

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3148
TO BE ANSWERED ON. 22.03.2018

METHANOL ECONOMY FUND

3148. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the NITI Aayog proposes to set up a Methanol Economy Fund and if so, the details thereof together with the allocations made to the proposed fund;
- (b) the extent to which the initiative would promote production of clean fuel and make it environment friendly and the areas where methanol could be safely used; and
- (c) whether Government has worked out the cost of methanol per litre and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

- (a) At present NITI Aayog has not mooted a proposal to set up a Methanol Economy Fund.
- (b) Methanol production in India of at least 5 million tons is envisaged by 2021. NITI Aayog has estimated an annual reduction of US \$ 100 billion in crude oil imports bill by 2030. Methanol burns efficiently as a clean fuel in all internal combustion engines, produces no particulate matter, no soot, almost nil SO_x and NO_x emissions (Near Zero Pollution). Methanol could be used in two wheelers, four wheelers, Genset, railways and marine sector and also in cooking stoves. The gaseous version of Methanol when blended with LPG can reduce volume of LPG import. Dimethyl Ether (DME) can be used for large buses and trucks in place of diesel and reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions.
- (c) Methanol production cost from indigenous technology is estimated at about Rs. 19-22 per litre.
