

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 175
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18th November, 2019

National Policy on Biofuels

†175. SHRI CHANDESHWAR PRASAD:
SHRI K. NAVASKANI:
SHRI FEROZE VARUN GANDHI:
SHRI A. RAJA:
SHRI UNMESH BHAIYYASAHEB PATIL:
SHRI BALUBHAU ALIAS SURESH NARAYAN DHANORKAR:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) the salient features of the National Policy on Biofuels-2018 including the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised under this policy since its inception in the country along with the present status of the infrastructural investment in rural areas under this policy, State/UT-wise including Tamil Nadu;
- (b) whether the Government has increased the ethanol-blended petrol target across the country, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the target set/achieved and the details of the current ethanol production capacity by the sugar mills and plan to re-start the closed sugar mills in the country including Tamil Nadu;
- (c) the details of biogas and biofuel plants which are proposed to be set up, under the Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) Scheme along with the measures taken to promote the production and use of biogas and biofuel in the country;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to give permission for mixing ethanol in petrol at comprehensive level, if so, the details of estimated plan outlay including expenditure likely to be incurred in this regard; and
- (e) whether the Government is planning on bringing the programme to generate bio-diesel from edible oil, if so, the details of the plan along with the number of plants set up in the country including the number of companies involved through Public Private Partnership for manufacturing of bio-diesel, State/UT/Company-wise?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री
(श्री धर्मेन्द्र प्रधान)

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) Government has notified the new National Policy on Biofuels – 2018 on 08.06.2018. The salient features of the Policy are as under:

- (i) Categorization of biofuels as “Basic Biofuels” and “Advanced Biofuels”,
- (ii) Incentives, off-take assurance and viability gap funding for advanced biofuels,
- (iii) Allowing B-molasses, sugarcane juice, damaged food grains and surplus food grains for ethanol production,
- (iv) Setting up of supply chain mechanisms for biodiesel production from non-edible oilseeds, Used Cooking Oil, short gestation crops, and
- (v) Synergy of efforts by defining roles and responsibilities of all the concerned Ministries/Departments with respect to biofuels.

In line with National Policy on Biofuels, Government has approved “Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN (Jaiv Indhan- Vatavaran Anukool Fasal Awashesh Nivaran) Yojana” for providing financial support to Integrated Bio-Ethanol Projects using lignocellulosic biomass & other renewable feedstock, with a total financial outlay of Rs 1969.50 crore for the period 2018-19 to 2023-24.

(b) The ethanol blended petrol percentage has progressively increased from 1.53% in ethanol supply year (ESY) 2013-14 (December 2103 to November 2014) to 4.22% in ESY 2017-18. Presently, as on 11.11.2019, 180.80 crore litre of Ethanol has been procured against target of ethanol procurement of 225 crore litre for Ethanol Supply Year 2018-19. Department of Food & Public Distribution (DFPD) has informed that the total effective ethanol production capacity of the distilleries attached with the sugar mills in the country is about 355 crore litres per annum. DFPD has further informed that for reopening of closed public and cooperative sugar mills, responsibility lies with concerned State Governments/Union Territories. In case of private sugar mills, the entrepreneur has to take steps to reopen closed sugar mills.

(c) Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) scheme envisages establishing 5000 Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) plants across the country by 2023. Under this scheme, Oil Public Sector Undertakings have invited Expression of Interest (EoI) for procuring CBG from potential entrepreneurs and has offered an assured price for off take of CBG.

(d) 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% subject to its availability. OMCs procure ethanol for blending in petrol. In the current Ethanol Supply Year 2018-19, 180.80 crore litre of ethanol has been procured by OMCs upto 11.11.2019.

(e) To encourage procurement of biodiesel produced from Used Cooking Oil (UCO), OMCs have floated Expression of Interest (EoI) for setting up of biodiesel plants from UCO processing plants on 10.08.2019 across India for 100 locations. It was further extended to 200 locations on 10.10.2019.
