

ARAI Reaffirms Rigorous Validation Standards for E20 Ethanol-Blended Fuel and Vehicle Performance

Comprehensive testing of 40,000–60,000 kms confirms minimal fuel efficiency impact and ensures long-term engine health - Dr. Reji Mathai

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The Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) today hosted a press conference at its Corporate Headquarters in Kothrud, Pune, to share critical updates and technical clarifications regarding the adoption of E20 (20% ethanol-blended) as an automotive fuel in India.



Addressing members of the media, Dr. Reji Mathai, Director of ARAI, alongside senior ARAI officials, addressed key queries surrounding E20 fuel readiness, vehicle durability, and consumer performance expectations. The panel reiterated that all E20-compatible vehicles undergo stringent, structured validation and verification

procedures before being introduced to the commercial market. These processes meet international standards as well as the customized testing standards of Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs).



"Validation and verification of E20 fuel for vehicles are subjected to extensive durability, performance, and reliability tests under various operating conditions to ensure seamless performance and long-term engine health," the panel emphasized. "These evaluations assess the impact of ethanol blending on critical vehicle systems, including the engine, fuel lines, and other components, ensuring compliance with quality and safety standards."



The implementation of BS VI vehicles compatible with E20 fuel represents a monumental step toward building a sustainable and self-reliant supply chain for India. To achieve this, vehicles across different categories have been tested by

OEMs through rigorous field and laboratory testing regimes spanning approximately 40,000 to 60,000 kilometers.

Minimal Efficiency Impact:

- Standard laboratory tests carried out on validated vehicles indicate that the fuel efficiency drop associated with E20 fuel is minimal, staying within a narrow range of 2% to 6%
- Any variations in real-world fuel consumption and overall efficiency are driven by external operational factors, including driver behavior, road conditions, and the baseline condition of the vehicle under test.
- Maintenance Guidelines: In alignment with standard prevailing practices and OEM advice, consumers are encouraged to take their vehicles to their respective authorized dealers for regular maintenance and servicing to address any operational issues.
- The panel concluded by reassuring the public that E20-ready vehicles are developed and validated through comprehensive engineering processes designed to maintain absolute reliability and provide a safe and dependable ownership experience for Indian consumers.
- The automotive industry remains fully committed to supporting India's ethanol-blending roadmap while ensuring that customers receive vehicles that meet stringent quality benchmarks.

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