

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3262
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24th March, 2021**

Biofuels from surplus from FCI

3262. SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry initiated a programme to produce biofuels from the surplus rice and maize available with the Food Corporation of India (FCI), if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the quantity of biofuels produced or planned to be produced from rice or maize, the quantity of rice and maize to be used for such production (per 100 litres of biofuel);
- (c) the cost of production of the biofuels produced per 100 litres and the usage of such fuel in various industries; and
- (d) the details of the National Biofuel Policy and the progress thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a) & (b): The National Policy on Biofuels – 2018 *inter-alia* allows the use of surplus food grains for production of ethanol for blending with petrol with the approval of National Biofuel Coordination Committee (NBCC). The NBCC in its meeting held on 20.04.2020 and 09.11.2020 has allowed the production of ethanol from surplus rice available with the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and maize respectively for blending with petrol under Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) programme.

Based on the offers received during Ethanol Supply Year (ESY) 2020-21, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have allocated 41.91 crore litre of ethanol to be procured from surplus rice, Damaged Food Grains (DFG) unfit for human consumption and maize. DFPD has informed that the ethanol yield from one tonne of maize and rice is 380 and 450 litres respectively. Thus to produce 100 litres of ethanol, about 2.22 quintals of rice or about 2.63 quintals of maize is required to be used.

(c): The cost of production of ethanol from any feedstock including rice or maize depends upon number of factors viz. quality of feedstock, efficiency of plant, cost of other inputs etc.. This bio-ethanol produced from these feedstock is being used by OMCs for blending in petrol under the EBP Programme.

(d): The notified National Policy on Biofuels-2018 dated 04.06.2018 aims to achieve the goals by (a) reinforcing ongoing ethanol/bio-diesel supplies through increasing domestic production, (b) setting up Second Generation (2G) bio-refineries, (c) development of new feedstock for Biofuels from cellulosic and lignocelluloses route including petrochemical route, (d) development of new technologies for conversion to biofuels (e) creating suitable environment for biofuels and its integration with the main fuels. Due to the above policy initiatives taken by the Government, ethanol procurement has increased from 38 crore litre in ESY 2013-14 to 173.03 crore litre in ESY 2019-20.
