

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1240**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2023**

**Conversion of Land**

**1240. SHRI PRADYUT BORDOLOI:**

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether the Government is taking steps to prevent the excessive conversion of land under cultivation of feedstock-agricultural products into ethanol land;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of the concerns of the experts that such change in the land-use pattern would affect the food security of India;
- (c) if so, the details of the measures taken by the Government to prevent the aforementioned menace;
- (d) whether any monetary subsidy is given to OEMs (Original Equipment Manufacturers or Automobile Manufacturers), who invest in the internal combustion engine value chain suitable for ethanol blending and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any research has been undertaken by the Government on the need of converting cultivable land for ethanol-producing crops cultivation; and
- (f) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री  
(श्री रामेश्वर तेली)

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

(a) to (c): As per the Seventh Schedule of Constitution of India, land comes under the purview of State Governments and, therefore, it is for them to take suitable steps to tackle the problems of conversion of agricultural land for other purposes. However, Government of India supplements all efforts of States, through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support.

The Government is already implementing National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), which provides an overarching policy framework for climate actions in the country with eight Missions. Under the aegis of the NAPCC, the National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture is anchored by the Ministry of Agriculture and

Farmers Welfare. This focuses on the agriculture sector with the objectives of resource conservation, restoration of soil fertility and productivity. The focus is on integrated farming, water use efficiency and soil health management, especially in rainfed agriculture areas. Drought tolerant and water logging tolerant varieties/hybrids of different crops have also been developed and released by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

(d): A Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme is being implemented by Ministry of Heavy Industries for Automobile and Auto Component Industry with a total budgetary outlay of Rs. 25,938/- Crore for a period of 5 years. The scheme incentivizes Electric Vehicles and Advanced Automotive Technology products including Flex Fuel Engine and its components.

(e) & (f): The Task Force on sugarcane and sugar industry constituted under the Chairmanship of Member (Agriculture), Niti Aayog, as outlined in the Roadmap for Ethanol Blending in India 2020-25 has recommended diversification towards more environmentally sustainable crops for ethanol production like cereals, maize, etc.

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