

## Ethanol Blending Petrol (EBP) Programme

*Prelims: Current events of national and international importance*

### Why in news?

The Union Home Minister hailed the ethanol blending programme as a transformative initiative for India's sugar cooperatives and helps in promoting rural prosperity.

- **EBP** - It is an initiative aimed at increasing the proportion of ethanol in gasoline.
- The program promotes the blending of ethanol derived from sugarcane, maize and other agricultural feedstock with petrol.
- **Launched in** - 2003.
- **Nodal Ministry** - Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- **Objective** - To reduce the reliance on fossil fuel imports and decrease greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Target** - Target of 20% blending of ethanol with petrol by 2025.
- As of July 2025, India **achieved a 20%** of ethanol blend, from just 1.5% in 2014.
- **Framework for EBP** - ***National Biofuel Policy, 2009***, provides a framework for the implementation of EBP.
- **Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs)** - To sell Ethanol Blended Petrol subject to commercial viability as per Bureau of Indian Standards.
- **Coverage** - This programme has been extended to the whole of India except the Andaman Nicobar and Lakshadweep islands.

### Quick Fact

#### National Biofuel Policy

- **Launched** - In 2009
- Proposed a target of 20% blending of both biodiesel and bioethanol by 2017.
- The policy was revised in 2018 and 2022 to achieve **20% bioethanol blending** by 2025 and **5% biodiesel blending** by 2030.

#### Ethanol

- Ethanol is a colourless, combustible, and volatile liquid organic substance.
- It is one of the primary biofuels, naturally produced through the fermentation of sugars by yeasts or through petrochemical processes like ethylene hydration.

### References

1. [The Hindu | Ethanol Programme a game changer](#)

2. [Vikaspedia | Ethanol Blended Petrol Programme](#)

