

## **ETHANOL IN INDIA:**

## **STATUS, PLAN AND ROADMAP**

#### ABINASH VERMA DG, ISMA



# **Outline of presentation**

- Objectives of India's ethanol policy
- Capacity and quantity requirement by 2025
- Supply side comfort
- Demand side planning and challenges

# **Ethanol policy of India based on 5 pillars**

#### **INCOME OF FARMERS:**

- Timely payment of remunerative price to cane, corn & paddy farmers.
- Addresses surplus grain problem

#### IMPROVES AIR QUALITY

**Burns fuel better** 

**Reduces pollution** 

#### NEW INVESTMENTS & JOB CREATION

- New industries in rural areas
  - Job creation in villages
    - Less migration

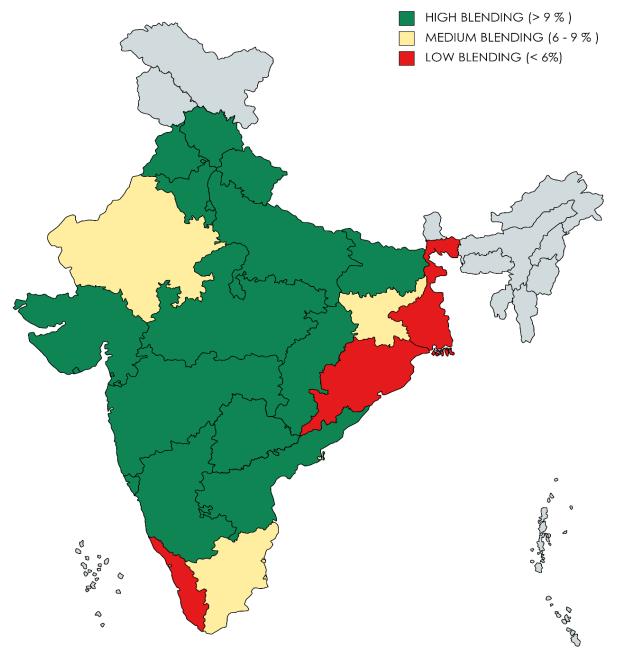
#### **DOMESTIC SUGAR INDUSTRY**

- Diversion of 6 million tons of surplus sugar into ethanol
- Improves Liquidity & Checks fall in sugar price.
  - Product Diversification

#### **"ATMANIRBHAR" BHARAT:** REDUCES OIL IMPORT BILL

- Replaces Petrol with domestically produced ethanol
- Saves foreign exchange

# State-wise blending levels currently



## **Required capacity for 20% blending by 2025**

Quantity requirement vis-à-vis Ethanol production capacities	Requirement of ethanol	Installed capacity Requirement	Current installed capacity (in 2021)	(In billion litres)
Total	10.50	12.00	6.00	
From sugarcane and molasses	6 to 6.50	6.50 to 7	5.25	
From grain and corn	4 to 4.50	5 to 5.50	0.75	

- With several incentives (by Government of India, and now several States), huge interest being shown by Investors to set up ethanol production capacities
- Around 800 projects have registered with the Government
- Some sugar companies also setting up dual feed ethanol plants, where corn and grains can be used in addition to sugarcane and molasses
- Therefore, by 2025, enough capacities expected to produce & supply 10 billion litres of ethanol

# Adequacy of feedstock for the 20% blending by 2025

- 6 to 6.5 billion litres of ethanol supplies from sugarcane and molasses:
  - Current supplies of 3 billion litres includes diversion of 2 million tons of sugar to ethanol
  - Diversion of another 5 million tons of the surplus sugar produced each year will give another around 3 billion litres
  - One can expect better cane yields and improved sugar recoveries in next 4 years
  - Enough feedstock to get around 6 to 6.5 billion litres from molasses & sugarcane by 2025
- 4 to 4.5 billion litres corn and grains
  - Will require around 16-17 million tons from corn and grains
  - Current yield of 3 tons per hectare gives around 28 million tons of corn (world average = 5 tons)
  - Increasing yields to the world average, India will produce another 18.5 million tons of corn
  - Government agencies overburdened with much more grains than above requirement

# The demand side

- Vehicles to take 20% ethanol blended petrol/gasoline (E-20 fuel)
- Flex fuel vehicles
- Existing vehicles designed to take E12 fuel

• Storage capacity at depots of Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs)

• Transportation ease of the ethanol across the country

• Infrastructure at the retail level, including dispensing facilities

## **E20 vehicles and production of FFVs**

- Government of India has announced that from April 2023
  - All new vehicles will be E20 compliant
- There is also news that Government will order for FFV production soon
  - If that is so, a significant part of the fleet of vehicles will run on 85% ethanol
- Plus, Government has fixed standards for E12 and E15
  - Which we expect to be rolled out over next 2-3 years
- Hence, by 2025, India will have a fleet of vehicles
  - E12-15 compliant, E20 compliant and FFVs

## How India can replace 20% petrol with ethanol by 2025

#### **Considering that by 2025:**

- All vehicles (2 wheelers and 4 wheelers) are E10 compliant or can even take E12 or E15
- 2. If every year, new vehicles replace 8% of total vehicular population
  - Then by 2025-26, around 25% of vehicles will be E20 compliant
- 3. If FFVs contribute for 15-20% of fleet by 2025-26, which take 4 times more ethanol than E20 vehicles

There is reason to believe India should be able to achieve the 80% - 20%

petrol – ethanol consumption in the country

## Tankage capacities with the Oil Companies

- As per Niti Aayog, (the think-tank for Government of India):
  - To handle 10 billion litres of ethanol annually, by 2025,
  - The tankage capacity with OMCs should be 450 million litres
- OMCs are continuously increasing its tankage/storage capacities
  - From 54 million litres in Nov. 2017, increased to 170 million litres in Dec. 2020
  - Capacity increase to 270 million litres has already been planned (and is 'work in progress')

Therefore, industry is hopeful that by 2025, the increase to 450 million

litres will be achieved

## Transportation challenges and high costs of transportation

- 80% of sugarcane and molasses based ethanol produced is from 3 States only
  - Hence the need to transport ethanol over long distances
- Government's encouragement to grain/corn based ethanol
  - Will help produce ethanol in non-sugarcane based States/regions
  - That in turn reduces need to move ethanol over longer distances
- Decision soon to increase blend levels to E12 and E15 till India reaches E20 by 2025
  - In addition to increasing demand, will reduce need to move ethanol over long distances
- Railways will soon need to step in
  - As also how pipelines can be used to move ethanol

# Infrastructure at the retail level

- By 2025, it is expected that there will be petrol/gas stations with:
  - E10 as the base fuel (pure petrol may no longer be sold)
  - E20 dispenser for the E20 complaint vehicles
  - In most of the States, dispensers to give out e12 and E15 fuel (with mixers at the retail pumps)
  - Pure ethanol for the FFVs
- Policy from the Government and OMCs to have differential prices for different blend levels
  - To account for the efficiency levels for higher blends
  - Give incentives to consumers for the use of FFVs and E20 vehicles

# Concluding .....

- The production and supply side of ethanol seems to be moving well
- On demand and consumption side, following challenges need to be addressed
  - Production of Flex Fuel Vehicles
  - Tankage capacity of depots of OMCs
- A mid-way target of E12 and E15 by 2023 and 2024
- Dual dispensers at retail petrol pumps/ outlets from 2023
  - E10 and E20 fuel, incl. E100 dispensers as also mixers to give out E12 and E15 from 2022
  - Differential pricing of different fuel blends for difference in efficiencies
- Incentives for E20 vehicles and FFVs
- Educating consumers on benefits of ethanol, E10 and E20 fuel

# **THANK YOU**