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14% hike in petrol is cruelty: Ram Naik

Mumbai, Friday: "The government have hampered the spirit of people getting ready to welcome Daserra and Diwali by increasing petrol prices once again. Petrol was available at ₹ 63.08 per litre in May. The prices were then raised by ₹ 5 and now by ₹ 3.40 i.e. by 14% in last 4 months and now petrol is available at ₹ 71.92 per litre. This record hike is nothing but cruelty", said Shri Ram Naik, former Petroleum Minister while condemning yesterday's hike in petrol prices.

"This hike is in no way justifiable. The fiscal policy of the government led by finance expert Dr. Manmohan Singh is weird! On one hand prices of diesel, petrol, kerosene and LPG are shooting up and on the other hand Air Turbine Fuel (ATF) is only at ₹ 58.45 per litre i.e. even cheaper than the petrol by ₹13.50. In addition to this burden the Reserve Bank of India has increased interest rate 11 times in a row in a year", criticized Shri Ram Naik.

"The government is also planning to put restrictions on supply of LPG and also to make it more expensive. It appears that the government does not want 'Aam Adami' to celebrate Diwali. If government goes ahead with this plan it will further accelerate black marking of LPG ", commented Shri Naik at the end.

(Office Secretary)