

**Ethanol-blended petrol**

†2584. SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

- (a) Whether it is a fact that Government has permitted oil companies to blend ethanol in petrol;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is contemplating on increasing the percentage of ethanol in petrol;
- (d) whether Government has received any kind of suggestion in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, *vide* its notification dated 20th September, 2006, further superseded by notification dated 1st September, 2010, directed the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to sell Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) as per Bureau of Indian Standards specifications, in the entire country except the North-Eastern States, Jammu and Kashmir, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshdweep, with effect from 1st November, 2006.

(c) to (e) The Government has decided on 16.08.2010 that ethanol made available by the indigenous ethanol manufacturers, at the price declared by the competent authority, would be blended under the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme upto a limit of 10%.

MoPNG has received representations from Ethanol Manufacturers' Association (EMAI) and also from Members of Parliament (Lok Sabha) for increasing blending percentage of ethanol in petrol under EBP Programme.

However, subject to the availability of ethanol, the EBP dispensed contains 5% ethanol. This Programme is running in 13 States & 3 UTs. Only after achieving the target of 5% EBP Programme fully in these States/UTs, Ethanol blending programme can be increased upto 10%, in phases subject to availability of Ethanol.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

In a bid to ease availability of Ethanol, State Governments have been requested to simplify procedures and expedite clearances to ease the availability of Ethanol for the EBP Programme.

#### **Export of petroleum products to Pakistan**

2585. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has offered to export petroleum products to Pakistan;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposal;
- (c) whether Indian refineries will construct pipelines for delivery of petroleum products to Pakistan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) and (b) Pursuant to the decisions taken in the 5th Round of Talks on Commercial and Economic Cooperation between the Commerce Secretaries of India and Pakistan held in Islamabad on 27-28 April, 2011, a 'Group of Experts' to Expand Trade in Petroleum Products between India and Pakistan' was constituted.

The objective of the Experts' Group is to initiate and substantially expand trade in petroleum products between the two countries. The group would, *inter-alia*, discuss the trade arrangements, building of cross border pipelines and use of road/rail route, including the Munabao-Khokrapar route.

The First Meeting of the Experts' Group on Trade in Petroleum & Petrochemical Products between India and Pakistan was held on 17-18 July, 2012 at New Delhi.

Both sides agreed to take up infrastructure and logistics related issues with their respective authorities like Department of Posts, Railways, Finance, Home Affairs etc. in order to boost trade between the two countries.

(c) and (d) At present, the Government does not have any specific proposal to construct pipelines connecting India and Pakistan for transportation of petroleum products.