

which proposes an indicative target of 20% blending of ethanol in petrol by year 2030. The policy lists potential domestic raw materials for ethanol production including Damaged Food Grains (DFG) which are unfit for human consumption, apart from sugarcane based raw materials.

After the notification of this policy in 2018, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) started procurement of ethanol produced from DFG route apart from other sugarcane based sources.

The status of the responses to the ethanol procurement tender floated under Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme during Ethanol Supply Years (ESY) (1st December to 30th November) 2018-19 & 2019-20 by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) are as under:

| ESY | Contracted Quantity from DFG route (crore litre) | Procurement from DFG route (crore litre) |
|---------------------------|--|--|
| 2018-19 | 16.78 | 9.51 |
| 2019-20 (upto 07.09.2020) | 16.83 | 7.79 |

For ESY 2019-20, OMCs contracted for 191 crore litre of ethanol for procurement from different sources for blending in petrol out of which 16.83 crore litres are contracted from DFG route for the ESY 2019-20.

Losses suffered by oil companies

1254. DR. FAUZIA KHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the oil companies are running into heavy losses despite increase in the prices of petrol, diesel and LPG;
- (b) if so, the company-wise estimated loss suffered by the oil companies over the last five years; and
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to offset the losses suffered by these companies?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.