GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 466 ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023

PRODUCTION OF BIO FUELS

466. SHRI IRANNA KADADI

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

- (a) whether Government could provide data on export of bio-fuels in FY 2022-23 from Special Economic Zones and Export Oriented Units under National Policy on Bio-fuels;
- (b) the expenditure details of Government to develop bio fuel plants in tier 1 and tier 2 cities of Karnataka;
- (c) the advancements in achieving the target of 20 per cent ethanol blending in petrol under National Policy on Bio-fuels, the detailed report thereof; and
- (d) the measures which have been taken by Government to prevent the sale of spurious biofuels?

ANSWER

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

(a): As per National Policy on Biofuels- 2018, to promote the production of biofuels in the country by units located in Special Economic Zones (SEZ)/ Export Oriented Units (EoUs), import of feedstock for production of biofuels meant for export by them, is allowed without any restriction.

Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics have informed that during Financial Year 2022-23 approx. 3520064 Kg of biodiesel and mixture under Indian Trade Classification - based on Harmonized System (ITC-HS) codes 38260000 have been exported.

- (b): Under the interest subvention scheme of Department of Food and Public Distribution, an amount of Rs. 119.90 crore have been released to 36 projects from the state of Karnataka for an estimated ethanol capacity creation of about 144 crore litres per annum.
- (c): The detailed report on the 'Roadmap for Ethanol Blending in India 2020-25' provides guidance to achieve the target of 20% ethanol blending in India by 2025-26. The target of 10% ethanol blending set in the aforesaid roadmap for Ethanol Supply Year 2021-22 has been achieved.
- (d): The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas vide notification dated 30.04.2019 has issued "Guidelines for sale of Biodiesel for blending with high speed diesel for transportation purposes-2019". As per clause 'x' of these Guidelines, the State/UT Government authorities shall have the power to carry out regular inspections of the retail outlets selling biodiesel to ensure that the biodiesel is being made available to the customers in the right quality and quantity.

The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has also written to all the Chief Secretaries and Administrators of the States and UTs to look into the matter of sale of unauthorized product in the name of biodiesel and issue necessary directions to curb this menace. Government has directed Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies to sell blended biofuels as per provide BIS Specifications.
