

Benchmark price for ethanol purchase

2136. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU : Will the MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Sugar Mill Owners are opposing the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) proposal on fixation of bench mark price for procuring ethanol for blending with petrol;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to assimilate the differences between OMCs and Sugar Mill Owners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) to (c) The Government has decided on 22.11.2012 that 5% mandatory ethanol blending with petrol should be implemented across the country and the procurement price of ethanol would be decided between Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and suppliers of ethanol. Accordingly, OMCs are purchasing ethanol for EBP Programme on tender basis, and with reference to the Benchmark Price fixed by them.

An Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) has also been constituted to review the existing formula of benchmark price and to arrive at a formula that may be objective and fair to all stakeholders.

Delay in commissioning of Paradeep refinery project

2137. DR. CHANDAN MITRA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of progress of work on Paradeep Refinery project;

(b) the reasons for inordinate delay in commissioning of Paradeep Refinery Project; and

(c) the time by which the Refinery is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) : (a) At present, the project