

Target for ethanol blending with petrol

449. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the year-wise details of percentage of ethanol blended in petrol during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) whether there is any concrete plan before the Ministry to achieve 10 per cent target of ethanol blended with petrol;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) what are the reasons that Government could blend just three per cent of ethanol with petrol in 2013-14; and
- (e) to what extent some of the States are not permitting production of fuel ethanol or delaying in permissions for the same is impacting the goal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The details of percentage of ethanol blended by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) during the last three sugar years and current sugar year (till 18th April, 2016) is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) In order to scale up blending target upto 10 per cent, the Government has taken following steps:

- (i) The Government has fixed the delivered price of ethanol in the range of ₹ 48.50 per litre to ₹ 49.50 per litre.
- (ii) Ethanol produced from other non-food feedstocks besides molasses, like cellulosic and ligno cellulosic materials including petrochemical route, have been allowed to be procured.
- (iii) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, on 1st September, 2015, has *inter-alia* asked OMCs to target ten per cent blending of ethanol in Petrol in as many States as possible.
- (iv) The procedure of procurement of ethanol under the EBP has been simplified to streamline the entire ethanol supply chain.
- (v) Excise Duty has been waived on ethanol supplies to OMCs for EBP by sugar mills during 2015-16.

(d) and (e) As per present Policy, only ethanol produced from molasses route is procured for the EBP Programme.

Further, ethanol production, storage and its movement is controlled by State Excise Departments.

The challenges in achieving the targets are:

- (i) Limited molasses availability for ethanol production.
- (ii) Limited ethanol making capacities with the sugar industry/distilleries,
- (iii) Production of ethanol in only few Sugar producing States.
- (iv) Difficulties in inter and intra State movement of ethanol due to State specific issues like delay in excise permissions, imposition of import/export duties and taxes.
- (v) Limited ethanol storage capacity with distilleries and OMCs.

Statement

The details of percentage of ethanol blended by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) during the last three sugar years and current sugar year

Sugar Year	Blend percentage
2012-13	0.67%
2013-14	1.53%
2014-15	2.33%
2015-16	3.50%
(as on 18.4.2016)	

Allocation of adequate iron ore mines to Visakhapatnam steel plant

450. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any request from Andhra Pradesh Government to allocate adequate iron ore mines to the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto; and

(c) if not, whether the Centre will consider *suo-moto* allocation of iron ore mines to Vizag plant to meet its demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI VISHNU DEO SAI): (a) As informed by Ministry of Mines no proposal has been received from Andhra Pradesh Government to allocate adequate iron ore mines to the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant.