

Petrol, diesel prices hiked after 19-day pre-poll hiatus

Agency
New Delhi, May 14

After a 19-day pre-Karnataka poll hiatus, petrol price was today hiked by 17 paise a litre and diesel by 21 paise as PSU oil firms began passing on the spike witnessed in international rates to consumers.

Petrol price in Delhi was hiked to Rs 74.80 per litre from Rs 74.63 while diesel rates were increased to Rs 66.14 a litre from Rs 65.93, according to a price notification issued by state-owned oil marketing companies.

With this, diesel prices have touched a record high while petrol is at a 56-month peak. Oil PSUs, who had kept rates unchanged for nearly three weeks before Karnataka went to polls despite input cost spiking, reverted to daily revision in prices no sooner had the state voted to elect a new government on Saturday.

State-owned oil marketing companies are estimated to have lost about Rs 500 crore as they absorbed higher cost resulting from the spike

in international oil rates and fall in rupee against the US dollar.

Oil PSUs, which have been since June last year revising auto fuel prices on a daily basis to reflect changes in the cost, have kept pump rates static since April 24, an analysis of daily price notification issued by oil companies showed.

Oil PSUs have refused to acknowledge if the freeze followed a government diktat so as to help the BJP in Karnataka. Indian OilNSE -0.33 % Corp (IOC) Chairman Sanjay Singh last week said that the state-owned firms were "temporarily moderating" prices to avoid sharp spikes and panic among consumers.

Petrol and diesel prices were last revised on April 24 when they were hiked by 13 paise each. But prices were frozen thereafter. This despite benchmark international rate for petrol going up from USD 78.84 per barrel, which was used for raising the price to Rs 74.63 a litre on April 24, to USD 82.98 now, according to sources privy to fuel

pricing methodology.

The benchmark international diesel rates during this period have climbed from USD 84.68 per barrel to USD 88.63. Also, the rupee has weakened to Rs 67 per US dollar from Rs 66.62, making imports costlier.

Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan had last month denied reports of a directive to state oil firms to absorb at least Re 1 a litre hike by not raising prices in line with cost.

The prices at petrol pumps of state-owned fuel retailers like Indian Oil Corp (IOC) were cut by 1-3 paise every day in the first fortnight of December 2017 before Gujarat went to polls.

They started moving up immediately after polling for assembly elections in Gujarat concluded on December 14, leading to speculation that government may have asked oil companies to hold the prices.

State-owned oil companies in June last year dumped the 15-year old practice of revising rates on 1st and 16th of every month and instead adopted a dynamic daily

price revision to instantly reflect changes in cost.

If this practice was followed in letter and spirit, petrol and diesel prices should have been increased by Rs 1.5 a litre in last 19 days, an analyst tracking the sector said.

The government had in June 2010 freed petrol price from its control and the diesel rates were deregulated in October 2014. Prices have since then moved more or less in tandem with international rates barring a few exceptions like the period before a crucial election.

Finance Secretary Hasmukh Adhia and Economic Affairs Secretary Subhash Garg have in the past weeks ruled out any immediate reduction in excise duty to cushion the increases warranted from a spike in international oil price.

The BJP-led government had raised excise duty nine times between November 2014 and January 2016 to shore up finances as global oil prices fell, but then cut the tax just once in October last year by Rs 2 a litre.

The government had between November 2014 and January 2016 raised excise duty on petrol by Rs 11.77 a litre and that on diesel by Rs 13.47 per litre to take away gains arising from plummeting global oil prices. This led to its excise mop up more than doubling to Rs 2,42,000 crore in 2016-17 from Rs 99,000 crore in 2014-15.

The central government had cut excise duty by Rs 2 per litre in October 2017, when petrol price reached Rs 70.88 per litre in Delhi and diesel Rs 59.14. Because of the reduction in excise duty, diesel prices had on October 4, 2017, come down to Rs 56.89 per litre and petrol to Rs 68.38 per litre.

However, a global rally in crude prices pushed domestic fuel prices far higher than those levels.

Sports News

5th Women's Asian Champions Trophy: India defeat Japan by 4-1

Agency
Donghae, May 14,

India began their title defence of the Women Hockey Asian Champions Trophy with a 4-1 win over Japan at Donghae in South Korea today.

Navneet Kaur scored a hat-trick for the defending champions, with Anupa Barla being the other goal scorer in the rain-hit match. Aki Yamada scored Japan's only goal.

The Indian eves will next face China on Wednesday. Besides India, Japan, China and hosts South Korea, Malaysia is the other team taking part in the tournament.

Arun Jaitley undergoing kidney transplant surgery at AIIMS

Agency
New Delhi, May 14

Union finance minister Arun Jaitley is undergoing a kidney transplant operation at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) on Monday, sources at the hospital said.

Jaitley, 65, was admitted to the hospital on Saturday and taken to the operation theatre at 8am today, the sources said.

The minister, suffering from a kidney ailment, has been undergoing dialysis for the last one month. According to sources, nephrologist Dr Sandeep Guleria from Apollo Hospital, also the brother of AIIMS director Randeep Guleria, who is a family friend, is part of the team performing the transplant. The minister, who cancelled his scheduled visit to London for the 10th India-UK Economic and Financial



Dialogue next week, had confirmed his illness in a tweet on April 6.

"I am being treated for kidney related problems & certain infections that I have contracted," he had tweeted. Jaitley did not elaborate but said he was "currently working from controlled environment at home".

"The future course of my treatment would be

determined by the doctors treating me," he had said.

In September 2014, Jaitley underwent a bariatric surgery to treat weight gain because of a long-standing diabetic condition. The surgery was first performed at Max Hospital, but he had to be later shifted to AIIMS because of complications. Jaitley had a heart surgery several years ago.

N Korea's latest nuclear test 10 times stronger than Hiroshima bomb

Agency
Singapore, May 14

North Korea's latest and largest underground nuclear test last year was powerful enough to move a mountain, say scientists who found that the bomb was 10 times stronger than the one dropped by the US on Hiroshima during World War II.

Researchers, including those from Nanyang Technological University in Singapore and University of California, Berkeley in the US, showed how the explosion altered the mountain above the detonation.

The nuclear test on September 3, 2017 took place under Mt Mantap at the Punggye-ri nuclear test site in the country's north, rocking the area like a 5.2-magnitude earthquake, according to the study published in the journal Science.

Based on seismic recordings from global and regional networks, and before-and-after radar measurements of the ground surface from Germany's TerraSAR-X and Japan's ALOS-2 radar imaging satellites, researchers showed that the underground nuclear blast pushed the surface of Mt Mantap outward by as much as 3.5 metres and left the mountain about 0.5 metres shorter.

By modelling the event on a computer, they were able to pinpoint the location of the explosion and its depth, 400-600 metres below the peak. They also located more precisely another seismic event, or aftershock, that occurred 8.5 minutes after the nuclear explosion, putting it some 700 metres south of the bomb blast.

This is about halfway between the site of the nuclear detonation and an access tunnel entrance and may have been caused by the collapse of part of the tunnel or of a cavity remaining from a previous nuclear explosion. "This is the first time the complete three-dimensional surface displacements

associated with an underground nuclear test were imaged and presented to the public," said Teng Wang of the Earth Observatory of Singapore at Nanyang Technological University.

Putting all of this together, the researchers estimate that the nuclear test, North Korea's sixth and the fifth inside Mt. Mantap, had a yield between 120 and 300 kilotons, about 10 times the strength of the bomb dropped by the US on Hiroshima during World War II.

That makes it either a small hydrogen, or fusion, bomb or a large atomic, or fission, bomb.

The explosion occurred more

than a 450 metres below the summit of Mt Mantap, vaporising granite rock within a cavity about 50 metres across - the size of a football stadium - and damaging a volume of rock about 300 metres across.

The blast likely raised the mountain two metres and pushed it outward up to 3-4 metres, though within minutes, hours or days the rock above the cavity collapsed to form a depression.

Eight and a half minutes after the bomb blast, a nearby underground cavity collapsed, producing the 4.5-magnitude aftershock with the characteristics of an implosion.

ADMISSION NOTICE (Academic Session 2018-19)



South Asian Institute of Rural and Agricultural Management

Affiliated to Manipur University (A Central University)

The South Asian Institute of Rural and Agricultural Management (SAIRAM) was established by the South Asian Rural and Agricultural Management Foundation (SARAF), registered as a Non-Profit making Company under the Indian Companies Act 2013 and affiliated with Manipur University (A Central University). The institute desires to achieve academic, profession and research excellence using innovative, creative, collaborative and sustainable practices.

ADMISSION TO THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMMES:

Course	Duration
1. Bachelor of Science (B.Sc)* in i) Agriculture ii) Horticulture iii) Biotechnology	4 years 4 years 3 years
2. Bachelors in Business Administration (BBA)**	3 years
3. Short-term Skill Development (STS)*** in Plant Micro propagation Techniques, Medicinal Plant	6 months
4. Certificate Courses in Foreign Language (CCFL)**** in i) Japanese ii) Chinese iii) Korean iv) Thai	6 months

*Eligibility for admission to B.Sc. Programmes: 10+2 pass with 50% marks in aggregate (45% marks for SC & ST Candidates and 47% marks for OBC Candidates) in Science with Biology as a subject

**Eligibility for admission to BBA Programmes: 10+2 pass with 50% marks in aggregate in any discipline (45% marks for SC and ST candidates and 47% marks for OBC Candidates)

***Eligibility for admission to Short Term Courses: 10th pass in any discipline

****Eligibility for admission to Certificate Courses in Foreign Language: 10+2 pass in any discipline

SAIRAM has entered into signing various MoUs for the students and staffs with many public and privately funded institutes, industries, academia, NGOs, etc. at the regional, national and international levels for collaboration, partnership, skill development & trainings, placements, etc. for sustainable socio-economic development.

HOW TO APPLY: Candidates can get the Application Form from the Office of the Institute on payment of Rs. 500/- (Rs. 300 for SC & ST Candidates) during office hours. Application forms can also be downloaded from the institute's website: www.sairam.org.in and submit the duly filled in application form with relevant documents. The candidates who downloaded the application form from the website should pay the application fee of Rs. 500/- (Rs. 300 for SC & ST Candidates) at the time of submission of the form in cash or Demand Draft drawn in favour of SOUTH ASIAN RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT (SAIRAM) FOUNDATION, payable at Imphal

IMPORTANT DATES:

Date of issue of Application form : 7th May, 2018 onwards

Last date for submission of duly filled in Application Form : 23rd June, 2018

Last date for admission of forms for respective programmes : 30th June, 2018

SELECTION PROCEDURE: Application forms will be shortlisted and merit list will be prepared based on the marks they secured in their 10+2 certificate examination.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORM

The duly filled in and signed application forms with self attested copies of relevant documents should be submitted to the undersigned on or before 23rd June, 2018

Director
South Asian Institute of Rural and Agricultural Management,
Langthach Achouba, P.O. & P.S. Patsoi, Imphal West, Imphal - 795005, Manipur, INDIA

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DRAFT SCHEDULE FOR CERTIFICATE COURSE IN BOOK PUBLISHING

National Book Trust India
In collaboration with
Indira Gandhi National Tribal University
28 May - 31 June 2018

National Book Trust, Ministry of HRD, and Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Regional Campus, Manipur is organizing a SEVEN DAYS CERTIFICATE COURSE IN BOOK PUBLISHING from 28 May- 03 June 2018 at IGNTU Campus, Mahan, Kangpokpi District, Manipur.

Dr. H Shukhdeba Sharma, Head, Department of Social Work Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Regional Campus, Manipur, invited interested candidates to fill up the form before the deadline. The details of the programme and the tentative course outline is provided below:

Day	Topic
28 MAY	• Introduction Overview of publishing industry: Indian Publishing Industry: Past and present perspectives: Global Publishing Industry: Key players: Changing landscape of the industry
29 MAY	• Business of publishing: Books, Journals, Newspapers and Magazines: Alternate forms of Publishing: Digitization
30 MAY	• Editorial skills: Editors in the Publishing Industry: Authors, Publishers, Editors, Agents, Reviewers, Copyrights, Royalties, Book Designing, etc.
31 MAY	• Developing a manuscript: Meeting, Editorial decisions and Pre-proof
01 JUNE	• Author-Editor relationship (inviting creative people)
02 JUNE	• Writing copy: Editing and Copy Editing: Proofreading: Designing: etc. in trade books, Children's books, Textbooks, Academic books, etc.
03 JUNE	• The role of typography and visual in book: Designing Book Designing: etc. in trade books, Children's books, Textbooks, Academic books, etc.
04 JUNE	• Concept of colour in Designing and Printing: Quality Control
05 JUNE	• Introduction to various printing processes: Print and print process - printing: Binding and quality control
06 JUNE	• Paper types and Book sizes: Different types of paper, BOM, etc. Cost - offset and Costing and estimating
07 JUNE	• ISBN and ISSN registration and its importance: Intellectual Property and Copyright: Protection of Rights and related matters: Copyright law: Infringement of rights
08 JUNE	• Marketing concepts in Publishing: Book Promotion and Marketing: Role of Catalogue: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: etc.
09 JUNE	• Marketing concepts in Publishing: Book Promotion and Marketing: Role of Catalogue: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: etc.
10 JUNE	• Marketing concepts in Publishing: Book Promotion and Marketing: Role of Catalogue: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: etc.
11 JUNE	• Marketing concepts in Publishing: Book Promotion and Marketing: Role of Catalogue: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: etc.
12 JUNE	• Marketing concepts in Publishing: Book Promotion and Marketing: Role of Catalogue: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: etc.
13 JUNE	• Marketing concepts in Publishing: Book Promotion and Marketing: Role of Catalogue: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: etc.
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18 JUNE	• Marketing concepts in Publishing: Book Promotion and Marketing: Role of Catalogue: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: etc.
19 JUNE	• Marketing concepts in Publishing: Book Promotion and Marketing: Role of Catalogue: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: etc.
20 JUNE	• Marketing concepts in Publishing: Book Promotion and Marketing: Role of Catalogue: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: etc.
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30 JUNE	• Marketing concepts in Publishing: Book Promotion and Marketing: Role of Catalogue: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: etc.
01 JULY	• Marketing concepts in Publishing: Book Promotion and Marketing: Role of Catalogue: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: etc.
02 JULY	• Marketing concepts in Publishing: Book Promotion and Marketing: Role of Catalogue: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: etc.
03 JULY	• Marketing concepts in Publishing: Book Promotion and Marketing: Role of Catalogue: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: Role of Book Review: etc.