

[17 August, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) During the visit of the Indian delegation of hydrocarbon sector to Libya in June 2004, the National Oil Corporation (NOC) of Libya welcomed Indian oil companies bidding for the forthcoming offer of exploration blocks, under the fourth round of Exploration and Production Sharing Agreement (EPSA-IV), as well as for revamping and modernization of Azzawia and Ras Lanuf refineries.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Some countries have expressed interest in upgradation of their oil refineries by Indian companies. A list of these countries is given in the statement.

Statement

Refinery upgradation/revamping proposals

Sl.No.	Name of the Country	Refinery	Indian PSUs involved
1.	Algeria	Skikda & Algiers Refineries (Project Management Service)	EIL
2.	Bangladesh	Bangladesh Refinery	HPCL
3.	Iran	Tehran and Tabriz Refineries	IOC & EIL
4.	Libya	Ras Lanuf and Azzawia Refineries	IOC & EIL
5.	Myanmar	Thanlyin Refinery	IOC
6.	Sudan	Port Sudan Refinery	ONGC-Videsh
7.	Yemen	Aden Refinery	IOC

Production of Ethanol

1419. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to maximise the production of ethanol out of sugarcane as a substitute of petroleum and or diesel;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) With a view to giving a boost

to the agriculture sector and reducing environmental pollution, Government have introduced a programme to supply ethanol-blended petrol in 10 sugar producing States and 4 contiguous Union Territories, subject to the availability of ethanol at reasonable prices. The programme is being implemented in the States of Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal, in 21 Districts of Andhra Pradesh and in 9 Districts of Tamil Nadu and in the Union Territories of Chandigarh, Dadra Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu. The future road map for the ethanol blended petrol programme is dependent on assured availability of ethanol at economic prices.

Ethanol is a derivative of sugarcane molasses which is a decontrolled item, and no industrial license or permission from the Central Government is necessary for production of ethanol. However, the Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982 and Sugar Development Fund (SDF) Rules, 1983, as amended from time to time, provide for extending loans to any sugar factory, or any unit thereof for production of anhydrous alcohol or ethanol from alcohol with a view to improving viability. The Act and Rules are administered by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.

Introduction of Bharat-II Emission Norms

1420. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to introduce Bharat Stage-II emission norms in the entire country by April, 2005; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the road map laid down in the Auto Fuel Policy approved by the Government, Bharat Stage-II compliant fuel and new vehicles would be introduced in the entire country with effect from 1st April, 2005. The oil companies are implementing suitable fuel quality upgradation programmes to achieve the laid down fuel quality by the designated date.