

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 2568

ANSWERED ON:17.03.2022

Bamboo/Grain Ethanol Production Plants

Brijbhushan Sharan Singh

- (a)the details of bamboo and grain ethanol production plants in the country along with the quantum of ethanol produced therefrom;
- (b)whether the Government is planning to set up new bamboo ethanol/ethanol production plants;
- (c)if so, the details thereof along with cost appraisal and production estimates;
- (d)the details of data showing consumption of ethanol in the country during the last five years and the current year;
- (e)the details of trends in export and import of ethanol during the said period;
- (f)whether the Government has proposed any policy to encourage ethanol production and if so, the details thereof; and
- (g)the steps taken by the Government to spread awareness about bio-fuels?

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

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS

(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) to (c): The details of grain ethanol production plants in the country is at Annexure. The quantum of ethanol produced from grain ethanol production plants from Ethanol Supply Year (ESY) 2018-19 till date in the current ESY 2021-22 is 78.21 crore litres. Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) is setting up a Second Generation (2G) ethanol plant of 185 KLPD at Numaligarh, Assam for converting bamboo biomass to ethanol at an estimated cost of Rs.3,250 crore.

(d): The consumption of ethanol under Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme in the country during the last five years and the current year is tabulated below:

Ethanol Supply Year (ESY) – period from December to November Procurement/Blended Quantity
(in crore litres)

2016-17 66.5

2017-18 150.5

2018-19 188.6

2019-20 173.0

2020-21 302.3

2021-22

(From 01.12.2021 to 06.03.2022) 102.8

(Contracted quantity for full ESY as on 06.03.2022 is 391.6 crore litres)

(e): Denatured ethanol of any strength used for fuel purpose including blending with petrol under Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme is under restricted category for export and import. The import and export of ethanol as biofuel is not allowed as per National Policy on Biofuel-2018.

(f): Government has notified interest subvention schemes during 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 for augmentation and enhancement of ethanol production capacity in the country. Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have signed long term ethanol off-take agreements with prospective project proponents to set up dedicated ethanol plants in deficit states. Government has also allowed multiple sugarcane and grain based feedstock for ethanol production, fixed feedstock wise remunerative ethanol procurement prices, amended Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for uninterrupted production, storage and movement of ethanol across the country and included ethanol meant for EBP Programme under lowest GST slab rate of 5% to increase production of ethanol and promote EBP Programme.

(g): With a view to spread awareness about biofuels, Government has, notified the National Policy on Biofuels – 2018 and has organized annual events like World Biofuel Day, World Environment Day, Exhibitions on biofuels, Conferences, Campaigns, Road & Talk-shows involving stakeholders, community members including farmers.
