BIHAR AS DESTINATION OF ETHANOL PRODUCTION

949. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Bihar has abundant water, maize, broken rice and cheap labour which makes it a top destination for ethanol production;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Initial positive intent was shown by 152 units with the intended capacity of 23,000 Kilo Litre Per Day (KLPD);

(c) whether OMCs have issued long term off take agreements to only 17 units with the approved capacity of 1,080 KLPD which is only 5 per cent of initial intention; and

(d) whether Government will increase the present quota from 36 crore litre/annum to 72 crore litre immediately?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS

(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)

(a) to (d): Expression of Interest (EoI) for signing long term off take/bipartite agreement with upcoming dedicated ethanol plants in ethanol deficit States including Bihar for supply of denatured anhydrous ethanol was floated by Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) in August, 2021. The total estimated annual requirement of Bihar based on E20 scenario (i.e. blending 20% of ethanol in petrol) in 2025-26 is approximately 30.7 crore litres. After considering the annual availability from existing ethanol plants, a deficit requirement of 18.5 crore litres per annum was published in the EoI.

In response to the EoI, 29 project proponents applied for the State of Bihar with a design capacity of 5600 Kilo litres per day/approximately 182.85 crore litre per annum.

Long Term Offtake Agreements (LTOA) were signed during January, 2022 with 17 project proponents from Bihar with annual off take quantity of 34.62 crore litres which is already higher than the annual requirement of 18.5 crore litres published in the EoI.

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