LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 98 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19th July, 2021

Pilot Projects for Ethanol

98. SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY: DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI: SHRIMATI CHINTA ANURADHA: SHRI ADALA PRABHAKARA REDDY: SHRI P.V. MIDHUN REDDY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched the E-100 pilot project for production and distribution of ethanol across the country;
- (b) if so, the details of this initiative and the aims and objectives thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is committed to meet its target of 20 per cent ethanol blending in petrol by 2025; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

- (a) & (b): E-100 pilot projects been launched at Pune city by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) on 5thJune, 2021. With a view to enhance fuel choice and facilitate sale of E-100 fuel, MoP&NG vide its order dated 22ndMarch, 2021 has amended the Motor Spirit and High Speed Diesel (Regulation of Supply, Distribution and Prevention of Malpractices) Order, 2005 by permitting the direct sale of Bio-ethanol (E100) by an oil company for use as standalone fuel or blending with motor spirit, for compatible automobiles to all consumers, in accordance with the standards specified by the Bureau of Indian Standards.
- (c) & (d): The Notified National Policy on Biofuels 2018, provided an indicative target of blending 20% ethanol in petrol by 2030. Government has undertaken several supply and demand side interventions since 2014 which has enabled improvement in ethanol blending from average 1.53% during Ethanol Supply Year (ESY) 2013-14 to 7.93% during ongoing ESY 2020-21 as on 12th July, 2021. An Interdepartmental Expert Committee under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary NITI Aayog has submitted a "Roadmap for Ethanol Blending in India 2020-25" which outlines the journey for 20% ethanol blending in the country. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has published a Notification dated 02nd June, 2021, wherein, it has been stated that OMCs shall sell ethanol blended petrol with percentage of ethanol upto 20% as per BIS Specifications in the whole of India and Union Territories and shall come into effect from 01st April, 2023.
