



## ALTERNATIVE FUEL FOR TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS

### 10% BLENDING OF ETHANOL MANDATORY FROM THIS YEAR

Under alternative fuel for transportation systems, 10% Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) becomes mandatory from coming October. Earlier 5% blending of Ethanol with petrol was made mandatory by the Government since 9th October 2007 in the Country and 10% blending was made optional. During the last three years the Government has taken various steps to develop and promote use of alternative fuels like ethanol, bio-diesel and hydrogen for transport applications.

The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoP&NG) has mandated the use of 5% Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP), subject to commercial viability in the entire country with effect from 1st November 2006. Though North-Eastern States, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshdweep have been exempted. As a result, release of 5% EBP has commenced at all locations in 15 States and 4 Union Territories.

The modalities for implementation are being worked out by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas in consultation with stakeholders. A broad based programme for research & development, production and utilization of bio-diesel is under implementation by different Ministries.

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has also prepared a Draft National Policy on Bio-fuels. Under its ongoing Research, Development and Demonstration Programmes, MNRE has supported field trials of different blends of bio-diesel in diesel cars, use of hydrogen as fuel in motorcycles and three-wheelers and introduction of hydrogen - compressed natural gas (CNG) blends in different vehicles. In addition, support is also being provided for development & promotion of battery operated vehicles.