

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 782**  
ANSWERED ON 29.07.2024

**Introduction of bio-fuels**

782. DR. AJEET MADHAVRAO GOPCHADE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 1682 given in the Rajya Sabha on 12/03/2013 and state:

- (a) the updated status of the steps being taken by the Ministry for introduction of bio-fuels as a suitable alternative to the petroleum products;
- (b) the details of the achievements made in this regard, so far;
- (c) whether the Ministry has approached the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare to increase cultivation of bio-fuel crops; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS  
(SHRI SURESH GOPI)

(a): To promote the use of biofuels as a suitable alternative to petroleum products, the National Policy on Biofuels-2018, as amended in 2022, envisages a target of 20% ethanol blending by Ethanol Supply Year (ESY) 2025-26 under the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme, 5% blending of biodiesel in diesel/direct sale of biodiesel by 2030. Government has also launched Sustainable Alternative towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiative under which Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) is marketed along with Compressed Natural Gas (CNG).

(b): Under EBP Programme, the blending of ethanol with petrol has increased from 38 crore litres in ESY 2013-14 to approx. 500 crore litres in ESY 2022-23 with corresponding increase in blending percentage from 1.53% to 12.06%. During the current ESY 2023-24, the blending percentage has already crossed

13%. The biodiesel blending percentage has also increased over the years. Under SATAT, seventy one (71) CBG plants with capacity of about 450 tonne per day (TPD) have been commissioned and 59 projects with capacity of about 344 TPD are under construction.

(c) & (d): The National Policy on Biofuels (NPB), 2018 *inter-alia*, permits use of biomass based on sugar and starch containing agricultural crops for production of biofuels. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, under its National Food Security Mission, *inter-alia* promotes area expansions & productivity enhancement of some of these crops.

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