

Discuss the salient features of National Policy on Bio-fuels, 2018 and examine the flaws associated with it.

Salient features of NPB - 2018 :

Categorisation of biofuels to enable extension of appropriate financial and fiscal incentives under each category.

Basic Biofuels : First Generation (1G) bioethanol and biodiesel.

Advanced Biofuels : Second Generation (2G) ethanol, Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) to drop-in fuels, Third Generation (3G) biofuels, bio-CNG etc.

Expansion scope of raw material for ethanol production; use of surplus food grains, incentives to advanced biofuel, supply chain mechanism and synergising efforts.

Expected benefits : Reduce import dependency, cleaner environment, Health benefits, Municipal solid waste (MSW) management, infrastructural investment in Rural areas, Employment generation and Additional income to farmers.

Though there are many advantage in Bio-fuel, government of India didn't took any major steps to increase it. still has low ethanol blending ratio which is the greatest for emission of green house gases. Previous National Policy on Biofuel has not achieved its target as said in it.

In this new policy government is focussing on untargeted 2G ethanol generation which is merely a theoretical concept. WTO mentioned in it's report that 17 major cities are heavily polluted, government should take immediate measures.

Government should concentrate on production of 1G ethanol which was already in use in many countries. Ethanol blending ratio will reduce pollution and clean environment. For immediate measures government should import ethanol rather than raising ethanol price and reducing fuel price.