

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2195
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1st JANUARY, 2018

PRODUCTION OF ETHANOL

2195. SHRIMATI VANAROJA R.:

SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to start 15 industries for second generation ethanol and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the ethanol can be easily produced from cotton straw, wheat straw, rice straw, bagasse and bamboo and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the ethanol is an alternative fuel which is import substitute, cost effective and pollution free and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to promote the use of bio-fuel in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has launched any research programme to reduce expenditure of bio-fuel and make its commercial use easy and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री
(श्री धर्मन्द्र प्रधान)

**MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI
DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a) : In December, 2014, the Government allowed Second Generation (2G) route for procurement of ethanol. Oil PSUs have planned to establish twelve 2G Ethanol bio-refineries in 11 States of the country. They have also entered into Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with State Governments and Technology Providers for setting up five 2G ethanol bio-refineries. On 25.12.2016, foundation stone of the first 2G ethanol bio-refinery to be set up by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited in Bathinda, Punjab, has been laid.

(b) & (c): Ethanol is an alternative fuel which can be produced from starch containing materials, molasses and cellulosic and lignocellulosic feedstock

such as cotton straw, wheat straw, rice straw, bagasse and bamboo. It has higher octane than petrol and burns slowly and completely resulting in reduced emissions.

(d) : Government has taken following steps to promote use of biofuels in the country :

(i) The Government, through Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), is implementing the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme under which, OMCs sell ethanol blended petrol with percentage of ethanol upto 10%.

(ii) The Government has also opened 2G route for procurement of ethanol; and

(iii) In June, 2017, the Government has allowed direct sale of Biodiesel (B-100) for blending with High Speed Diesel to all consumers, in accordance with the specified blending limits and the standards specified by the Bureau of Indian Standards.

(e): Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology has been supporting Research and Development in Biofuels. R&D Wings of Public Sector OMCs are also taking up research projects on biofuels.
