

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2429
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2002
WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT TO GROW NON- EDIBLE OILSEEDS
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have proposed Wasteland development to grow non-edible oilseed to replace diesel;
- (b) if so, whether series of researches were conducted over the possibilities;
- (c) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (d) whether the employment opportunities in the rural areas will be generated by the production of bio-diesel ; and
- (e) if so, the extent to which it will reduce pollution in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIANNA SABER M.K.PATIL)

(a) to (e) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources are carrying out a Policy Analytical Study on utilization of Ethanol Blends and other bio-fuels in Petrol and Diesel Vehicles. The Study is expected to make a review of technology regarding use of ethanol and deviation in motor fuels, their economic and financial cost benefit analysis, their availability, macro and micro economic impacts of use of bio-fuels and use of other bio-fuels as a substitutes to petroleum products etc.

Plantation of trees, including bio-fuel plantations (Non edible oilseed bearing trees) on wastelands/degraded lands is an important activity under the ongoing Watershed Development Programmes, namely the Integrated Wastelands Development Programme, the Drought Prone Areas Programme and the Desert Development Programme of the Ministry of Rural Development. Generation of employment opportunities in the rural areas is one of the objectives of these Programmes.