LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2432

TO BE ANSWERED ON 13th March, 2025

PROGRESS AND PROSPECTS OF METHANOL BLENDING IN TRANSPORTATION FUELS

2432. SHRI B Y RAGHAVENDRA:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) the current status of methanol blending in transportation fuels along with the details on the targets set under the methanol economy programme and the progress made so far;
- (b) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to enhance domestic methanol production and develop the necessary infrastructure for large-scale methanol blending in petrol and diesel; and
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any studies on the environmental and economic benefits of methanol blending, particularly in reducing emissions and lowering fuel costs and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुरेश गोपी)

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a) to (c) Under National Coal Gasification Mission, Government aims to produce syngas to boost domestic production of various chemicals and petrochemicals including methanol. Government has also introduced a financial incentive scheme to promote this initiative. Additionally, M15 (15% methanol-gasoline blend) fuel has been introduced on a pilot scale in April 2022 by Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) in Tinsukia, Assam. MD15 (15% methanol blended diesel) trials were also conducted jointly by NITI Aayog, the Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI), and Ashok Leyland. Government has not set any targets so far for methanol blending in transportation fuels. The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has mandated mass emission standards for newly manufactured gasoline vehicles equipped with spark-ignition engines designed to run on gasoline, a 15% methanol-gasoline blend (M15), an 85% methanol blend (M85), or pure methanol (M100), under the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989. No comprehensive study has been conducted by Government so far to assess the environmental and economic benefits of methanol blending.
