

State stands first to use ethanol-blended diesel

DH News Service Bangalore:

Karnataka has become the first State among the South East Asian countries to introduce ethanol-blended diesel for transportation of KSRTC and BMTC buses. Minister for Transport N Cheluvaryaswamy on Monday flagged off the first bus filled with ethanol-diesel in Bangalore. Singapore-based Energenics Pvt Ltd has helped the State in adopting the technology.

Mr Cheluvaryaswamy, speaking after inaugurating a seminar organised to mark the World Environment Day, said the new technology will help the sugarcane growers, as ethanol is generated after treating molasses, obtained from sugar factories.

Besides that it reduces environment pollution to a greater extent.

He said, the government will take up programmes to extend use of Pongamia oil as fuel along with diesel. At present buses of Doddaballapur depot are being run on the pongamia-diesel blended fuel.

The KSRTC is also contemplating to reserve Rs one crore to promote cultivation of pongamia across the State, he added.

Mr Ronen Hazarika, Managing Director for Energenics, speaking to Deccan Herald, said the ethanol-blended diesel is being used in the US, Brazil and many other countries.

But the credit of first using the blended fuel goes to Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation and BMTC in the South East Asian countries.

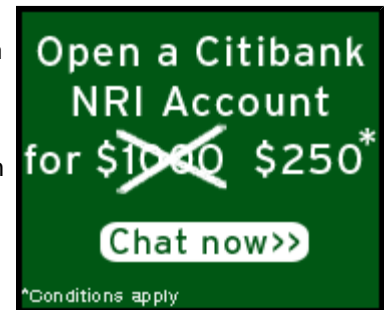
Managing Director, KSRTC, Mr M R Srinivasamurthy, said that 7.7 per cent of ethanol will be mixed with diesel and it is helpful in reducing the emission of toxic

substances.

Request

Mr Cheluvaryaswamy said, Karnataka has requested the Centre to exempt excise duty levied on fuel purchased for state buses and the chassis.

He said, at present excise duty of 22 per cent is levied on fuel purchase and 16 per cent duty is collected for chassis. As the transport corporations are meant for public transportation, the Centre should exempt the duties. The Chief Minister has already written to the Prime Minister seeking exemption, he added. Copyright: 2004 The Printers (Mysore) Private Ltd., 75, M.G. Road, Post Box No 5331, Bangalore - 560001





Minister for Transport N Cheluvaryaswamy, Managing Director of Energenics Ronen Hazarika and Managing Director of KSRTC M R Srinivasamurthy take a look at the environment friendly ethanol-diesel filled KSRTC bus, at a seminar organised to mark World Environment Day in Bangalore on Monday.

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BANGALORE: Karnataka has become the first State among the South East Asian countries to introduce ethanol-blended diesel for transportation of KSRTC and BMTc buses. Minister for Transport N Cheluvaryaswamy on Monday flagged off the first bus filled with ethanol-diesel in Bangalore. Singapore-based Energenics Pvt Ltd has helped the State in adopting the technology.

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