

Reply to Parliament Question No 6089 for 08.08.2024 for Lok Sabha regarding “Increase in Blending of Ethanol” in respect of Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL):

Q no. (a): the details of different kind of feed-stocks permitted for use in ethanol;

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-Refinery Pvt. Limited (ABRPL). The plant will have a production capacity of 185 KL of ethanol per day and will consume 300 TMT of dry bamboo annually as feedstock.]

Q no. (b): whether it is true that average blending of ethanol has gone up from 38 crore litre in 2103-14 to 302 core litre in 2020-21, however the percentage increase is only from 1.5% in 2013-14 to 8% in 2020-21 indicating that the average increase during seven years is not even 1% annually;

Reply: Ministry to reply.

Q no. (c): if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

Reply: Ministry to reply.

Q no. (d): the percentage of ethanol blending between 2021-22 and 2023-24; and

Reply: Ministry to reply.

Q no. (e): the manner in which the Government proposes to push annual average increase to, at least, 3%, to achieve the target of 20% blending by 2030?

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%.

Numaligarh Refinery is executing a 2G bio-refinery project in the state of Assam through its Joint Venture Company Assam Bio-Refinery Pvt. Limited (ABRPL). NRL owns 50% share in the JV company – ABRPL 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 bio-fuel (ethanol) from 300 TMTPA of dry bamboo. The project is being supported under Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN yojana. The project is targeted to be commissioned in the month of August, 2024. It is

envisaged that Ethanol will substitute petrol to the same extent and thereby reduce import of crude required for production of petrol in the country.

* * * * *