GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 927 ANSWERED ON 11.12.2023

BIOFUELS

927. SHRI IRANNA KADADI:

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

- (a) whether India is the fifth largest producer of biofuels in the world and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the way Government has utilised its G20 presidency to push for an international biofuels alliance on the pattern of International Solar Alliance and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Green Hydrogen fuel has been approved for use in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up twelve biorefineries to produce fuel from items like crop stubble, plant waste, and municipal solid waste in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a): India is one of the leading producers of biofuels in the world. The Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have procured ethanol from domestic producers and thereafter blended approx. 509 crore litres of ethanol in petrol during the Ethanol Supply Year (ESY) 2022-23 and procured 25.35 crore litres of bio-diesel for blending with diesel till October, 2023 in the financial year 2023-24. The Oil and Gas Marketing Companies (OGMCs) have sold 11,227 Tons of Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) during the period 2022-23 and 9,548 Tons of CBG during the period April, 2023 to October, 2023.

(b): Under India's G20 Presidency, Global Biofuels Alliance has been launched on the sidelines of G20 Summit on 10th September, 2023. The alliance has been expanding continuously. At present, there are 22 countries & 12 international organizations who are members of the alliance.

(c): Government has notified the use of hydrogen as automotive fuel for fuel cell vehicles on 16th September, 2016.

(d): Government has notified Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN (Jaiv Indhan - Vatavaran Anukool fasal awashesh Nivaran) Yojana for promoting Second Generation (2G) ethanol production from cellulosic and lignocellulosic biomass including petrochemical route in the country by providing financial support for setting up 2G ethanol bio-refineries. Under this Yojana, financial assistance to eight commercial 2G bio-refinery projects and four demonstration projects have been approved. One commercial 2G Bio-refinery set up by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. at Panipat (Haryana) has been dedicated to the nation on 10th August, 2022.
