

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3655
ANSWERED ON 03.04.2023

POLICY ON BIOFUELS

3655. DR. SUDHANSHU TRIVEDI:

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

- (a) the present status of Government policy for biofuels blending in petrol, the details thereof;
- (b) the proven environmental benefits of biofuel blending and whether there is any authentic data/survey available; and
- (c) whether such fuels harm the life of vehicle engines?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS

(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a): The Government has introduced blending of ethanol in petrol under the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme. Under this Programme Public Sector OMCs sell petrol blended with ethanol. The target of 20% blending of ethanol in petrol has been advanced to ESY 2025-26 from 2030. The E-20 (20% ethanol blended petrol) fuel has been launched in February, 2023. The objectives of the Programme include reducing import dependence, savings in foreign exchange, providing boost to domestic agriculture sector and for associated environmental benefits. Ethanol blended petrol has higher octane number than petrol thereby aiding in complete combustion and reduced vehicular emissions.

(b): The anticipated emission benefits with E10 & E20 fuels compared to neat petrol are as under:

Emission	Gasoline	Two-wheelers		Four-wheelers	
		E10	E20	E10	E20
Carbon Monoxide	Baseline	20% lower	50% lower	20% lower	30% lower
Hydrocarbons	Baseline	20% lower	20% lower	20% lower	20% lower

(Source: Roadmap for Ethanol Blending in India 2020-25 published in June, 2021)

(c): Ethanol-blended fuel is not only environment friendly but also has higher Research Octane Number (RON) due to addition of ethanol. Ethanol is added as oxygenate and hence increases oxygen content for combustion, leading to enleanment of combusted mixture which increases the efficiency of the engine considerably.
