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Title: The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas laid a statement regarding Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 17th Report of Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas on 'Strategy for Development of alternative Sources of Oil and Gas', pertaining to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JITIN PRASADA): I beg to lay the Statement on the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Seventeenth Report of the Standing Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas (14th Lok Sabha) on 'Strategy for development of alternative sources of oil and gas' in pursuance of direction 73A of the hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha vide Lok Sabha Bulletin Part II dated September 01, 2004.

The Seventeenth Report of the Standing Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas (14th Lok Sabha) was presented to the Lok Sabha on 19.11.2007. The Report relates to the strategy for development of alternative sources of Oil and Gas.

Action Taken Statements on the recommendations/observations contained in the Report of the Committee had been sent to the Standing Committee on Petroleum & Natural Gas on 4.2.2009.

There are 33 recommendations made by the Committee in the said Report where action is called for on the part of the Government. These recommendations mainly pertain to issues like alternative fuels like ethanol and bio-diesel, assessment of the indigenous availability of ethanol in the country, major roadblocks in the successful implementation of the Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme, extension of 5% to 10% blending of ethanol, formulation of National Biofuel Policy, development of bio-fuels in the country, facilitating cultivation of Jatropha/Pongamia, R&D studies on alternative sources of energy, imparting training on Jatropha cultivation and bio-diesel extraction, Bio-fuel technologies, improved seed varieties, oil production, usages, etc, Coal Bed Methane (CBM) resources, Underground Coal Gasification (UCG), hydrogen-CNG blends, Solar energy etc.

Present status of implementation of various recommendations made by the Committee is indicated in the Annexure to my Statement, which is laid on the T a b l e o f t h e H o u s e . R e p l i e s o f Recommendations of the Standing Committee have been accepted by the Standing Committee. But some of the replies have not been accepted by the Standing Committee. However, Final replies have been submitted to the Standing Committee in respect of these remaining recommendations in 21st Report of Standing Committee. I would not like to take valuable time of the House by reading out all the contents of this Annexure. I request that this may be taken as read.
