

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1939**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2025**

**PRODUCTION OF BIO-FUEL IN NUMALIGARH REFINERY LIMITED**

1939. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

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

- (a) whether any initiative has been taken by the Government to increase the productivity of biofuel in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the total amount invested in the biofuel project of Numaligarh Refinery Limited;
- (c) the name of the agency implementing the project of Numaligarh Refinery Limited;
- (d) the date on which the said project was initiated and the production is likely to be commenced;
- (e) the total cost of the project along with its present cost; and
- (f) the details of employments likely to be generated under this project?

**ANSWER**

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री  
(श्री सुरेश गोपी)

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

(a): The Government, under the National Policy on Biofuels, have been promoting blending of ethanol in petrol under the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme with multiple objectives, which *inter-alia* includes environmental sustainability, reduction of import dependence on crude oil, while saving foreign exchange and to promote domestic agriculture sector. Further, Government have launched SATAT (Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation) initiative across the country, with the aim of establishing an ecosystem for production and use of compressed biogas (CBG) from various waste/ bio-mass sources including agri-residue. Under this initiative CBG plants are set up across the country, based on the techno-commercial feasibility and feed stock availability.

Government, since 2014, have taken several measures to increase biofuel production across the country which *inter-alia* includes expansion of feedstock for production of ethanol, administered price mechanism for procurement of sugarcane based ethanol under the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme, lowered GST rate to 5% on ethanol for EBP Programme, Ethanol Interest Subvention Schemes (EISS), for ethanol production from molasses as well as grains, a dedicated subvention scheme for Cooperative Sugar Mills to convert existing sugarcane-based distilleries

into multi-feedstock plants for ethanol production, Long Term Offtake Agreements (LTOAs) by Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) with Dedicated Ethanol Plants (DEPs), etc.

Government have also notified the “Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN (Jaiv Indhan - Vatavaran Anukool fasal awashesh Nivaran) Yojana” to provide financial support for setting up Advanced Biofuels projects in the country using lignocellulosic biomass and other renewable feedstock.

(b) to (f): Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) is setting up a 2G bamboo based bio-refinery project in the state of Assam through a joint venture company, Assam Bio-Ethanol Private Limited (ABEPL). The project was approved in June, 2020 with a cost of Rs. 1750 crore and implemented through Engineers India Limited (EIL). The revised cost of project is Rs. 4930 crore against which an expenditure of Rs. 4200 crore has been incurred so far. The project has been mechanically completed and currently under advanced stage of commissioning. The total number of employment envisaged under this project is as under:

<b>Description</b>	<b>Direct Employment (Nos.)</b>	<b>Indirect Employment (Nos.)</b>	<b>Total (Nos.)</b>
Construction Phase	30	2000	2030
Operation Phase	150	50000	50150

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