



Inter-Ministerial Briefing on Recent Developments in West Asia

All Indian seafarers in the region are safe, and no incident involving Indian-flagged vessels or foreign vessels with Indian crew reported in the past 72 hours

Delivery Authentication Code based LPG Cylinder deliveries increased to about 96% to prevent diversion

More than 58,500 PNG consumers have surrendered their LPG connections via MYPNGD.in website till yesterday

Adequate stocks of petrol and diesel available at all Petrol Pumps in the country

Posted On: 21 MAY 2026 4:57PM by PIB Delhi

Amid the evolving situation in West Asia, the Government of India continues its efforts to keep citizens informed through regular updates. In this regard, a media briefing was held today at the National Media Centre, where officers from the Ministries of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Ports, Shipping and Waterways provided updates on fuel availability, maritime operations, and measures being undertaken to maintain stability across key sectors.

Energy Supply and Fuel Availability

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas provided an update on the current fuel supply situation, outlining measures being taken to ensure uninterrupted availability of petroleum products and LPG in the context of the evolving situation in West Asia. It was noted that:

Public Advisory and Citizen Awareness

- Citizens are advised to avoid panic purchase of petrol, diesel and LPG as the Govt is making all efforts to ensure availability of petrol, diesel and LPG.
- Beware of rumours and rely on official sources for correct information.
- LPG consumers are requested to use digital booking platforms and avoid visiting distributors.
- Citizens are encouraged to use alternate fuels such as PNG and electric or induction cooktops.
- All citizens are requested to make necessary efforts to conserve energy in their daily use during the current situation.

Government Preparedness and Supply Management Measures

- Despite the ongoing geopolitical situation, the Government has ensured that 100% supply is being made to Domestic LPG, Domestic PNG and CNG (Transport).
- For commercial LPG, priority has been given to hospitals, educational institutions. Besides this, priority has also been given to pharma, steel, automobile, seed, agriculture, etc. In addition to this, supply of 5 Kg FTL to migrant labour is also doubled based on avg. daily supply on 2nd and 3rd March 2026.
- The Government has already implemented several rationalisation measures on both the supply and demand side, including enhancing refinery production, increasing the booking interval from 21 to 25 days in urban areas and up to 45 days in rural areas and prioritising sectors for supply.

Coordinated Efforts with States/UTs and Institutional Mechanisms

- State Governments are empowered under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and LPG Control Order, 2000 to monitor supply and act against hoarding and black marketing.
- Govt. of States/UTs have to play a primary role in monitoring and regulating supply situation of essential commodities including Petrol, Diesel and LPG. Govt. of India has reiterated the same via multiple letters and VCs to all States/UTs.
- The Government of India vide letters dated 27.03.2026 and 02.04.2026 have stressed the need for proactive public communication to reassure citizens regarding adequate fuel availability. Regular review meetings are being held with States/UTs. In this context, meetings were convened on 02.04.2026 (Chaired by Secretary, MoPNG) and on 06.04.2026 (Chaired by Secretary, MoPNG along with Secretaries of I&B and Consumer Affairs), wherein the following was emphasized:
 - ❑ To issue daily press briefings and issue regular public advisories.
 - ❑ To actively monitor and counter fake news / misinformation on social media.
 - ❑ To intensify daily enforcement drives by District admin and to continue raids and inspections in coordination with OMCs
 - ❑ To promote PNG adoptions and alternate fuels.
 - ❑ To prioritize LPG supply, especially for domestic needs, and adopt targeted distribution of 5 kg FTL cylinders to ensure supply stability.

Enforcement and Monitoring Actions

- **Enforcement actions continue across the country to curb hoarding and black marketing of LPG. During last 3 days, more than 5000 raids were conducted across the country.**
- **Similarly, the surprise inspections by the PSU OMCs officials are also continuing and during last 3 days, inspections at more than 3100 RO and LPG distributorships have been conducted.**
- **PSU OMCs have strengthened and continued surprise inspections and imposed penalties on 463 LPG distributorships, and 81 LPG distributorships have been suspended till yesterday.**

LPG Supply

Domestic LPG Supply Status:

- LPG supply continues to be affected by the prevailing geopolitical situation.
- Supply of LPG to domestic households has been prioritized.
- No dry-outs have been reported at LPG distributorships.
- **Online LPG cylinder bookings increased to about 99% on an industry basis yesterday.**
- **Delivery Authentication Code (DAC) based deliveries have increased to about 96% to prevent diversion. DAC is received on the registered mobile number of the consumer.**

- During the last 3 days, about 1.34 Crore LPG cylinders were delivered against bookings of around 1.32 Crore LPG cylinders.
- Yesterday, about 47.51 Lakh LPG cylinders were delivered against bookings of around 45.36 lakh LPG cylinders.

Commercial LPG Supply and Allocation Measures:

- Total commercial LPG allocation has been increased to about 70% of pre-crisis levels, including 10% reform-linked allocation.
- During last 3 days, about 1.87 Lakh – 5 Kg FTL cylinders were sold.
- Since 3rd April 2026, PSU OMCs have organised more than 14,500 awareness camps for 5 Kg FTL Cylinders, wherein more than 2.34 Lakh - 5Kg FTL cylinders were also sold.
- Yesterday, around 4919 - 5kg FTL cylinders were sold through about 348 camps.
- A three-member committee of Executive Directors of IOCL, HPCL and BPCL, in consultation with State authorities and industry bodies finalises the plan for the sale of Commercial LPG in the States/UTs.
- Since May-26, total of 1,32,341 MT of Commercial LPG has been sold.
- During last 3 days, total of 23,588 MT of Commercial LPG has been sold.
- During last 3 days, about 963 MT of Auto LPG has been sold by PSU OMCs.

Natural Gas Supply and PNG Expansion Initiatives

- Consumers have been prioritised with 100% supplies to D-PNG and CNG-Transport.
- Gas supply to other industrial and commercial sectors, including supplies through CGD networks, is enhanced up to 80%.
- CGD entities have been advised to prioritize PNG connections for commercial establishments such as hotels, restaurants and canteens across all their GAs, to address concerns regarding the availability of commercial LPG.
- States/UTs and Central Ministries have been requested to expedite approvals required for expansion of CGD networks.
- The Government of India vide letter dated 18.03.2026 has offered all States/UTs additional 10% allocation of commercial LPG to States provided they can help in long term transition from LPG to PNG.
- 22 States/UTs are receiving additional commercial LPG allocation linked to PNG expansion reforms.
- The Government of India vide Gazette dated 24.03.2026 has notified the Natural Gas and Petroleum Products Distribution (Through Laying, Building, Operation and Expansion of Pipelines and Other Facilities) Order, 2026 under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. The Order provides a streamlined and time-bound framework for laying and expanding pipelines across the country, addressing delays in approvals and access to land, and enabling faster development of natural gas infrastructure, including in residential areas. It is expected to accelerate PNG network growth, enhance last-mile connectivity, and support the transition to cleaner fuels, thereby strengthening energy security and advancing India's gas-based economy.
- PNGRB has directed CGD entities to expedite D-PNG connections. Also, the National PNG Drive 2.0 has been extended till 30.06.2026 to sustain momentum in PNG expansion.
- To encourage a cleaner, more secure and self-reliant energy future, the Government of India has developed a model draft State CBG Policy. The model policy is intended to serve as a comprehensive flexible guiding framework to enable States to create their own investor-friendly and implementation-oriented ecosystem for CBG development. Those States which opt for this, will be prioritized for the next tranche of additional allocation of commercial LPG.

- Since March 2026, about 7.64 Lakh PNG connections have been gasified and infrastructure has been created for additional 2.81 Lakh connections, taking the total to 10.45 lakh connections. Further, about 7.99 Lakh customers have been registered for new connections.
- Till 20.05.2026, more than 58,500 PNG consumers have surrendered their LPG connections via MYPNGD.in website.

Crude Position and Refinery Operations

- All refineries are operating at high capacity with adequate crude inventories, while sufficient stocks of petrol and diesel are being maintained.
- Domestic LPG production from refineries has been increased to support domestic consumption.
- An inter-ministerial Joint Working Group (JWG) has been set up to ensure availability of petrochemical feedstock supply for the domestic market. Subsequently, Govt. of India vide order dated 01.04.2026 has permitted Oil Refinery companies including Petrochemical Complexes to make certain minimum quantities of C3 & C4 streams available for critical sectors as determined by Centre for High Technology (CHT).
- Based on the requests received from the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Department of Chemicals & Petro Chemicals (DCPC), Dept. for Promotion of Industry and internal trade (DPIIT), the provision for C3-C4 molecules of 1120 MT/day, from LPG pool, has been made for Pharma, Chemical and Paint sector companies.
- Since 1st May 2026, about 10600 MT of C3-C4 Molecules (comprising Propylene and Butylene) and about 3940 MT of Butyl Acrylate has been sold by Mumbai, Kochi, Vizag, Chennai, Mathura and Gujarat refineries to Chemical, Pharma and Paint Industry.

Retail Fuel Availability and pricing Measures

- All Retail outlets are operating normally across the country.
- Middle East crisis has resulted in abnormal increase in the crude prices. In order to protect consumers from this impact, the Government of India has decided to absorb a part of this burden through a reduction in excise duties on petrol and diesel by Rs. 10/litre.
- Govt. of India vide Gazette notification dated 15.05.2026 has reduced the export levy on diesel from Rs. 23 per litre to Rs. 16.50 per litre and on ATF from Rs. 33 per litre to Rs. 16 per litre. Further, export duty on Petrol has been imposed to Rs. 3 per litre.
- There are adequate stocks of petrol and diesel available at all Petrol Pumps in the country.

Maritime Safety and Shipping Operations

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways provided an update on the prevailing maritime situation in the Persian Gulf, detailing the measures being undertaken to ensure the safety and security of Indian vessels and crew in the region. It was stated that:

- The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways continues to coordinate with the Ministry of External Affairs, Indian Missions, and maritime stakeholders to ensure seafarer welfare and uninterrupted maritime operations.
- All Indian seafarers in the region are safe, and no incident involving Indian-flagged vessels or foreign vessels with Indian crew has been reported in the past 72 hours.
- DG Shipping Control Room has handled 10,106 calls and more than 22,215 emails since activation. In the last 72 hours, a total of 404 calls and 903 emails have been received from seafarers, their families, and maritime stakeholders.
- The Ministry, through the Directorate General of Shipping (DG Shipping), has facilitated the safe repatriation of more than 3,316 Indian seafarers so far, including 99 in the last 72 hours from various locations across the Gulf region.

- Port operations across India remain normal, with no congestion reported.

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