

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1549
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12th FEBRUARY, 2019

PRODUCTION OF ETHANOL

1549. SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN: SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:
SHRI S. RAJENDRAN:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the total quantum of production of ethanol in the country during each of the last three years and the estimated production in the current year;
- (b) whether the Government targets on production of ethanol blended fuel are being met, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the ethanol produced from molasses instead of sugarcane is more useful and beneficial and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the production of ethanol directly from sugarcane is permitted in the country and if so, the details thereof along with the name of major mills which are producing ethanol directly from sugarcane; and
- (e) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to increase the production of ethanol and promote its usage in the country?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a): Ethanol produced from molasses in the country is primarily used for supply under Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme. During last three ethanol years (December-November) i.e. 2015-2016, 2016-2017 & 2017-2018, ethanol supplies under EBP have been respectively 111 crore litres, 66.5 crore litres and 151 crore litres. During current ethanol year 2018-2019; contracts for supply of about 235 crore litres of ethanol have so far been finalized.

(b): As indicated in reply to part (a) above, the production and supply of ethanol during last ethanol year i.e. 2017-2018 was about 151 crore litres as against the required target of 314 crore litres. The shortfall has been mainly due to shortage of ethanol production capacity in the country.

(c): The fuel grade ethanol has specified purity level of 96.6% or above. For the purpose of blending, there is no difference between the ethanol produced either from molasses or directly from sugarcane juice.

(d): As per National Policy on Bio-Fuels -2018, fuel grade ethanol is now allowed to be produced directly from sugarcane juice. Suitable amendments to this effect have also been made in the Sugarcane (Control) Order, 1966 vide Notification No. S.O. 3663(E)/Ess.Com./Sugarcane dated 26.07.2018. As per information available in this Department, M/s Shree Tatyasaheb Kore Warana Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Limited, Maharashtra and M/s Shree Renuka Sugars Limited, Athani, Karnataka are producing ethanol directly from sugarcane juice.

(e): Under the Scheme for Extending Financial Assistance to Sugar Mills for Enhancement & Augmentation of Ethanol Production Capacity, 114 proposals for enhancement/augmentation of ethanol production capacity have been accorded in-principle approval for availing loan from banks amounting to Rs. 6139.08 Crore for which interest subvention of Rs. 1332 Crore shall be borne by the Government. Besides, the Government has also notified remunerative price @ Rs. 43.46/litre for supply of ethanol produced from C-Heavy molasses under EBP. Separately, remunerative prices for ethanol produced from B-Heavy molasses and sugarcane juice have also been fixed @ Rs. 52.43/litre and Rs. 59.13/litre respectively.
