

Reply to Parliament Question No 10674 for 19.12.2024 for Rajya Sabha regarding “Boosting 2G Ethanol Production to reduce oil imports” in respect of Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL):

Q no. (a): whether it is a fact that the Government is considering boosting 2G ethanol production and setting up enzyme manufacturing facilities to reduce oil imports;

Reply: Ministry to reply.

[NRL is executing a 2G bio-refinery project in the state of Assam through its Joint Venture Company Assam Bio-Ethanol Pvt. Limited (ABEPL). NRL owns 50% share in the JV company – ABEPL and remaining 50% equity is shared between two Finnish companies viz. M/s Fortum BV3 of Netherland and M/s Chempolis Oy of Finland.

The formicobio technology of M/s Chempolis is the technology provider for the bio refinery as process technology in which selectively fractionate biomass is being converted into ethanol, biochemicals and energy. The plant shall have capacity to process 300 TMT of Bamboo (Bone Dry) and will produce 50 TMTPA of Advance bio-fuel (ethanol) along with platform chemicals Furfural (18.6 TMTPA) and Acetic Acid (11 TMTPA).]

Q no. (b): if so, the details thereof;

Reply: Ministry to reply.

[The details are provided in the reply of ‘a’ above.]

Q no. (c): whether it is a fact that India will need 13.5 billion litre of ethanol annually by 2025-26, if so, the details thereof;

Reply: Ministry to reply.

Q no. (d): whether it is true that all Government asked all the public sector oil marketing companies to put up ethanol plants for ethanol manufacturing; and

Reply: Ministry to reply.

Q no. (e): if so, the details thereof?

Reply: Ministry to reply.

Note for Supplementary:

Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) is a Public Sector Enterprise with a 3.0 MMTPA petroleum refinery at Numaligarh in Golaghat district of Assam. Present shareholding pattern of NRL is Oil India Limited (OIL) – 69.63%, Govt. of Assam (GoA) – 26% and Engineers India Ltd (EIL) – 4.37%.