

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2058
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2006
BIO- FUEL FROM HERBS
Barman Shri Hiten

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

- (a) whether researchers in the country have invented alternative source of automotive bio-fuel extracted from herbs; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the outcome of the trials up-to-date ?

Answer

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

(a), (b) & (c): The process of producing bio-diesel from vegetable oils extracted from the seeds of herbs, shrubs and trees through the process of transesterification, is well established. Bio-diesel can be used as blends upto 20% with petroleum diesel fuel in the automotive sector without any significant modification in the existing engines. However, the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources have sponsored R&D projects to some leading R&D institutions to optimize process parameters for production of bio-diesel from non-edible vegetable oils such as *Jatropha curcas* and *Pongamia pinnata*, and conduct trials for their use in the automotive sector.