

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-460**  
ANSWERED ON- 06/02/2023

**INCREASING PRODUCTION OF OIL AND GAS**

460. SHRI R. GIRIRAJAN:  
SHRI S. KALYANASUNDARAM:  
SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA:

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

- (a) whether Government has any plan to double its oil production and exploration acreages to increase domestic production of oil and gas and cut reliance on imported oil and the details thereof;
- (b) the amount of crude oil imported by the country, year-wise from the year 2018 and the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to promote Ethanol Blended Petrol and the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) Government has already awarded exploration acreages of 2.08 lakhs Square Kilometre and Bid rounds for additional 2.57 lakhs Square Kilometre have been launched under Open Acreage Licensing Policy (OALP). Crude oil production is planned at the level of 32.5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) in 2023-24.
- (b) The details of crude oil imported, from the year 2018 to December 2022, are as under:

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Quantity (MMT)</b>
2018-19	226.5
2019-20	227.0
2020-21	196.5
2021-22 (P)	212.4
2022-23(April-December) (P)	172.4

Source: Oil Companies  
P: Provisional

(c) The Government has taken several measures to increase production and utilization of ethanol in the country which includes permitting procurement of ethanol produced from other non-food feedstock besides molasses, like cellulosic and lignocelluloses materials like cotton stalk, wheat straw, rice straw, bagasse, bamboo etc including petrochemical route, subject to meeting the relevant BIS standards; allowing use of sugarcane and food grains (maize and surplus stocks of rice with Food Corporation of India) for conversion to ethanol; administered price mechanism for procurement of ethanol under the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme including enhanced ex-mill price of ethanol from ethanol supply year 2017-18; lowered GST rate to 5% on ethanol for EBP Programme; amendment in Industries (Development & Regulation) Act for free movement of ethanol across states for blending, interest subvention schemes for enhancement & augmentation of ethanol production capacity; signing of Long Term Offtake Agreement (LTOA) by OMCs with 131 Project Proponents for dedicated ethanol plants in ethanol deficit States. Percentage of Ethanol in Petrol has consequently increased from 1.53% in 2014 to over 10% in Ethanol Supply Year 2021-22.

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