

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 923
ANSWERED ON 27/07/2026

ETHANOL CONSUMED FOR BLENDING WITH PETROL BY OIL REFINERIES

923. SHRI ASHOK SINGH:

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

- (a) the total quantity of ethanol consumed for blending with petrol by oil refineries and marketing companies during the last twenty-four months till June, 2026;
- (b) the process of scrutiny of the quality of ethanol prior to blending and the parameters checked therein; and
- (c) whether any batch of ethanol has been rejected on account of quality concerns during the said period and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a): The total quantity of ethanol consumed for blending with petrol by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) during the last twenty-four months till June, 2026 is approximately 2030 crore litres.

(b): Ethanol procured by OMCs for blending with petrol need to meet the stringent quality control parameters as per the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) specifications conforming to IS 15464. The registered ethanol suppliers are required to supply denatured anhydrous ethanol to the Oil Marketing Companies under the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme by checking relevant parameters including ethanol content (purity) of minimum 99.6% by volume, water content, relative density, appearance, sulphur content etc. and dosing requisite quantity of denaturant. The ethanol suppliers are required to provide a test certificate meeting these requirements for every tank truck supplied.

Upon receiving the product at OMC terminal/Depot the process to scrutinize and store ethanol to maintain its quality prior to blending are as under:

- i. Storage: Ethanol tanks must be segregated, water-free, and cleaned (once every 2 years or as needed), with cleaning certificates maintained and dates marked on the manhole cover.
- ii. Batch Formation Test: After first receipt in a new/cleaned tank, samples are tested as per the Industry Quality Manual. Product is released for blending only after confirmation that it meets the quality specifications.
- iii. Moisture Protection: Tanks are fitted with a silica gel vent trap. The fittings are kept airtight using Teflon tape/gaskets.
- iv. Dormancy Check: If stock is dormant for more than three months, sample is retested before use.

- v. Routine Monitoring: Monthly samples are tested
 - vi. Reconciliation: Daily reconciliation of ethanol stock vs. blended quantity is done and corrective action on deviations is taken, if any.
 - vii. On receipt of the tank truck samples is drawn from top and bottom of each compartment of the TT and the samples are tested for visual appearance, relative density/specific gravity at 15.6/15.6 °C, colour, ethanol content by percent volume, hydrocarbon contamination check.
- (c): OMCs have informed that during the period 01.07.2024 to 30.06.2026 a total of 302 tank trucks carrying approximately 10,500 kilo litres of ethanol were rejected on an All-India basis due to not meeting quality parameter(s) as per tender specifications on Ethanol procurement.
