

# Biofuel from used cooking oil to rule market

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Malappuram: In a remarkable development, used cooking oil which poses a major threat to public health will replace fuel for vehicles. Food Safety Standards Authority of India has launched a project to produce biofuel out of used cooking oil. With this, the authority hopes that a major threat to public health will be avoided in future.

Hotels and street food shops reuse cooking oil multiple times while preparing snacks and other food items. Reheating used oil will change its chemical formula which can adversely affect our health. As per FSSAI, cooking oil which has total polarised compound more than 25 per cent is not edible.

Used cooking oil will have multiple number of polarised compounds. It can lead to liver disease, blood pressure, Alzheimer's like health problems. In order to prevent reuse of cooking oil, FSSAI planned to convert used cooking oil as biofuel.

FSSAI aims to make biofuel from 2.2 million litre cooking oil by 2022. According to the authority with this project, at least Rs 12,000 crore will be reduced from fuel expenditure.

FSSAI is implementing the project in association with Biodiesel Association of India. The project aims to ensure public health, fuel supply and protection of nature with this eco-friendly initiative. A special app is designed for the project.

The project will be implemented in Gujarat in pilot phase. It will be extended across India after successful launch.

Used cooking oil will be collected from hotels and food processing companies through agencies for the project. Later, it will be taken to biofuel production plants.

It is reported that 27 agencies in Gujarat have started to collect used cooking oil. Biodiesel Association of India aims for involving 350 agencies by 2019.