

# Shell, BP pumps run dry in Jakarta as import caps bite

Ruth Dea Juwita

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Several Shell and BP gas stations in Jakarta have run low on fuel over the past week, with some sites suspending sales of their key products, underscoring supply strains among private fuel retailers as import quotas run dry.

On Wednesday, shortages were reported at Shell stations across the city, where gasoline was unavailable and only diesel remained on offer. The stations appeared largely quiet, with almost no vehicles queuing, while attendants stayed on standby to explain the limited fuel availability to motorists.

"We apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for choosing Shell's high-quality fuels. Shell Indonesia informs that gasoline products are not available at several Shell service stations until further notice," the company said in a statement published on its website.

The website also provides real-time updates on fuel availability at Shell stations, refreshed daily.

Shell Indonesia president director Ingrid Siburian confirmed that some stations were running out of certain fuel types, adding that the company was coordinating with the Energy and Mineral Resources Ministry to restore supply.

"Shell stations continue to serve customers with Shell V-Power Diesel and other services, including Shell Select, Shell Recharge, workshops and lubricants," Ingrid said in a statement on Wednesday, as quoted by *Kontan*.

BP also reported sporadic shortages amid stock disruptions.

Vanda Laura, president director of PT Aneka Petroindo Raya, which operates BP stations, said several outlets were facing shortages of BP Ultimate and BP 92.

"We are working to restore supply by actively coordinating with stakeholders, optimizing distribution, sourcing alternative domestic supplies and preparing operational scenarios to ensure services remain avail-

able," Vanda said.

Responding to the fuel shortages, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Bahlil Lahadalia said on Monday that instead of seeking larger import quotas, private fuel retailers should secure additional supply domestically through business-to-business (B2B) deals with state-owned Pertamina.

Bahlil said private players had requested higher import quotas to meet demand but stressed that the government must "safeguard the national condition", noting that the 2025 allocation had already been raised 10 percent from last year.

"There is no shortage at the national level. If companies ask for more [import quota], I would say our domestic supply is still available, so they can pursue B2B cooperation with national stockpiles," he told reporters after a cabinet meeting at the State Palace on Monday.

Indonesia consumes up to 1.7 million barrels of oil per day, while Pertamina's six refineries can process only about 1.06 million barrels per day (bpd), covering just 60 percent of domestic fuel demand. The remainder comes from imports.

The disruptions come as Indonesia seeks to balance domestic fuel supply with its reliance on imports.

Earlier this year, the Energy and Mineral Resources Ministry shortened the validity of fuel import permits for private gas stations to six months from one year, with quarterly reviews. Bahlil said the move was aimed at tightening oversight of national energy supplies, according to *Bisnis.com*.

The government also banned crude oil exports, requiring all domestically produced oil to be processed within the country in a bid to maximize refinery utilization.

In February, private fuel retailers such as Shell saw a sudden increase in customers following public outrage over a fuel fraud and illegal import scandal at state-owned Pertamina. The case prompted some consumers to switch to more expensive but quality-assured rival brands.