

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2533

ANSWERED ON:12.03.2010

DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE FUELS

Choudhary Shri Harish;Joshi Shri Mahesh;Sinh Dr. Sanjay

Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements made by the Government so far in the promotion and development of alternative fuels like ethanol and bio-diesel in the country; and

(b) the total amount spent by the Government on the research and development of these fuels during the last three years and the current year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH)

(a): The National Policy on Bio-fuels is aimed at accelerated promotion and development of bio-fuels such as bio-ethanol and bio-diesel. The Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have been directed to sell five per cent ethanol blended petrol in the entire country except North-Eastern States, Jammu & Kashmir, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshdweep. Bio-diesel is currently not being marketed commercially for blending with diesel as the bio-diesel industry is still at nascent stage of development. R&D is also being pursued through different Scientific Agencies on feedstock development, conversion processes and production of ethanol mainly from sugarcane molasses and bio-diesel from Jatropha. Efforts have also been initiated to develop coordinated R&D projects on second generation bio-fuels such as production of ethanol from agricultural wastes / residues and bio-diesel from algae.

(b): The amounts spent by various Ministries / Departments during the last three years from 2006-07 to 2008-09 is about Rs. 48.98 crore and Rs. 20.37 crore so far during the current year.