

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:80
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2010
PRODUCTION OF BIO-DIESEL
Singh Shri Jagada Nand

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the cultivation of plants used in production of bio-diesel, medicines and cosmetics is being carried out on a large scale in different parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether the production of foodgrains and fruits are affected adversely due to cultivation of such plants; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof indicating the steps taken by the Government to mitigate such ill effects on food security of the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a)&(b): Model plantation of various Tree Borne Oilseeds like Neem, Simarouba, Karanja, Jatropha, Jojoba, Tung etc. has been undertaken by the National Oilseeds & Vegetable Oils Development (NOVOD) Board under the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation on wastelands owned by the Government/ Institutions for production of quality seed and elite planting material. Details of such plantations are at Annexure I.

The "Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Mission on Medicinal Plants" is being implemented by the National Medicinal Plants Board from 2008-09 for cultivation of medicinal plants in identified clusters through Growers, Self Help Groups, Producer Companies, Growers' Cooperatives etc. and through the State Horticulture Department and State Medicinal Plants Boards. Details of area under cultivation are at Annexure II.

(c) & (d): Since plantations of trees bearing non-edible oilseeds are to be taken up on Government / Community wasteland, degraded or fallow land in forest and non-forest areas, as per the National Policy on Biofuels formulated and circulated by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy on 1.1.2010, the question of the production of foodgrains and fruits being affected adversely does not arise.