

Bioenergy can cover 50 pc of India’s fossil fuel consumption in 5 years: Gadkari

NEW DELHI : Bioenergy can cover 50 per cent of India's fossil fuel consumption in five years, Union Minister Nitin Gadkari said on Monday while urging the automobile industry to undertake research and development on alternative fuels.

Air pollution has become a big problem because of fossil fuel, the Minister for Road, Transport and Highways said at the 'Bhoomipujan programme' of the Indian School for Design of Automobiles.

The transport sector is responsible for 40 per cent of



air pollution in the country because of fossil fuel, the minister pointed out.

A lot of research and innovation is going on in fuel and automobile engineering.

"We need to protect our ecology and environment, and fulfil the dream of the Prime Minister (Narendra Modi) to make India a carbon-neutral country," Gadkari said.

Bioenergy can cover 50 per cent of India's fossil fuel consumption in five years which is very important because Rs 22 lakh crore is being spent on import of the fossil fuel, Gadkari said.

The country is working on different fuels like ethanol, flex engine, methanol, biodiesel, bio LNG, CNG, electric and hydrogen, the minister said. Ethanol is already

being blended up to 20 per cent in petrol, he said.

"The future of the automobile industry is very good and today there is a huge potential for all types of new research," he said.

Speaking further, he said the domestic automobile sector is an important industry which has created crores of jobs and boosted exports. "This is the industry which has a maximum export of 3 lakh crores which is economically very important for our country. It has already created 4.5 crore jobs for young talents," Gadkari said.

Meta names Arun Srinivas as India Managing Director Head

NEW DELHI : Technology giant Meta has named Arun Srinivas as the new Managing Director and Head for its India operations, effective July 1, 2025.

The appointment comes after Sandhya Devanathan, previously leading India, was given an expanded role overseeing both India and Southeast Asia.

In his new position, Srinivas will oversee the integration of business, innovation, and revenue priorities for Meta in India to support the company's growth and partnerships with local brands, advertisers, developers, and business partners, Meta said in a blog.



Srinivas will report directly to Sandhya Devanathan. "Meta in India is leading the way in AI adoption, WhatsApp, and Reels, and Arun's impressive track record of building high-performing teams, driving product innovation, and fostering strong partnerships makes

him the ideal leader to drive Meta's continued investment in the country. He will continue to work closely with me as we scale the business in India," Devanathan, Vice President (India and South East Asia) at Meta, said.

Srinivas, an IIM Kolkata alumnus, brings in about 30 years of experience, having worked at Hindustan Unilever, Reebok, OLA, and investment firm WestBridge Capital. He has been with Meta since 2020, currently serving as Director and Head of Ads Business in India, where he leads efforts with major advertisers and agency partners, focusing on revenue priorities such as AI, Reels, and Messaging.

Investigation in Raja Raghuvanshi murder case not just confined to love triangle: Meghalaya DGP

SHILLONG : Meghalaya DGP Idashisha Nongrang on Monday said the investigators probing the murder of Indore businessman Raja Raghuvanshi in Sohra were not treating the love triangle as the only motive, and they are looking into various other angles.

Raja was hacked to death on May 23 while honeymooning in the Northeastern state. His wife Sonam, her boyfriend Raj and three hitmen were arrested in connection with the murder on June 9.

"We are investigating whether there is anything more to this case. It is unusual that within a few days of marriage, she (Sonam) would develop so much animosity against her husband," Nongrang told PTI.

"We are exploring all possible angles for this murder to have taken place. We have enough evidence, and loose ends are being tied up. We have a solid case," she added.

Sonam (25) and Raja

(29) got married in Indore on May 11 and reached Meghalaya via Guwahati in Assam on May 21 for their honeymoon. Both of them went "missing" on May 23 in Sohra in East Khasi Hills district, hours after checking out of a homestay at Nongriat village.

Raja's decomposed body was found in a gorge near Weisawdong Falls on June 2. A search continued for Sonam, who emerged in Uttar Pradesh's Ghazipur, around 1,200 km away, in the early hours of June 9 and surrendered as police arrested his boyfriend and the three hitmen.

Sonam told the investigators that the Raja's jewellery that went missing was kept in a "particular place", the DGP said.

"We will be looking into that," she said.

All those arrested will be taken to Sohra around 12 pm on Tuesday for the reconstruction of the crime scene, police said

The hitmen, who were Raja's friends, had attacked Raja on the head with a machete in front of Sonam at the parking lot of the Weisawdong Falls. They then pushed the body into the gorge, according to the police.

Sonam fled the state following the murder, taking taxis, buses, and a train to reach Indore via Assam, West Bengal, Bihar and UP.

She, however, left behind her 'mangalsutra' and a ring in her trolley bag at a homestay in Sohra, leading the police to suspect her, Nongrang had earlier told PTI.

Meanwhile, a video posted by a tourist on Instagram went viral after Sonam and Raja were spotted in it. In the video, Sonam and Raja were seen ascending from Nongriat just hours before he was brutally murdered.

Sonam, wearing black trousers with a white full-sleeved shirt similar to the one recovered from the crime scene, was seen walking a few steps ahead of Raja.

Police confirmed the authenticity of the video to PTI. East Khasi Hills district SP Vivek Syiem told the news agency that Sonam has confessed to being a part of the conspiracy to kill her husband.

"At first it appeared that Sonam and her boyfriend hired hitmen, but later we found out the three were close friends of Raj and they killed Raja as a favour to their friend," he said.

Would like to conclude early tranche of trade pact with US before July 9: Commerce Secy

NEW DELHI : Negotiations for the proposed India-US trade agreement are in good progress and the two sides are expected to agree on an early tranche of the pact before July 9, a top government official said on Monday.

"We are working on the early tranche and as you are aware that there is a date (July 9), before that we would like to conclude this early tranche," Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal told reporters here.

He said that Indian and the US teams are making visits to each other's country for trade talks.

"We also visited the US twice. The US team also came here twice. There is good progress and we are hopeful that this will be done within the timelines," he added.

The US on April 2 imposed an additional 26 per cent reciprocal tariff on Indian goods but suspended it for 90 days till July 9. However, the 10 per cent baseline tariff imposed by America remains in place. India is seeking full exemption from the additional 26 per cent tariff.

The US team was here from June 5 - 11 for the talks. The negotiations will continue both virtually and physi-



cally in the days to come.

When asked if the absence of the US Fast Track Trade Authority (also known as Trade Promotion Authority) could delay the proposed trade pact with India, an official said that it is up to the US authorities to decide how to navigate its local regulations for the trade agreement with India.

The official said that as India and the US are aiming to more than double the bilateral trade to USD 500 billion by 2030, this can not happen unless and until tariffs are reduced.

"Both the countries are looking for better market access into each other's markets," the official said adding for this "the product mix could be different for both the countries".

India is seeking duty

concessions for labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, gems and jewellery, leather goods, garments, plastics, chemicals, shrimp, oil seeds, grapes, and bananas in the proposed trade pact.

The US, in turn, wants duty concessions on certain industrial goods, automobiles - especially electric vehicles, wines, petrochemical products, dairy, and agricultural items like apples, tree nuts, and genetically modified crops. "Market access can only come through lowering of tariffs. It should be the endeavour of both the countries to lower the tariffs. To what extent, they have the legal authority to do so, that will depend upon their outlook towards the trade," the official added.

Another official said that how the US would

FATF condemns Pahalgam attack to soon release case reports on state-sponsored terror funding



NEW DELHI : Condemning the brutal Pahalgam terror attack in April, global watchdog FATF on Monday said it has enhanced its focus on the steps that the countries have taken to combat terror financing, and will soon release a report on terror financing cases, including state-sponsored terrorism.

The rare condemnation by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) shows that the "international community has felt the severity of the attack", which killed 26 people in Pahalgam, Kashmir, on April 22, and spotlights that such attacks will not go unpunished, sources said, adding the terror attack was done by Pakistan-trained terrorists.

"Terrorist attacks kill, maim and inspire fear around the world. The FATF notes with grave concern and condemns the brutal terrorist attack in Pahalgam on 22 April 2025. This, and other recent attacks, could not occur without money and the means to move funds between terrorist supporters," the FATF said in a statement.

Sources said FATF

rarely issues condemnation of terrorist acts. It is only the third time in last decade that they have issued condemnation of a terrorist attack.

It had earlier issued condemnations once in 2015 and then in 2019 in severe cases of terrorist attacks.

The FATF statement comes in the backdrop of Indian authorities highlighting Pakistan's persistent support for terrorism and its funneling of multilateral funds for arms procurement. According to sources, such action by Pakistan warrants that the country be put in the "grey list" of the FATF. India has consistently held that Pakistan has given safe haven to designated terrorists and the same was evident when senior military officials were present at the funeral of the terrorists killed in Indian military attacks of May 7. Ahead of the next meeting of the Asia Pacific Group (APG) of FATF on August 25 and the next FATF plenary and working group meeting on October 20, India is preparing a dossier on the omissions and commissions by Pakistan with respect to FATF anti-money laundering

and terror financing norms.

India will be submitting to the FATF for grey listing of Pakistan. The FATF, which is a global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog and sets international standards that aim to prevent these illegal activities, also said that it will soon release a "comprehensive analysis of terrorist financing", compiling cases provided by its global network consisting 200 jurisdictions.

"It will also host a webinar to help public and private sectors understand the risks and stay alert to emerging threats," it added. Sources said the report on terror financing risks would be released in a month's time. This is the first time the concept of "state sponsored terrorism" is being acknowledged by FATF as a funding source. "Only India's National Risk Assessment (NRA) recognises state-sponsored terrorism from Pakistan as a key TF risk. The inclusion of 'state sponsored terrorism' as a concept in the report demonstrates international recognition of state-sponsored terrorism by Pakistan," sources added.

Pakistan's history with FATF's 'grey list' dates back to February 2008, when it was placed in the monitoring list. In June 2010 it was removed from the list, only to be brought back in February 2012, and then removed again in February 2015.

It was brought back in the list again for the third time in June 2018, and was later removed in October 2022 with FATF asking Pakistan to continue to work with APG to further improve its anti-money laundering/combating the financing of terror (AML/CFT) system.

Currently, there are 24 countries in FATF 'grey list'. These countries are under increased monitoring and they have to address strategic deficiencies to counter money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing. The FATF statement further said that as terrorism continues to threaten societies and citizens around the world, the global watchdog is supporting over 200 jurisdictions within its global network to build and enhance their counter-financing of terrorism (CFT) measures including through the strategic use of financial intelligence -- making this one of the most powerful instruments for dismantling terrorist financing networks.

"In addition to setting out the framework for combating terrorist financing, the FATF has enhanced its focus on the effectiveness of measures countries have put in place. That is how, through our mutual evaluations, we have identified gaps that need to be addressed," it added. The FATF has been working for 10 years to help countries stay ahead of terrorist financing risk -- for example relating to abuse of social media, crowd funding, and virtual assets.

FATF President Elisa de Anda Madrazo at the recent 'No Money for Terror Conference' in Munich, had

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Public Notice

This is to inform the Public that Auction of pledged Gold Ornaments will be conducted by **SBFC Finance Limited on 27.06.2025 at 10:30 am. at below Branch address.** The Gold Ornaments to be auctioned belong to Loan Accounts of our various Customers who have failed to pay their dues. Our notices of auction have been duly issued to these borrowers. The Gold Ornaments to be auctioned belong to Overdue Loan Accounts of our various Customers mentioned below with branch name.

DARBHANGA Branch Address: DARBHANGA, SBFC Finance Limited, 1st Floor, Opposite Poonam Cinema, Lal-Bagh, Near HdFc Bank, Darbanga 846004, DARBHANGA, AP00588595, AP00658673

Motihari Branch Address : SBFC Finance Ltd, Raj pari Market, 2nd Floor, Sadar Hospital Road, PO & PS - Motihari, Opposite hotel Godavari, Dist - Motihari, Bihar 845401, MOTIHARI, AP00588595, AP00658295, AP00660575, AP00661000, AP00661604, AP00689869

MUZAFFARPUR Branch Address: SBFC Finance Limited, No. 204, Daya Complex, First Floor, Mauza Kalambagh Road (Ganipur), P/S Kazi Mohammadpur, Ward No. 28 (Old), 29 (New),Aghoria Bazar Chowk, Muzaaffarpur- 842002, MUZAFFARPUR, AP00588595, AP00655994, AP00658470, AP00658968, AP00660940, AP00661755

Rajendraprath, Near Uma Cinema, Kadamkuan Patna-800003, Bihar, Rajendraprath, AP00548007, AP00584394, AP00602378, AP00654854, AP00655976, AP00660869, AP00661531

For more details, please contact SBFC Finance Limited Contact Number(s): 18001028012 (SBFC Finance Limited reserves the right to alter the number of accounts to be auctioned &/ postpone / cancel the auction without any prior notice.)

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

Branch Office: ICICI BANK LTD, BP-4, Technopolis Building, 4th Floor, Sector V, Salt Lake City, Kolkata West Bengal - 700091
CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Birendra Prasad/ Renu Devi/ S/o Raghunib Prasad Ward No. 44 Maranpur Near Akshaywast Goya District, Goya Bihar Gaya-823001/ LBPTN00002348137	Khata No. 46, Part of Holding No. 268, Survey Plot No. 398 (Old 4109 (New), Touzi No. 4095, Thana No. 10, Ward No. 8 (Old 23 (New), Moh Maranpur, Sub Division, Goya, P.S. Civil Line, Goya, District Gaya, Bihar (Admeasuring An Area of 1501 Sq.ft North: Niz Part of Holding No. 268 South: Nala East: Mosmat Kamoda Devi West: Road/ Date of Symbolic 11/06/2025	February 19, 2025 Rs. 14,71,665.50/-	Gaya
2.	Ram Sanyog Kumar/ Ajay Kumar/ Vijay Kumar/ Village Shiv Mahamadpur Post Bhasar Mechhaha Near Motiadar, Sitamarhi Sitamarhi Bojipatti Sitamarhi Sitamarhi Bihar Sitamarhi- 843314/ LBMZF0006816300/ LBMZF0006808774	Thana No 319, Khata No 77/113, Survey No 612 & 612, Moushazhimahmadpur, Anchaldumra, Thana, Sub Registry And District- Sitamarhi, Bihar, Sitamarhi (Admeasuring An Area of 8.25 Decimal North: Niz Kharidarno Haza South: Brij Kumar Singh East: Khushi Lal Singh Hal Kharidar West: Ram Bali Singh/ Date of Symbolic 12/06/2025	February 28, 2025 Rs. 20,81,556.06/-	Sitamarhi

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: June 17, 2025, Place: Gaya & Sitamarhi Sincerely Authorised Officer, For ICICI Bank Ltd.