

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:732
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2006
TAPPING OF BIO- MASS ENERGY POTENTIAL
Jha Shri Raghunath

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has failed in tapping the huge Bio-mass potential available in the country;
- (b) if so the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures taken to bring Bio-Energy into mainstream for meeting the energy demands in urban and rural areas at an affordable price?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR)

(a): No, Sir. The Government have been implementing various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, such as Biomass Gasifiers Programme, Biomass Power/Co-generation Programme, Biogas based Distributed/Grid Power Generation Programme, Village Energy Security Test Projects, etc. to promote energy generation from biomass through efficient biomass energy technologies. A total biomass power capacity of 1024 MW has been installed in the country so far.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) Central financial Assistance is provided for setting up biomass energy projects and for organizing business/interaction meets and training programmes. Fiscal incentives such as accelerated depreciation; concessional customs duty on import of machineries and components; excise duty exemption; loan from Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency, National Cooperative Development Corporation and other financial institutions are available for setting up biomass based power projects. Various State Governments have announced policies for wheeling, banking and buy-back of electricity generated from such projects. Besides, biomass resource potential in the country is being assessed in a scientific manner.