Reply to Parliament Question No 774 for 16.12.2024 for Rajya Sabha regarding "Long Term Strategies to reduce dependence on Crude Oil Imports" in respect of Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL):

Q no. (a): **the steps taken by the Government for development of alternative fuels and green energy sources to enhance energy security in the country, the details thereof; and**

Reply: Ministry to reply.

[NRL is executing a 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 company and remaining 50% equity is shared between two 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 has been granted of Rs. 150 crore by Central Govt. under Pradhan Mantri JI-VAN yojana. 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 digestor, 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. 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.

NRL is also promoter with 20% equity share in the JV company Indradhanush Gas Grid Limited (IGGL) which is implementing the North East Gas Grid project. The project will connect all North East State capitals to the National Gas Grid.

Details of the project is as follows:

a. Project Cost - Rs. 9,265 Cr
b. Viability Gap Funding – Rs. 5,559 crores
c. Length of pipeline network – 1,656 km
d. Pipeline throughput – 4.75 mmscmd
e. Anticipated completion – March, 2025

Once implemented the project will ensure smooth supply of NG to all the NE states and help in ushering the states into Gas based economy and will help in rapid industrial development of the states.]

Q no. (b): **the long-term strategies being adopted by Government to reduce dependence on crude oil imports and the progress made as the result of these strategies so far, the details thereof?**

Reply: Ministry to reply.
[The details are provided in the reply of ‘a’ above.]

<u>Note for Supplementary</u>:

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%.

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