

Reply to Parliament Question No 2599 for 10.03.2025 for Rajya Sabha regarding “Establishment of Biofuel Projects under PM G-VAN Yojana” in respect of Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL):

Q no. (a): the details of the number of proposals sent and proposed establishment of biofuel projects under PM G-VAN Yojana, particularly from the state of Rajasthan;

Reply: Ministry to reply.
[Numaligarh Refinery 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 and M/s Chempolis. M/s Chempolis is also the technology provider for the bio-refinery. Bio-refinery will produce 50 TMTPA of Advance bio-fuel (ethanol) from 300 TMTPA of dry bamboo. The project is being supported under Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN yojana.]

Q no. (b): the details of financial assistance allocated and disbursed till date of the approved biofuel projects supported under PM G-VAN; and

Reply: Ministry to reply.
[NRL’s bio ethanol has been granted of Rs. 150 crore by Central Govt. under Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN yojana. Two tranches, amounting to 50% of the sanctioned amount (i.e., Rs. 75 Crores), have been disbursed to ABEPL upon the successful achievement of two key milestones.]

Q no. (c): the details of the actual progress of selected projects and their actual timeline of completion and whether there has been any delay in the completion of biofuel projects, if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to mitigate delay?

Reply: Ministry to reply.
[The first trial run has been conducted successfully to establish conversion of bamboo to alcohol. During the trial run, bamboo was successfully processed through the digester, bamboo washing section, enzymatic hydrolysis and fermentation sections. The 2G bio-ethanol project at Numaligarh is set to become fully operational by the first quarter of 2025-26.
The project was delayed by 42 months due to new technology and scaling up for commercial production, limited vendors in many packages / equipment due to new technology. Exploring vendors also taken lot of time, import of exotic materials like Titanium, Duplex and Super Duplex resulted in delay in delivery, etc. The project was closely supervised and monitored at the highest levels of authority by the Government of India, with periodic reviews conducted to ensure its progress and alignment with national priorities.]

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%.
