

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2471
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2013
NATIONAL BIO FUEL COORDINATION COMMITTEE
Singh Shri Ratan;Singh Dr. Sanjay

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has set up a National bio-fuel Coordination Committee;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with its aims and objectives;
- (c) whether regular meetings of the Committee are being held as per rules;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the fresh steps taken by the Government to raise the blending of Bio-fuels with petrol and diesel to 20 per cent by the year 2017 as envisaged in the National Policy on Bio-fuel?

Answer

MINISTER FOR NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): The National Biofuel Coordination Committee (NBCC) headed by the Prime Minister has been constituted for providing High-level co-ordination and policy guidance / review on different aspects of biofuel development.

(c)&(d): No meeting of the NBCC has been held so far as the implementation of National Biofuel Policy has been reviewed in three meetings of the Biofuel Steering Committee. Further, the issues related to the bioethanol blending have also been considered at various meetings of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.

(e): Some of the recent initiatives for raising the blending of biofuels with petrol and diesel are as follows:

i. In pursuance of the Government decision, the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas issued a notification on January 2, 2013 directing the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to sell Petrol blended with upto 10% ethanol as per Bureau of Indian Standards specifications to achieve 5% ethanol blending for the country as a whole.

ii. The procurement price of bioethanol is now being determined by the OMCs through market mechanism.

iii. As per the existing policy for procurement of bio-diesel by the OMCs, the procurement price has been revised to Rs.39.00 per litre with effect from April, 2013.

iv. Various Ministries and Departments of the Government continue to support intensive research on development of improved varieties of Jatropha and production of biofuels from ligno-cellulosic feedstocks.