

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3477

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2003

MIXING OF ETHANOL IN PETROL

MANSINH PATEL;PRAKASH V. PATIL;PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;RAMESH CHENNITHALA;SHIVAJI MANE;SURESH PASI;YEMPARALA VENKATESWARA RAO

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

- (a) whether the Government had made it compulsory for nine sugarcane-producing States and Union Territories for mixing 5% ethanol in petrol from January 1, 2003;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has now decided to introduce the same from June 1, 2003;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether India has the potential to produce required ethanol from domestic sources for meeting the future requirement;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether the price of imported ethanol is less than the price of indigenously produced ethanol; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a to d): Initially Government mandated supply of only 5% ethanol-blended-petrol in the 9 States of Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu & Uttar Pradesh and the 4 Union Territories of Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Pondicherry with effect from 1.1.2003. However, due to setting up of infrastructure to manufacture anhydrous ethanol, Government of India permitted sale of only 5% ethanol-blended-petrol in the entire areas of these 9 States and 4 Union Territories by 30.6.2003

(e & f): During the meeting taken by the MOP&NG, Sugar and Distillery Industries as well as the major sugar producing State confirmed availability of sufficient quantities of feedstock such as molasses for manufacture of ethanol.

(g & h): Since the basic objective of the Government is to develop indigenously available renewable source of energy and help the sugarcane farmers, import of ethanol is not being contemplated.