

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1380
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27th July, 2023

EXPORT AND IMPORT OF BIOFUELS

1380. SHRI RAVNEET SINGH BITTU:

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has imposed restrictions on the export and import of biofuels and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the Government has permitted the import of petroleum bitumen and other residues of petroleum oils and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the National Policy on biofuels, 2018 has been able to make progress to meet its indicative blending target of twenty per cent ethanol in petrol and five per cent biodiesel in diesel by 2030; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री
(श्री रामेश्वर तेली)

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)**

(a) & (b): To promote the production of biofuels in the country and to increase its availability, the Government has restricted the import and export of biofuels. Accordingly, the import of biofuels is "Restricted" under three Harmonized System (HS) codes of 22072000, 27102000 and 3826000. Further, import of Petroleum Bitumen and other residues is 'Free' which are covered under HS codes 27132000 and 27139000.

(c) & (d): To increase production and utilization of ethanol, the Government has taken several measures which includes expansion of feedstock for production of ethanol; administered price mechanism for procurement of ethanol under the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme; lowered GST rate to 5% on ethanol for EBP Programme; amendment in Industries (Development & Regulation) Act for free movement of ethanol across states for blending; interest subvention scheme for enhancement and augmentation of ethanol production capacity in the country; regular floating of Expression of Interest (EoI) by Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) for procurement of ethanol. The above measures resulted in increasing average blending percentage of ethanol in petrol from 4.22% in Ethanol Supply Year (ESY) 2017-18 to 11.77% during ongoing ESY 2022-23 (till 23.07.2023).
