

India intensifies energy security measures, citizen outreach amid West Asia crisis

NEW DELHI [INDIA], APRIL 14: The Government of India launched a massive, multi-sectoral response to the evolving situation in West Asia, focusing on stabilising domestic fuel supplies, expanding natural gas infrastructure, and ensuring the safety of Indian nationals abroad.

In a comprehensive update released on Tuesday, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and the Ministry of External Affairs detailed a series of "rationalisation measures" designed to counter the impact of the ongoing blockade in the Strait of Hormuz.

To mitigate the shortage of LPG, the government has shifted its focus to Piped Natural Gas (PNG) and targeted supply for vulnerable groups.

To prevent dry-outs, booking intervals for domestic cylinders have been increased to 25 days in urban areas and 45 days in rural areas. Meanwhile, the supply of 5 kg FTL (Free Trade LPG) cylinders for migrant labourers has been doubled.

Since March 2026, approximately 4.40 lakh new PNG connections have been gasified, with nearly 5 lakh more customers registered. The government is incentivising states to transition



from LPG to PNG by offering additional commercial LPG allocations to those who show progress.

Despite rising global crude prices, the government has reduced excise duty on petrol and diesel by 10 per cent and increased export levies on diesel and ATF to ensure domestic availability.

"Citizens are advised to avoid panic purchasing... the Government is taking all efforts to ensure 100% supply to domestic needs," read the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas press release.

The government has empowered states under the Essential Commodities Act to curb hoarding. On April 13

alone, over 2,950 raids were conducted across the country, including a major seizure of 500 illegal cylinders in Kerala.

On the maritime front, India reports that port operations remain normal with no congestion. The DG Shipping Control Room has facilitated the repatriation of over 2,262 seafarers, while maintaining constant contact with Indian-flagged vessels in the Gulf.

Meanwhile, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has held high-level discussions with counterparts in Kuwait, Israel, Singapore, and Australia to monitor the regional conflict and the wel-

fare of the Indian diaspora.

2,313 nationals moved to Armenia/Azerbaijan for travel to India from Iran. Travel from Kuwait and Bahrain is facilitated via Dammam Airport in Saudi Arabia. Travel from Israel and Iraq is being facilitated through Jordan and Egypt, while limited commercial and non-scheduled flights continue to operate from UAE and Qatar. Since February 28, nearly 9.55 lakh passengers have successfully travelled from the West Asia region back to India. Indian Missions continue to operate 24/7 helplines to assist the community and crew members on regional vessels.

From Shubh to Smart: Reliance Jewels Reimagines Akshaya Tritiya for a New India

MUMBAI, APR 14: Reliance Jewels, one of India's most trusted jewellery brands, ushers in Akshaya Tritiya with a fresh, value-led approach — introducing new gold and diamond collections designed to make festive buying smarter and more accessible. Customers can avail gold jewellery at a flat 9% making charge and diamond jewellery with 99% off on gold value, ensuring they pay primarily for the diamonds — making this a truly compelling, one-of-a-kind festive offer. The offer is valid till April 19, 2026.

This Akshaya Tritiya, customers can choose from a wide range of jewellery including earrings, rings, bangles and chains in gold and diamond. The collection includes everyday favourites like studs, hoops and sleek finger rings, as well as festive styles such as jhumkis, chandbais, statement necklaces and intricately crafted bangles. With options spanning daily wear to bridal jewellery, the range offers both design variety and strong value for jewellery enthusiasts.

Amid ongoing gold price volatility and evolving consumer behaviour, Reliance



Jewels highlights a key shift — jewellery today is not just a traditional purchase, but a smart and wearable investment. Consumers are increasingly seeking designs that balance emotional value with practical spending.

Bringing this thought to life, the brand's festive campaign features a warm father-daughter moment with critically acclaimed actor Gajraj Rao and Pratibha Ranta of Laapataa Ladies fame. The ad film reflects how younger consumers are reinterpreting traditions

with a more informed and value-conscious approach, while staying deeply connected to family values. While Akshaya Tritiya continues to signify shubh buying, Reliance Jewels sharpens its proposition from "Shubh Akshaya Tritiya" to "Smart Akshaya Tritiya".

Speaking on the Akshaya Tritiya offerings, Reliance Jewels spokesperson said, "Amid ongoing gold price volatility, consumer behaviour is clearly shifting — today's customers are more informed, value-conscious, and discerning. At Reliance

Jewels, we've anchored our approach in this sharp insight by launching a value-led range for Akshaya Tritiya and positioning Reliance Jewels not only as an integral part of tradition, but also as a smart, wearable investment relevant to current times — bringing together 'Shubh' with a more 'Smart' way of celebrating."

Customers can explore Reliance Jewels' intricately designed collections at 140+ showrooms across India and online, and avail exciting offers on gold and diamond jewellery.

Indian Auto Industry posts highest annual sales across all segments in FY 2025-26, first in 7 years

NEW DELHI, APR 14: India's automobile industry scripted a landmark chapter in Financial Year 2025-26, with every major vehicle category — passenger vehicles, commercial, three-wheelers and two-wheelers — recording their highest-annual sales in a single financial year, for the first time in seven years.

The industry, which had started the year on a modest note with a slight de-growth in the first half, staged a powerful comeback in the second half, powered by a confluence of structural policy reforms, improved consumer sentiment and supportive macroeconomic conditions.

According to the Data released by the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM), Passenger vehicles closed FY 2025-26 at a record 46.43 lakh units, growing 7.9 per cent over the previous year.

Commercial vehicles posted their best-ever annual sales of 10.80 lakh units, up 12.6 per cent, while three-wheelers touched 8.36 lakh units with a growth of 12.8 per cent.

The two-wheeler segment was the crown jewel of the year, surpassing 2.17 crore units — a growth of 10.7 per cent — crossing a peak last achieved in FY 2018-19. The turnaround in the second half was particularly pronounced, with passenger vehicles growing 16.7 per cent and two-wheelers surging 21.5 per cent in H2, after a



flat or negative H1.

Electric vehicle adoption added further fuel to the rally, with electric passenger vehicle registrations jumping over 80 per cent in the year, and EV two-wheeler offtake rising sharply in March amid growing concerns over fuel prices. The January-to-March quarter of FY 2025-26 was equally historic, with all four segments posting their highest-ever Q4 sales. Passenger vehicles recorded 13.16 lakh units in Q4, up 13.2 per cent, while commercial vehicles clocked 3.25 lakh units, growing 18.9 per cent. Three-wheelers posted Q4 sales of 2.27 lakh units, a jump of 26.7 per cent, and two-wheelers delivered a stellar 57.73 lakh units, surging

26.4 per cent over Q4 of the previous year.

Shailesh Chandra, President, SIAM, attributed the strong performance to a series of well-timed policy interventions. "Though FY 2025-26 started modestly, the Indian auto industry has closed the year on a high note with every vehicle category posting their highest-ever sales in a financial year after seven years. The strong contributors to this growth have been the positive sentiments created through GST 2.0 reforms and multiple repo rate cuts during the year," he said.

GST rationalisation improved affordability, income tax relief boosted purchasing power, and successive RBI repo rate cuts lowered fi-

nancing costs and eased the total cost of ownership — particularly for commercial vehicle fleet operators.

Exports, too, had a landmark year, with passenger vehicle exports touching 9.05 lakh units, up 17.5 per cent; two-wheeler exports at a record 51.8 lakh units, up 23.4 per cent; three-wheeler exports surging 50.1 per cent to 4.61 lakh units; and commercial vehicle exports growing 17.4 per cent to 0.95 lakh units.

Rajesh Menon, Director General, SIAM, said, "Each vehicle category posted their highest-ever sales in the January to March quarter with double-digit growth compared to the previous year's quarter."

Adani Green Energy achieves highest ESG score of 87.3 among Indian cos rated by CareEdge-ESG

NEW DELHI, APR 14: Adani Green Energy Limited (AGEL) has received a CareEdge-ESG 1+ rating with a score of 87.3 from CARE ESG Ratings Limited (CareEdge-ESG), a Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) registered ESG rating provider.

The score places AGEL at the top among all Indian companies assessed by CareEdge-ESG.

"The rating assigned to AGEL reflects the company's strong commitment to sustainable practices within the renewable energy sector," CareEdge-ESG said in a statement. "The company has demonstrated leadership across its ESG journey, particu-

larly through robust performance in climate change risk management, water stewardship, waste management, and biodiversity conservation."

The rating reflects AGEL's leadership in integrating sustainability across its operations as a large utility-scale renewable energy developer. CareEdge-ESG evaluation is based on a comprehensive assessment of environmental, social and governance risks and opportunities, benchmarking companies across multiple indicators and industry peers.

The assessment highlights strong performance across climate risk management, water stewardship, waste management, biodiversity

conservation and governance practices, supported by transparent disclosures and structured oversight mechanisms.

The rating underscores AGEL's structured approach to managing environmental and social risks through well-defined policies, management systems and enterprise-wide integration of ESG considerations.

At a broader level, the recognition reflects a shift within the Adani Group towards embedding sustainability across its infrastructure-led portfolio, including renewable energy, ports, logistics and utilities. ESG integration is increasingly shaping governance practices, risk management frameworks

and long-term capital allocation across businesses.

The CareEdge-ESG rating also enhances AGEL's positioning with investors and lenders, particularly in a capital environment where sustainability performance is increasingly linked to access to financing. The rating is expected to support the company's ability to mobilise sustainable and transition-linked capital for large-scale renewable energy projects.

Ashish Khanna, Chief Executive Officer, Adani Green Energy Limited, said, "Receiving the highest ESG score is a strong endorsement of Adani Green Energy's commitment to integrating sustainability at scale.

Sheratal Beauty Pageant & Award Ceremony Becomes the Talk of the Town in Delhi NCR

NEW DELHI, APR 14: The prestigious Sheratal Beauty Pageant & Award Ceremony turned into a spectacular evening of glamour, empowerment, and celebration, leaving an indelible mark on Delhi NCR's social calendar. Hosted at the elegant Radisson Blu Dwarka, the venue radiated charm and sophistication as participants from diverse age groups graced the stage with confidence and style.

Curated by Dr. Seema Bali and Angela Bali, the event beautifully blended fashion, recognition, and inspiration. The evening commenced with a traditional lamp-lighting ceremony led by eminent personalities including Vijay Kapoor, Chairman of SK Group; Lalita Rakhyan, founder of Golden Lioness with Neelam Khanna & Madhu Omchery, Seema Gumber, actress known for her work with Zee TV; and Meenakshi Dutt of MDM Academy. Their presence set a powerful tone for an evening dedicated to celebrating talent, achievement, and individuality.

One of the most heartfelt moments of the evening was the recognition of author Urnila Sharma, who was honored with the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award. Her contribution to literature and society was applauded by the audience, making it a truly memorable highlight of the ceremony.

The event featured a series of captivating segments that kept the audience engaged



throughout. The much-talked-about "Boardroom to Runway" CEO walk stood out as a symbol of modern leadership and elegance, where professionals showcased their confidence beyond corporate spaces. The Men's Walk brought energy and charisma to the stage, while the Senior "Ever Young" walk was a testament to timeless grace and enthusiasm, earning resounding applause from attendees.

Adding to the charm of the evening was the Kids' Walk segment, where young participants displayed remarkable confidence and poise. Among the winners, Anikraj Singh from Delhi Public School International R.K. Puram and Kavya Chauhan from Bal Bhavan Interna-

tional School Dwarka emerged victorious, winning hearts with their performances. The highlight of the pageant was the crowning moment in the Miss & Mrs Delhi NCR category. Sultana was crowned the winner, while Susmita Chowdhury and Nutan secured the positions of runners-up. Their grace, confidence, and personality set them apart, making the competition both inspiring and fiercely competitive. The event was supported by a strong lineup of sponsors and partners, including Meriton Hotel New Delhi, SK Group, Kris Gethin Gym Dwarka, Samayra by Shweta, Ayouth Veda, Samaa, House of Rasook, The Pansari Group, Vastra Vouge, Orange Box by Ritu

and Aryan's World Taekwondo Academy. Their collaboration played a significant role in making the event a grand success. The Sheratal Beauty Pageant & Award Ceremony concluded on a high note, celebrating not just beauty but also strength, confidence, and achievements across all age groups. It stood as a powerful platform encouraging individuals to express themselves, break stereotypes, and embrace their true potential.

With its seamless blend of elegance, recognition, and entertainment, the event has truly become the talk of the town in Delhi NCR, setting a new benchmark for lifestyle and empowerment events in the region.

Luxury Meets Legacy: Robb Report India Hosts Palace Prive at Jai Vilas Palace, Gwalior

MUMBAI, APR 14: Robb Report India, part of RPSG Lifestyle Media, in collaboration with the erstwhile royal family of Gwalior—Priyadarshini Rajee Scindia and her son, Mahanarayana Scindia—hosted Palace Prive, an #RRExperience, at the iconic Jai Vilas Palace on April 8 and 9, 2026. The exclusive, invite-only gathering brought together a select group of guests for an immersive celebration of heritage, craftsmanship, and royal hospitality, zooming in on the storied legacy of Madhya Pradesh and India.

Palace Prive by Robb Report India at Jai Vilas Palace, Gwalior The key partners at this one-of-a-kind soiree were Macallan (experience partner), Bentley (auto-

mobile partner), Vedica (hydration partner), Matsya (lifestyle partner), and PC Totuka (fine jewellery partner).

Personally curated by Priyadarshini Rajee Scindia and the palace concierge, the special 24-hour itinerary offered an intimate window into the region's cultural legacy, set within one of India's most celebrated royal residences. Built in 1874 by Maharaja Jayajirao Scindia, Jai Vilas Palace—known for its European-Maratha architectural influences and its grand Durbar Hall—served as both setting and storyteller. As a residence that continues to be home to the Scindia family alongside a curated menu inspired by recipes passed down through generations, reflecting the

bridges the past and the present.

Avarna Jain, Chairperson, RPSG Lifestyle Media, said, "Palace Prive represents the essence of Robb Report India, which is access to the exceptional. This collaboration allowed us to present an experience that is deeply rooted in heritage while remaining contemporary in its expression of luxury." On day 1, besides a grand tour of the Durbar Hall and a soulful performance by Nayab Midha, at the heart of Palace Prive was an intimate dining experience from the royal kitchen, set against the magnificent backdrop of the palace. The evening featured a curated menu inspired by recipes passed down through generations, reflecting the

culinary traditions of the royal family.

"A lot of the experiences that we create around Gwalior and Jai Vilas Palace are based on our memories, our experiences, and the time we've spent here with our children," said Priyadarshini Rajee Scindia. "This, for us, is about opening our home and sharing those memories with our guests." The experience extended beyond the palace interiors to spotlight the region's rich artisanal traditions. Local craftsmen, including lac bangle makers, chanderi weavers, and carpet artists, were invited to present their work, offering guests a glimpse into their craft practices at the Crafters' Brunch on the morning of