GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2529
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20th DECEMBER, 2021

INABILITY TO PROCURE ETHANOL

2529#.SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are not able to collect 325 crores of litres of ethanol allotted to them during the year 2020-21 and asking the suppliers to transfer their supply away from depot;

(b) whether the OMCs have not built enough tankage and therefore they are refusing to procure ethanol;

(c) whether Government is ready to increase the limit of mixing ethanol in the States which have already reached up to an average mixing limit of 9-10 per cent; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not increasing the limit of mixing percentage?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a):Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are lifting all quantities offered by suppliers for blending under Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme. Since ethanol production is concentrated in few States like Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Punjab, Haryana and Bihar and the ethanol availability in these states is more than that required for 10% blending, therefore, the excess ethanol is shifted to other ethanol deficient states to meet the overall national ethanol blending target. This reallocation of ethanol to other ethanol deficient states is being done by the OMCs in consultation with suppliers based on requirements at different locations in the country.

(b):Public Sector OMCs have adequate storage capacity to meet the requirement of 15 days ethanol for 10% blending.

(c)& (d): The blending percentage in petrol depends on Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)specifications of blended fuel, vehicle compatibility, availability of ethanol, emission norms of the blended fuel, storage and dispensation facility, etc.Under the EBP Programme, Public Sector OMCs sell E10 (10% ethanol blended petrol) fuel meeting BIS specifications as per availability.Further the Government has advanced the target of 20% blending of ethanol in petrol to 2025-26 from 2030.

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