allow sharing of production and processing facilities and other infrastructure by two or more lessees.

Also, in a bid to bringing in stability and investor confidence, the bill assures that the terms of the lease shall remain stable for the entire duration of the lease and will not be altered to the investor's disadvantage. The amendments also propose alternative dispute resolution mechanisms for efficacious dispute resolution methods catering to investors' needs and expectations.

Puri, in his post also said: "By virtue of the fact that we are going to rely on conventional energy for some time we need to step up our exploration and production activities. Today's successful passage of the bill will be a constructive and positive step in this direction."

Puri noted that currently India consumes 5.5 million barrels of crude oil a day, compared with 5 million barrels per day about three-and-a-half years ago.

PAVES WAY FOR ENERGY SECTOR REFORMS

# LS passes Oilfields Amendment Bill

**SIMONTINI BHATTACHARJEE**

**NEW DELHI:** In a landmark move to modernise India's energy sector, the Lok Sabha on Wednesday passed the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 2024.

The legislation, which had previously cleared the Rajya Sabha on December 3, 2024, seeks to overhaul the existing legal framework governing oil and gas exploration, making the sector more attractive to investors while ensuring long-term energy security. By aligning with international best practices, the amendments aim to create a stable and predictable regulatory environment, crucial for expanding exploration and production activities in the country.

Over the last decade, the Government has implemented a series of strategic reforms to promote the domestic hydrocarbon sector.

A shift from the 'production sharing' to the 'revenue sharing' model in awarding contracts, the deregulation of crude oil marketing, and the release of previously restricted exploration areas have significantly accelerated India's oil and gas exploration. As a result, more than 76 per cent of active exploration acreage in India today has been awarded post-2014, reflecting a dynamic shift in policy that fosters both domestic and foreign investment.

A key provision in the amendment is the replacement of the term 'mining lease' with 'petroleum lease'. This change broadens the scope of activities covered under the lease, encompassing exploration, prospecting, production, processing, and disposal of mineral oils. Additionally, the definition of 'mineral oils' has been expanded to include various forms of hydrocarbons such as



Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri in the Lok Sabha during the Budget session of Parliament, in New Delhi

PTI

## Highlights

- » A key provision in the amendment is the replacement of the term 'mining lease' with 'petroleum lease'
- » Another significant aspect of the amendment is the decriminalisation of certain provisions

crude oil, natural gas, petroleum, condensate, coal bed methane, oil shale, shale gas, shale oil, tight gas, tight oil, and gas hydrate. This revision brings India's regulatory framework in line with the evolving global energy landscape while ensuring continuity, as existing mining leases will remain valid.

Another significant aspect of the amendment is the decriminalisation of certain provisions. Previously, regulatory violations carried penalties of up to six months of imprisonment or a fine of Rs 1,000. Under the new framework, these penalties have been replaced with a monetary fine of Rs 25 lakh, to be adjudicated by an officer of the rank of Joint Secretary or above. This shift not only promotes ease of doing business but also creates a more investment-friendly environment for stakeholders in the energy sector.

Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri hailed the passage of the Bill as a historic step in India's energy transformation. He emphasised that the amendments would ensure

greater policy stability, facilitate international arbitration, and encourage closer collaboration between the Government and industry players.

The introduction of a single permit system, replacing the current requirement for multiple licenses, is expected to streamline operations and significantly boost investor confidence. The new regulatory framework also facilitates resource and infrastructure sharing among operators, a move particularly beneficial for small oil field operators struggling with infrastructural constraints.

Puri underscored the importance of energy consumption as a key indicator of economic performance. India's crude oil consumption has risen from 5.0 million barrels per day three and a half years ago to 5.5 million barrels per day at present.

With continued economic growth, this figure is projected to reach 6.5 to 7.0 million barrels per day, further necessitating enhanced domestic exploration and production efforts.

# Oilfields Amendment Bill gets House approval

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

THE Lok Sabha on Wednesday cleared the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 2024, that seeks to amend the existing law governing exploration and production of oil and gas as well as delink petroleum operations from mining operations. The bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha on December 3, 2024.

Replying to the discussion on the bill, Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said that India is the only country in the world where in the reference period of the last three years, the prices of petrol and diesel have actually come down. "We have brought down the prices of petrol and diesel because the prime minister reduced the central excise (duty) on two occasions," Puri said.

Prices in neighbouring countries are 15-25% higher than in India. Equally, prices in Western Europe and the US are much higher than in India, he said.

While moving the bill for consideration and passage in the Lok Sabha, Puri said it does not alter the existing level-playing field for both public and private sectors. "The oil bill aims to resolve one of the biggest griev-



ances of global oil companies interested in investing in India by providing stability in operation, both in terms of tenure of the lease and the condition. The bill also does not alter the rights of the states, which will continue to give petroleum leases and receive royalties as before.

"The bill also does not alter the existing level-playing field and offers no preference to either the private or the public sector," the minister said.

Among others, the bill aims to decriminalise some of the provisions of the original Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948, by introducing "penalties, adjudication by an adjudicating authority and appeal as against the order of adjudicating authority".

Besides, it seeks to introduce

'petroleum lease' and expands the definition of mineral oils to include crude oil, natural gas, petroleum, condensate, coal bed methane, oil shale, shale gas, shale oil, tight gas, tight oil and gas hydrate, with a view to raising domestic output and cutting reliance on imports, he said.

Congress leader Manish Tewari, while initiating the discussion, said the draft law "lacks vision and roadmap". Referring to oil imports, Tewari claimed that India was not "future ready". "What is required is a roadmap to make India energy sufficient, which unfortunately is completely missing. What is the government planning to do to encourage independent oil explorers? Is there anything in the bill that incentivises them," he asked.

# OMC-ShipMin talks for making domestic large vessels pick up pace

Ministry wants sectoral players to provide long-term contracts for shipowners

**SUBHAYAN CHAKRABORTY & DHRUVAKSH SAHA**  
New Delhi, 12 March

As the government looks to finalise its national shipbuilding mission with a slew of incentives and policies, state-owned players in the oil & gas sector have already pushed for being given priority access to domestically manufactured large ships, according to multiple officials aware of the developments.

This has been requested at multiple inter-ministerial meetings between public sector oil & gas companies, the Ports, Shipping and Waterways Ministry (ShipMin), and the Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry, according to an official.

“The oil & gas sector requires a major number of ships in the coming years to accommodate the growing need to transport vast quantities of crude oil and gas, which are now increasingly coming from further away and the turnaround time for

delivered crude is increasing. Having these built in India would benefit the nation,” a petroleum ministry official said.

India has seen a major uptick in discounted crude oil from Russia in the past two years, and is expected to soon import an increasing amount of oil from the US. Historically, most imports have been from suppliers located closer in West Asia, such as Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

State-owned ONGC has provided details of the ships it requires for operations to both the ministries, and is currently awaiting a response, its Director (Strategy and Corporate Affairs) Arunangshu Sarkar had recently told *Business Standard*.

The upstream player requires Offshore Support Vessels (OSVs), or specialised ships crucial for supporting exploration, exploitation, and production of offshore oil and gas resources, and Platform Support

## SHIPPING STAKES

- State-owned oil & gas sector majors have pushed for priority access to domestically manufactured large ships
- India has seen increasing volumes of crude & gas coming from further away, extending journey times
- Public Sector oil marketing firms need more number of heavy tankers to bring in fuel from US and Russia
- Already high demand for India-manufactured ships are likely to go up even further as domestic vessels are set to be mandated for coastal operations



Vessels (PSVs), which transport supplies, equipment, and personnel to offshore platforms and rigs, Sarkar had said.

“Around 40-50 such ships across both categories are in regular use. They are taken on a lease basis,” he had pointed out.

ONGC also needs a small number of ships to ferry crude from offshore oil fields like Mumbai High to coastal refineries, that has been communicated to the ministries, Sarkar said.

Meanwhile, public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs) like IOCL, BPCL, and HPCL are using heavy tankers to bring in crude from abroad. Preliminary talks have taken place on expanding the leasing of second-hand oil tankers from global sellers on a priority basis, given the rising demand, an OMC official said.

Last month, BPCL inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) to create a dedicated, efficient, and future-ready maritime infrastructure.

However, BPCL hasn't made it clear whether the deal will see the purchase or leasing of ships by SCI exclusively for the oil marketer's use.

Parallely, OMCs, SCI, and the ShipMin have been working on a joint venture — Ship Owning and

Leasing Entity (SOLE) — which will allow the entities to jointly own vessels for importing crude oil. Officials said that ordering of brand-new vessels under this would be in the medium term and status quo is likely to be maintained for the immediate future.

This model is based on a previous Shipping Corporation-Petronet collaboration, India LNG Transport Company. SCI currently operates a fleet of 13 crude oil tankers, including the massive Suezmax, Aframax and Very Large Crude Carriers (VLCCs).

Queries sent to ShipMin and petroleum ministry remained unanswered till the time of going to press.

Other sectors such as coal, iron ore, fertiliser, and railways are among the other key stakeholders that also figure in the ongoing talks.

### Long-term contracts

While India's shipbuilding output is minimal, several players can build small vessels, useful for domestic

and coastal operations. The government, with its budget initiatives like the ₹25,000 crore Maritime Development Fund, tax breaks, and a ship recycling credit note policy, wants to develop capabilities in India to build large vessels, which are prominently used in international trade.

“We have received these requests from OMCs and the ministry as well, but any long-term planning or commitment on the manufacturing of ships can only be done after the shipbuilding financial assistance policy is out and the market has absorbed the policy measures,” a senior ShipMin official said.

Based on feedback from the industry, the ministry has asked several sectors like oil & gas to place long-term shipping contracts with shipowners so that they are incentivised to order from domestic shipbuilders, he said. Presently, shippers buy second-hand vessels from Europe due to short service windows.

## Parliament amends law on oilfields development

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA ■ New Delhi

Parliament on Wednesday passed a bill that seeks to amend the existing law governing exploration and production of oil and gas as well as delink petroleum operations from mining operations to boost investment in the sector.

The Lok Sabha cleared the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 2024, on Wednesday. The bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha on December 3, 2024.

Replying to the discussion on the bill, Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said India is the only country in the world where in the reference period of last three years, the prices of petrol and diesel have actually come down.

"We have brought down the prices of petrol and diesel because the prime minister reduced the central excise (duty) on two occasions," Puri asserted and took a swipe at the Opposition, saying that Congress-ruled states have increased VAT (Value Added Tax) on petrol and diesel. Prices in neighbourhood countries are 15 to 25 per cent higher than in India. Equally, prices in Western Europe and US are much higher than in India, he said.

While moving the bill for consideration and passage in the Lok Sabha, Puri said it does not alter the existing level-

**We have brought down the prices of petrol and diesel because the prime minister reduced the central excise (duty) on two occasions**

— HARDEEP SINGH PURI, PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS MINISTER

playing field for both public and private sectors. "The oil bill aims to resolve one of the biggest grievances of global oil companies interested in investing in India by providing stability in operation, both in terms of tenure of the lease and the condition. The bill also does not alter the rights of the states, which will continue to give petroleum leases and receive royalties as before.

"The bill also does not alter the existing level-playing field and offers no preference to either the private or the public sector," the minister said.

Among others, the bill aims to decriminalise some of the provisions of the original Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Act, 1948, by introducing "penalties, adjudication by an adjudicating authority and appeal as against the order of adjudicating authority".

Besides, it seeks to introduce 'petroleum lease' and expands the definition of mineral oils to include crude oil, natural gas, petroleum, condensate, coal bed methane, oil shale, shale gas, shale oil, tight gas, tight oil and gas hydrate,

with a view to raising domestic output and cutting reliance on imports, he said.

In his reply, Puri stressed that the government is taking a holistic approach, and that the overall strategy is to increase domestic exploration and production as also to increase clean energy.

Elaborating further, Puri said the long-term strategy for energy security revolves around the trilemma of availability, affordability and sustainability. "So far, we have navigated all three very successfully," he noted. Currently, India is importing oil from 39 countries and in fact, also buying from a 40th country. "We will buy from wherever we have to... We do not distinguish between the sources of our supply," the minister said.

Congress leader Manish Tewari, while initiating the discussion, said the draft law "lacks vision and roadmap".

Referring to oil imports, Tewari claimed that India was not "future ready". "What is required is a roadmap to make India energy sufficient, which unfortunately is completely missing. What is the government planning to do to encourage independent oil explorers? Is there anything in the bill that incentivises them," Tewari asked.

As far as the bill is concerned, he said it makes minor changes here and there but a vision is missing. "You're not a government that was sworn in yesterday, but 11 years ago".



# Parl's nod to bill to amend law on oil exploration, production

**AGE CORRESPONDENT**  
NEW DELHI, MARCH 12

The Lok Sabha on Wednesday passed the Oilfields (Regulation and Development) Amendment Bill, 2024, after a two-hour discussion. The bill, passed by the Rajya Sabha on December 3, 2024, aims to amend the existing law governing exploration and production of oil and gas. It also aims to delink petroleum and mineral oil production from mining and decriminalise minor offences, replacing imprisonment and minor fines with a penalty of ₹25 lakhs for violations.

The Act defines mineral oils to include petroleum and natural gas and expands the definition to include any naturally occurring hydrocarbon, coal bed methane, and

▶ **PETROLEUM AND natural gas minister Hardeep Singh Puri said the proposed law does not alter the existing level-playing field for both public and private sectors**

shale gas/oil. It clarifies that mineral oils will not include coal, lignite or helium.

The Act provides for a mining lease. The lease provides for various activities such as exploration, prospecting, production, making merchantable, and disposal of mineral oils.

However, the bill replaces the mining lease with a petroleum lease, which also covers a similar set of activities. Existing mining leases granted under the Act will continue to be valid.

While moving the bill for consideration and passage in the Lok Sabha, petroleum and natural gas minister Hardeep Singh Puri said the proposed law does not alter the existing level-playing field for both public and private sectors.

"The oil bill aims to resolve one of the biggest grievances of global oil companies interested in investing in India by providing stability in operation, both in terms of tenure of the lease and the condition," he said.

"The bill also does not alter the rights of the states, which will continue to give petroleum leases and receive royalties as before. The bill also does not alter the existing level-playing field and offers no preference to either the private or the public sector," the minister added.

## संसद ने तेलक्षेत्र संशोधन विधेयक को मंजूरी दी खनिज तेल उत्खनन के लिए 'एकल परमिट' प्रणाली लागू होगी

नई दिल्ली, 12 मार्च (भाषा)।

संसद ने बुधवार को खनिज तेल उत्खनन के लिए 'एकल परमिट' प्रणाली लाने और समग्र ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं के विकास के लक्ष्य वाले विधेयक को मंजूरी प्रदान की। लोकसभा में विधेयक पर चर्चा और फिर केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी के जवाब के बाद सदन ने 'तेलक्षेत्र (विनियमन तथा विकास) संशोधन विधेयक, 2024' को ध्वनिमत से मंजूरी दी।



राज्यसभा इस विधेयक को पहले ही मंजूरी दे चुकी है। चर्चा का जवाब देते हुए पुरी ने कहा कि भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा 'उपलब्धता, किफायती होने और टिकाऊपन' पर आधारित है। उनका कहना था कि हम ऊर्जा की आपूर्ति के स्रोत को लेकर किसी तरह का भेदभाव नहीं करते हैं। पुरी ने कहा कि वैश्विक बाजार में बहुत अधिक तेल की आपूर्ति हो रही है। ब्राजील, गुयाना, सूरीनाम और कनाडा से आपूर्ति हो रही है। आपूर्ति की कोई कमी नहीं है। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री ने केंद्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क कम किया है, लेकिन कांग्रेस शासित राज्यों में वैट की बढ़ोतरी हो रही है। पुरी ने इस बात पर जोर दिया कि पड़ोस में पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की कीमतें भारत के मुकाबले 15 से 20 फीसद तक अधिक हैं। सिर्फ भारत में कीमतों में कमी आई है।

सरकार तेलक्षेत्र संशोधन विधेयक के जरिए निजी कंपनियों को संरक्षण दे रही : विपक्षी दल

जनसत्ता ब्यूरो  
नई दिल्ली, 12 मार्च।

विपक्षी दलों ने मंगलवार को लोकसभा में आरोप लगाया कि सरकार तेल क्षेत्र (विनियमन तथा विकास) संशोधन विधेयक, 2024 के जरिए निजी कंपनियों को संरक्षण दे रही है। कांग्रेस के गोवाल पडवी ने विधेयक पर चर्चा में हिस्सा लेते हुए कहा कि विधेयक में सजा के प्रावधान को जुमाने में तब्दील कर सरकार निजी कंपनियों को संरक्षण दे रही है और वह अपने पसंदीदा कारोबारियों की हिफाजत करने की कोशिश कर रही है। उन्होंने सरकार से इस पर स्पष्टीकरण देने की मांग की।



उन्होंने कहा कि विधेयक राज्य के अधिकार को कमजोर करने वाला है जबकि भारतीय राज्यों को खनन गतिविधियों पर कर लगाने का अधिकार है। कांग्रेस सांसद ने उच्चतम न्यायालय के नौ न्यायाधीशों की पीठ के एक हालिया फैसले का हवाला देते हुए कहा कि राज्य सरकार को खनन गतिविधियों पर कर लगाने और रायल्टी वसूलने का अधिकार है।



## तेल और गैस उत्पादन से जुड़ा बिल पास

■ पीटीआई, नई दिल्ली : संसद ने बुधवार को तेल और गैस की खोज और प्रोडक्शन को नियंत्रित करने वाले मौजूदा कानून में संशोधन वाले बिल को मंजूरी दी। बिल में पेट्रोलियम और खनिज ऑपरेशन को अलग करने का प्रावधान है। इससे निवेश को बढ़ावा मिलने की उम्मीद है। लोकसभा में बिल पर चर्चा और फिर केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी के जवाब के बाद सदन ने ऑयल फ़िल्ड्स (रेगुलेशन एंड डिवेलपमेंट) अमेंडमेंट बिल-2024 को ध्वनिमत से मंजूरी दी।

तेल क्षेत्र संशोधन बिल पर संसद की मुहर : सरकार ने कहा-राज्यों के अधिकारों पर अतिक्रमण नहीं

# तेल व गैस उत्पादन की लाइसेंस प्रक्रिया होगी सरल, बढ़ेगा निजी और विदेशी निवेश

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

नई दिल्ली। संसद ने पेट्रो क्षेत्र में अहम सुधारों को लागू करने और विदेशी निवेश को आकर्षित करने संबंधी तेल क्षेत्र (विनियमन तथा विकास) संशोधन विधेयक, 2024 को मंजूरी दे दी। इसका मकसद खनिज तेल उत्खनन के लिए सिंगल परमिट प्रणाली लाने और समग्र ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं का विकास करना है। राज्यसभा बिल को पहले ही मंजूरी दे चुका है। बिल के कानूनी जामा पहनने के बाद तेल व गैस की खोज व उत्पादन के लिए लाइसेंस देने की प्रक्रिया सरल हो जाएगी। निजी और विदेशी निवेश बढ़ेगा। खनन के दौरान पर्यावरण की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करना अनिवार्य होगा।

पारित बिल तेल क्षेत्र (विनियमन और विकास) अधिनियम, 1948 में संशोधन के लिए लाया गया। इसमें निकासी पट्टा देने, पट्टे पर खनिज तेलों की खोज, उत्पादन करने और इसे व्यापार योग्य बनाने के लिए अहम प्रावधान किए गए हैं। इमें खनन को पेट्रोलियम पट्टे में बदलने का भी प्रावधान है। विधेयक के

अंडमान सागर में बड़ी सफलता की उम्मीद : पुरी



पेट्रोलियम मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी

कानूनी जामा पहनने के बाद भी मौजूदा खनन पट्टे वैध बने रहेंगे।

बिल पर चर्चा का जवाब देते हुए केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा कि भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा उपलब्धता, किफायती और टिकाऊपन पर आधारित है। हम ऊर्जा की आपूर्ति के स्रोत को लेकर किसी तरह का भेदभाव नहीं करते हैं।

बिल पेश करते हुए पुरी ने कहा कि भारत में प्रचुर हाइड्रोकार्बन संसाधन हैं और इस बिल के पारित होने के साथ जो इकोसिस्टम बनने वाला है, उसमें भविष्य में अंडमान सागर में खनिज उत्खनन में बड़ी सफलता मिलने की उम्मीद है।

पुरी ने कहा, एक समय भारत छोड़ने वाली कंपनियां अब तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस के क्षेत्र में निवेश के लिए भारत लौटने और सरकार से साझेदारी की इच्छुक हैं। इस क्षेत्र में उचित दोहन और पर्यावरण सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए केंद्र सरकार को कई मामलों में नियम बनाने का अधिकार देता है।

वैश्विक बाजार में बहुत अधिक तेल की आपूर्ति हो रही है। ब्राजील, गुयाना, सूरीनाम और कनाडा से आपूर्ति हो रही है। पुरी ने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री ने केंद्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क कम किया है, पर कांग्रेस शासित राज्यों में वेट की बढ़ोतरी हो रही है। पड़ोस में पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की कीमतें भारत के मुकाबले 15 से 20% अधिक हैं। सिर्फ भारत में कमी आई है।

चहते कारोबारियों की हिफाजत कर रही सरकार : कांग्रेस

कांग्रेस सांसद गोवाल पडवी ने कहा कि बिल में सजा के प्रावधान को जुमाने में तब्दील कर सरकार निजी कंपनियों को संरक्षण दे रही है। चहते कारोबारियों की हिफाजत करने की कोशिश कर रही है। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की कंपनियों में असहजता की स्थिति पैदा होगी।

यह बिल राज्य के अधिकार को कमजोर करेगा। अभी राज्यों को खनन गतिविधियों पर कर लगाने का अधिकार है। उन्होंने सुप्रीम कोर्ट के नौ न्यायाधीशों की पीठ के हालिया फैसले का हवाला देते हुए कहा कि राज्य सरकार को खनन गतिविधियों पर कर लगाने और रॉयल्टी वसूलने का अधिकार है।

निजी कंपनियों का होगा वर्चस्व : तृणमूल

तृणमूल कांग्रेस सांसद प्रतिमा मंडल ने कहा कि सर्वाधिक चिंता की बात यह है कि इस बिल ने तेल क्षेत्र पर वर्चस्व बनाने के लिए निजी कंपनियों के लिए द्वार खोल दिए हैं। बड़ी निजी कंपनियां कम सरकारी हस्तक्षेप के बीच उत्खनन करेंगी। बिल में प्रावधान है कि कोई भी बिना वैध पट्टे के खनन कार्य नहीं कर सकेगा, लेकिन बिल राज्य सरकार को उत्खनन की निगरानी या नियंत्रण की पर्याप्त शक्ति नहीं देता। यानी प्राकृतिक संसाधनों पर नियंत्रण सरकार के हाथों से निजी कंपनियों के पास चला जाएगा।

# तेलक्षेत्र संशोधन विधेयक को मंजूरी

## वैश्विक ऊर्जा परिदृश्य और हाइड्रोकार्बन में बदलाव आएगा

नई दिल्ली, (पंजाब केसरी) : तेल क्षेत्र संशोधन विधेयक 2024 लोकसभा में बुधवार को पारित हो गया। इससे वैश्विक ऊर्जा परिदृश्य और हाइड्रोकार्बन परिदृश्य में बदलाव से ऊर्जा क्षेत्र को काफी मजबूती मिलने की उम्मीद है। देश ऊर्जा के क्षेत्र में आत्मनिर्भर होगा। पेट्रोलियम एवं नेचुरेल गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने सोशल मीडिया एक्स पर ट्वीट कर यह जानकारी दी। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री गतिशील और दृढ़ नेतृत्व में ऊर्जा सुरक्षा और ऊर्जा आत्मनिर्भरता की दिशा में भारत की खोज में ऐतिहासिक दिन। तेल क्षेत्र (विनियमन और विकास) संशोधन विधेयक 2024 आज लोकसभा में सफलतापूर्वक पारित हो गया है। मौजूदा कानून में किए गए दूरगामी संशोधन प्रधानमंत्री मोदी के नेतृत्व में भारत के ऊर्जा क्षेत्र को और मजबूत और आगे बढ़ाएंगे और नीति स्थिरता, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मध्यस्थता, विस्तारित पट्टे अवधि आदि सुनिश्चित करेंगे। उन्होंने कहा कि वर्तमान वैश्विक ऊर्जा परिदृश्य और हाइड्रोकार्बन परिदृश्य में बड़ा बदलाव आया है। भारत के



अन्वेषण और उत्पादन (ईएंडपी) ढांचे को प्रतिस्पर्धी भौगोलिक क्षेत्रों की प्रथाओं के साथ संरक्षित करने के लिए अधिनियम में संशोधन करने की आवश्यकता थी। इस तथ्य के आधार पर कि हम कुछ समय के लिए पारंपरिक ऊर्जा पर निर्भर रहने वाले हैं, हमें अपनी अन्वेषण और उत्पादन गतिविधियों को बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता है। आज विधेयक का सफलतापूर्वक पारित होना इस दिशा में एक रचनात्मक और सकारात्मक कदम होगा।

### अभी 5.5 मिलियन बैरल कच्चे तेल का घरेलू खपत

ऊर्जा का उपयोग आर्थिक प्रदर्शन का एक अच्छा संकेतक है। आज हम प्रतिदिन 5.5 मिलियन बैरल कच्चे तेल की खपत कर रहे हैं। मात्र साढ़े तीन साल पहले यह खपत 5.0 मिलियन बैरल थी। यदि हम इसी दर से आगे बढ़ते रहे, तो हम प्रतिदिन 6.5-7.0 मिलियन बैरल तक पहुंच जाएंगे। भारत के विकसित भारत बनने के लिए सभी रूपों में बड़ी मात्रा में ऊर्जा की आवश्यकता होगी। भारत के ऊर्जा अन्वेषण और उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के लिए कदम उठाए गए हैं। गौरतलब है यह है कि भारत सरकार पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों के बजाय वैकल्पिक ऊर्जा के स्रोतों का विकास करने पर ध्यान लगा रही है और इससे भारत की तरक्की को नया आयाम देना चाहती है।

# तेलक्षेत्रसंशोधनविधेयक को लोकसभा की मंजूरी

नई दिल्ली, विशेष संवाददाता। लोकसभा ने बुधवार को खनिज तेल उत्खनन के लिए सिंगल परमिट प्रणाली लाने और समग्र ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं के विकास के लक्ष्य वाले तेल क्षेत्र (विनियमन व विकास) संशोधन विधेयक-2024 को मंजूरी दे दी है। इस विधेयक को राज्यसभा पहले की मंजूरी दे चुकी है। इसके साथ ही बिल पर दोनों सदनों की मुहर लग गई है।

लोकसभा में बिल पर चर्चा के बाद केंद्रीय मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने कहा कि विधेयक में विदेशी निवेश आकर्षित करने के प्रावधान भी हैं। उन्होंने साफ किया कि इसमें राज्यों के अधिकारों पर अतिक्रमण नहीं किया जाएगा। भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा उपलब्धता, किफायती होने व टिकाऊपन पर आधारित है। हम ऊर्जा की आपूर्ति के स्रोत को लेकर भेदभाव नहीं करते हैं। वैश्विक बाजार में तेल आपूर्ति की कमी नहीं है। ब्राजील, गुयाना, सूरीनाम और कनाडा



बिल में विदेशी निवेश आकर्षित करने के भी प्रावधान

से आपूर्ति हो रही है। प्रधानमंत्री ने केंद्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क कम किया है, पर कांग्रेस शासित राज्यों में वैट की वृद्धि हो रही है। पुरी ने कहा, पड़ोस में पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की कीमतें भारत के मुकाबले 15 से 20% तक अधिक हैं। सिर्फ भारत में कीमतों में कमी आई है।

इसके पहले विधेयक को चर्चा और पारित कराने के लिए सदन के पटल पर रखते हुए पुरी ने कहा कि भारत में प्रचुर हाइड्रोकार्बन संसाधन हैं। बिल के पारित होने के साथ जो इकोसिस्टम बनने वाला है, उसमें भविष्य में अंडमान सागर में खनिज उत्खनन में देश को बड़ी सफलता की उम्मीद है।

# संसद ने तेलक्षेत्र संशोधन विधेयक को दी मंजूरी

## खनिज तेल उत्खनन के लिए सिंगल परमिट प्रणाली का है प्रावधान

■ लोकसभा में पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी ने दिया जवाब

नई दिल्ली, 12 मार्च (एजेंसी):

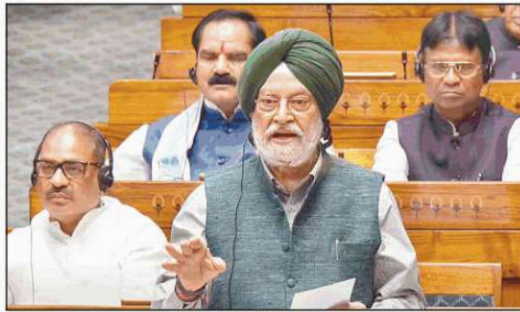
संसद ने बुधवार को खनिज तेल उत्खनन के लिए 'सिंगल परमिट' प्रणाली लाने और समग्र ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं के विकास के लक्ष्य वाले विधेयक को मंजूरी प्रदान की। लोकसभा में विधेयक पर चर्चा और फिर केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी के जवाब के बाद सदन ने

'तेलक्षेत्र (विनियमन तथा विकास) संशोधन विधेयक, 2024' को ध्वनिमत से मंजूरी दी। राज्यसभा इस विधेयक को पहले ही मंजूरी दे चुकी है। चर्चा का जवाब देते हुए पुरी

ने कहा कि भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा 'उपलब्धता, किफायती होने और टिकाऊपन' पर आधारित है। उनका कहना था, 'हम ऊर्जा की आपूर्ति के स्रोत को लेकर किसी तरह का भेदभाव नहीं करते हैं।' पुरी ने कहा, 'वैश्विक

बाजार में बहुत अधिक तेल की आपूर्ति हो रही है। ब्राजील, गुयाना, सूरीनाम और कनाडा से आपूर्ति हो रही है। आपूर्ति की कोई कमी नहीं है।' उन्होंने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री ने केंद्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क कम किया है, लेकिन कांग्रेस

शासित राज्यों में वैट की बढ़ोतरी हो रही है। पुरी ने इस बात पर जोर दिया कि पड़ोस में पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की कीमतें भारत के मुकाबले 15 से 20 प्रतिशत तक अधिक हैं। सिर्फ भारत में कीमतों में कमी आई है।' इससे, पहले विधेयक को चर्चा और पारित कराने के लिए सदन में रखते हुए पुरी ने कहा कि भारत में प्रचुर



नई दिल्ली: बजट सत्र के दौरान लोकसभा में हरदीप सिंह पुरी।

## निजी कंपनियों को संरक्षण दे रही सरकार : विपक्ष

नई दिल्ली : विपक्षी दलों ने लोकसभा में आरोप लगाया कि सरकार तेलक्षेत्र (विनियमन तथा विकास) संशोधन विधेयक, 2024 के जरिये निजी कंपनियों को संरक्षण दे रही है। कांग्रेस के गोवाल पडवी ने विधेयक पर चर्चा में हिस्सा लेते हुए कहा, 'विधेयक में, सजा के प्रावधान को जुर्मनि में तब्दील कर सरकार निजी कंपनियों को संरक्षण दे रही है और वह अपने पसंसदीदा कारोबारियों की हिफाजत करने की कोशिश कर रही है।' उन्होंने सरकार से इस पर स्पष्टीकरण देने की मांग की। उन्होंने कहा, 'विधेयक राज्य के अधिकार को कमजोर करने वाला है जबकि भारतीय राज्यों को खनन गतिविधियों पर कर लगाने का अधिकार है।' कांग्रेस सांसद ने उच्चतम न्यायालय के नौ न्यायाधीशों की पीठ के एक हालिया फैसले का हवाला देते हुए कहा कि राज्य सरकार को खनन गतिविधियों पर कर लगाने और रॉयल्टी वसूलने का अधिकार है। उन्होंने कहा कि विधेयक निजी कंपनियों को खनन गतिविधियों में अधिक अधिकार प्रदान करता है।

हाइड्रोकार्बन संसाधन हैं और इस विधेयक के पारित होने के साथ जो 'इकोसिस्टम' बनने वाला है, उसमें भविष्य में अंडमान सागर में खनिज उत्खनन में देश को बड़ी सफलता मिलने की उम्मीद है।

## संसद ने तेल क्षेत्र संशोधन विधेयक को मंजूरी दी

नई दिल्ली, (विप्र)। संसद ने बुधवार को खनिज तेल उत्खनन के लिए सिंगल परमिट प्रणाली लाने और समग्र ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं के विकास के लक्ष्य वाले विधेयक को मंजूरी प्रदान की। लोकसभा में विधेयक पर चर्चा और फिर केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी के जवाब के बाद सदन ने तेलक्षेत्र (विनियमन तथा विकास) संशोधन विधेयक, 2024 को ध्वनिमत से मंजूरी दी। राज्यसभा इस विधेयक को पहले ही मंजूरी दे चुकी है। चर्चा का जवाब देते हुए पुरी

ने कहा कि भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा उपलब्धता, किफायती होने और टिकाऊपन पर आधारित है। उनका कहना था, हम ऊर्जा की आपूर्ति के स्रोत को लेकर किसी तरह का भेदभाव नहीं करते हैं। पुरी ने कहा, वैश्विक बाजार में बहुत अधिक तेल की आपूर्ति हो रही है। ब्राजील, गुयाना, सूरीनाम और कनाडा से आपूर्ति हो रही है। आपूर्ति की कोई कमी नहीं है। उन्होंने कहा कि प्रधानमंत्री ने केंद्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क कम किया है, लेकिन कांग्रेस शासित राज्यों में वैट की बढ़ोतरी हो रही है।

पुरी ने इस बात पर जोर दिया, पड़ोस में पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की कीमतें भारत के मुकाबले 15 से 20 प्रतिशत तक अधिक हैं। सिर्फ भारत में कीमतों में कमी आई है। इससे, पहले विधेयक को चर्चा और पारित कराने के लिए सदन में रखते हुए पुरी ने कहा कि भारत में प्रचुर हाइड्रोकार्बन संसाधन हैं और इस विधेयक के पारित होने के साथ जो इकोसिस्टम बनने वाला है, उसमें भविष्य में अंडमान सागर में खनिज उत्खनन में देश को बड़ी सफलता मिलने की उम्मीद है।



# संसद ने तेलक्षेत्र संशोधन विधेयक को मंजूरी दी

नई दिल्ली (एसएनबी)। संसद ने बुधवार को खनिज तेल उत्खनन के लिए 'सिगल परमिट' प्रणाली लाने और समग्र ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं के विकास के लक्ष्य वाले विधेयक को मंजूरी प्रदान की। लोकसभा में विधेयक पर चर्चा और फिर केंद्रीय पेट्रोलियम एवं प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री हरदीप सिंह पुरी के जवाब के बाद सदन ने 'तेलक्षेत्र (विनियमन तथा विकास) संशोधन विधेयक 2024' को ध्वनिमत से मंजूरी दी।

राज्यसभा इस विधेयक को पहले ही मंजूरी दे चुकी है। चर्चा का जवाब देते हुए पुरी ने कहा, भारत की ऊर्जा सुरक्षा 'उपलब्धता, किफायती होने और टिकाऊपन' पर आधारित है। उनका कहना था, हम ऊर्जा की आपूर्ति के स्रोत को लेकर किसी तरह का भेदभाव नहीं करते हैं। पुरी ने कहा, वैश्विक बाजार में बहुत अधिक तेल की आपूर्ति हो रही है। ब्राजील, गुयाना, सूरीनाम और कनाडा से आपूर्ति हो रही है। आपूर्ति की कोई कमी नहीं है। प्रधानमंत्री ने केंद्रीय उत्पाद



■ पड़ोसी देशों में पेट्रोलियम उत्पादों की कीमतें भारत के मुकाबले 15 से 20 प्रतिशत तक अधिक हैं। सिर्फ भारत में कीमतों में कमी आई है : हरदीप सिंह पुरी

शुल्क कम किया है, लेकिन कांग्रेस शासित राज्यों में वैंट की बढ़ोतरी हो रही है। पुरी ने इस बात पर जोर दिया, पड़ोस में पेट्रोलियम

उत्पादों की कीमतें भारत के मुकाबले 15 से 20 प्रतिशत तक अधिक हैं। सिर्फ भारत में कीमतों में कमी आई है।

इससे, पहले विधेयक को चर्चा और पारित कराने के लिए सदन में रखते हुए पुरी ने कहा, भारत में प्रचुर हाइड्रोकार्बन संसाधन हैं और इस विधेयक के पारित होने के साथ जो 'इकोसिस्टम' बनने वाला है, उसमें भविष्य में अंडमान सागर में खनिज

उत्खनन में देश को बड़ी सफलता मिलने की उम्मीद है। एक समय भारत छोड़ने वाली अनेक कंपनियां अब तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस के क्षेत्र में निवेश के लिए भारत वापस आने और सरकार से साझेदारी की इच्छुक हैं। पुरी ने विधेयक के प्रावधानों का उल्लेख करते हुए कहा, इसमें खनिज तेल उत्खनन के लिए 'सिगल परमिट' प्रणाली लाई जा रही है और समग्र ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं के विकास का लक्ष्य है।