

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 09.11.2010
ANSWERED ON
BLENDING OF FUEL WITH ETHANOL

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Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :-

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Government had asked the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) in 2006 to gradually increase the blending of fuel with ethanol from 5 per cent to 10 per cent;
- (b) Whether it is also a fact that the trial of blending of fuel with ethanol at a fixed price of ₹21.50 a litre was completed in September, 2009; and
- (c) if so, the reasons for not increasing the blending ratio of ethanol to 10 per cent till now?

ANSWER

MINISTER of STATE for PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS

(SHRI JITIN PRASADA)

(a) The Government had decided in 2007 to make 5% blending of ethanol with petrol mandatory and optional blending of 10% Bio-ethanol with petrol from October 2007 and thereafter mandatory blending from October 2008. However, the programme was adversely affected due to shortfall in supply of Ethanol.

(b) & (c) To assess the suitability, compatibility and acceptability of 10% Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) in the in-use vehicles, Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) conducted trials in association with Society for Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) and Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI). Since the implementation of 5% EBP could not stabilize due to shortfall in availability of ethanol, the 10% level of ethanol blending could not be implemented. In pursuance of decisions taken by the Government in August, 2010, the OMCs would purchase entire quantity of ethanol made available by the manufacturers at a declared ex-factory price to be decided by the Government.